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

**CM-17024-CWP-2025 in/and
CWP-10316-2005 (O&M)**

Date of decision: 19.11.2025

Harbans Lal Maheshwari

... Applicant-petitioner

Vs.

State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Present: Mr. Charanbir Singh, Advocate,
Mr. Sandeep K. Sharma, Advocate,
Ms. Rashmeen Randhawa, Advocate
for the applicant-petitioner.

Mr. Vikas Arora, DAG, Punjab.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

CM-17024-CWP-2025

1. This application has been filed under Section 151 of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 for fixing an actual date of hearing in the main petition.
2. In view of the averments made in the application, same is allowed and the main petition, which is on regular board of this Court at Sr. No.659, is taken on board for final disposal today itself.

**CWP-10316-2005**

3. Instant civil writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to refix the pay of the petitioner as Rs.8100/- as on 01.01.2003 and to refund the amount of Rs.57,440/-, which was recovered from his pensionary benefits, along with interest @18% per annum.

4. Learned State counsel submits that subject matter of the dispute raised in the present petition pertains to deduction of Rs.57,440/- from the retiral benefits of the applicant-petitioner. As such, the matter can be referred to the Empowered Committee constituted by the Government of Punjab vide letter dated 16.04.2025.

5. Learned counsel for the petitioner has no objection to the same, however, prays that some time bound directions may be issued to consider and decide the claim of the petitioner.

6. I have heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the record of the case with their able assistance.

7. In ***Paramjit Kaur Vs. State of Punjab and others, CWP-7727-2025***, decided on 20.03.2025, this Court issued certain directions and in compliance thereof, the Government of Punjab has constituted an Empowered Committee vide letter dated 16.04.2025. The said Committee was established under the Punjab Dispute Resolution & Litigation Policy, 2020, which aims to encourage the swift resolution of disputes, reduce future litigation, and address the considerable backlog faced by the Courts.

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8. In view of the above, present petition is disposed of in the following terms:

- (i) The Empowered Committee constituted under the Punjab Litigation Policy is hereby directed to treat the present writ petition as a comprehensive representation and to consider and adjudicate upon the issue raised herein. In the alternative, the petitioner shall be at liberty to submit a detailed representation setting out his claim within a period of two weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.
- (ii) The Committee shall pass a reasoned and speaking order, after granting an opportunity of personal hearing to the petitioner, within a period of three months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order, or from the date of receipt of the representation of the petitioner, as the case may be. Further, the decision taken thereon shall be conveyed to the petitioner. Needless to say, if the petitioner is found entitled to the relief sought, the same shall be granted to him forthwith.

9. The pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

[HARPREET SINGH BRAR]
JUDGE

19.11.2025
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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No