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**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

**CWP-8599-2001 (O&M)
DECIDED ON: 02.12.2025**

GURMAIL SINGH SANDHU

.....PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK AND ORS

.....RESPONDENT(S)

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: None for the petitioner(s)

Ms. Preeti Grover, Advocate for
Mr. Saurav Verma, Advocate for the respondents.

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)

This writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India praying for Quashing of the rejection order dated 26.07.2000 (P-8) whereby the petitioner's promotion to MMG Scale-III (6th Selection) was denied and declare that the downgraded ACR entries considered in the 6th Selection, without notice, are unsustainable in view of the judgment in *UP Jal Nigam*, 1996 (1) RSJ 761 (P-3) with further prayer to declare that the 6th Selection for promotion to MMG Scale-III is vitiated due to allocation of interview marks beyond the permissible limit and issue direction to review the 6th Selection and promote the petitioner to MMG Scale-III from the date his junior

(respondent No. 5) was promoted vide order dated 04.10.1999 (P-6), with all consequential benefits.

None has put in appearance on behalf of the petitioner.

The Court has examined the impugned order dated 26.07.2000 and found that it was passed without proper application of mind. A plain reading of the order shows that an appeal committee was constituted by the appellate authority to examine the petitioner's appeal and to submit its recommendations. However, the appellate authority, instead of independently considering the matter, has merely accepted the committee's recommendations in a mechanical and stereotyped manner, without assigning any reasons.

Since the appellate authority was required to act in a quasi-judicial capacity, it was obligated to apply its mind to the issues raised and record reasons for its decision. The failure to do so renders the order unsustainable.

Accordingly, the impugned order is set aside, and the matter is remanded to the appellate authority for fresh consideration. The appellate authority is directed to decide the appeal afresh, in accordance with law, within three months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

With these directions, the writ petition stands disposed of.

(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE

02.12.2025
anuradha

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No