



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

106

COCP-3266-2023 (O&M)

Date of Decision: 19.11.2025

Satpal Singh

.....Petitioner

Vs.

Kamal Kishor and others

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE SUDEEPTI SHARMA

Present: Ms. Neha Jain, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Animesh Sharma, Addl.A.G. Punjab

SUDEEPTI SHARMA J. (Oral)

1. The present contempt petition has been filed for deliberate and intentional disobedience of order dated 17.05.2023 passed by this Court in CWP-2706-2015 which has been disposed of in terms of order dated 15.02.2023, passed by this Court in CWP-28434-2019.
2. The relevant portion of order dated 15.02.2023, passed by this Court in CWP-28434-2019 is reproduced as under:-

“30. The State Government is directed to prepare a fresh seniority list in accordance with the 1978 Rules within a period of 6 months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this judgment after giving all the affected candidates an opportunity of hearing and filing objections. Moreover, since this batch of writ petitions has been decided without giving hearing to all the affected masters, they shall have liberty to file applications for recall.”



3. Learned counsel for the respondents contends that in compliance of order dated 17.05.2023 passed by this Court in CWP-2706-2015 compliance affidavit of Gurinder Singh Sodhi, Director School Education (Secondary), Punjab, dated 03.11.2025 has already been filed which is taken on record.

4. The relevant portion of compliance affidavit of Gurinder Singh Sodhi, Director School Education (Secondary), Punjab, dated 03.11.2025 is reproduced as under:-

“3. And Whereas, consequently in due compliance with the above said directions, the contents of above said judgment and relevant official record, pertaining to the claim of the petitioner has been perused. The Hon'ble high Court in CWP No 12275 of 2000-"Neelam Rani Vs State of Punjab" and others, the promotions amongst the Male and Female employees were based on @50-50 ratio. However, the relevant extract of the said judgment is being reproduced here as under:

“The petitioners who were initially appointed on merit will be adjusted in the cadre from the date of initial appointment and shall be entitled to pay and allowances and seniority from the dates of their initial appointment with any break in service as leave of the kind due.”

4. That consequently, in conformity with the directions of the Hon'ble Court, department recasted the seniority list pertaining to the Master/Mistress Cadre and same was notified on 19-07-2013. Thereafter, aggrieved from said official order, bunch of writ petitions were filed before the Hon'ble Court. The Hon'ble Court in CWP-185 of 2014 titled as "Sweety Badwal and others versus State of Punjab and others" vide order dated 16.12.2016 annulled/set- aside the seniority list of 2013, pertaining to Masters/Mistresses cadre and the Hon'ble court



further directed the department (respondent-2) to re-cast and circulate the joint batch-wise seniority list of Masters/Mistresses cadre. After being determination of fresh joint seniority list circulated on 19.06.2019.

5. That it is pertinent to mention here that previous Masters/Mistresses cadre seniority dated 19.06.2019 was challenged in various writ petitions and Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court stayed the effect of the said seniority in C.W.P. No. 28434 of 2019 titled as Harbhajan Singh and others Vs. State of Punjab and others, which is decided by the Hon'ble high court through order dated 15-02-2023, whickeby the aforesaid seniority list was ordered to be set aside, the relevant portion of the said order is reproduced as under:-

"29. Consequently, all the writ petitions are allowed. 30. The State Government is directed to prepare a fresh seniority list in accordance with the 1978 Rules within a period of 6 months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this judgment after giving all the affected candidates an opportunity of hearing and filing objections. Moreover, since this batch of writ petitions has been decided without giving hearing all the affected masters, they shall have liberty to file application for recall.

31. All the pending miscellaneous applications, if any, are also disposed of."

6. That it is worth mentioning here that when the department of school education sought the objections vide Public Notice dated 07.07.2023 in order to prepare new seniority list in relation to master cadre and after considering the objections received, the department issued final seniority list dated 29.05.24/05.08.24.

7. After perusal of the official record of the petitioner, the petitioner was assigned seniority no. 33844. The petitioner has



already retired on 31.01.2015, whereas in the process of review of promotions from master/mistress cadre to lecturer cadre, only the employees retired between the period from 2019 to 2024 have been considered.

8. In view of the principal of natural justice, the petitioner was granted a personal hearing on 28.08.2025, whereby the petitioner was granted a chance to present and produce any facts or documents to substantiate his case.”

5. A perusal of the above shows that order dated 17.05.2023 passed by this Court in CWP-2706-2015 has been complied with.

6. In view of the above, the contempt is purged and rule is discharged.

7. Liberty is however granted to the petitioner to avail the remedy as is available to the petitioner in accordance with law.

(SUDEEPTI SHARMA)
JUDGE

19.11.2025

Saahil

Whether speaking/non-speaking : Yes/No
Whether reportable : Yes/No