



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

CWP-11056-2001 (O&M)

Date of decision: 18.05.2026

Jaswant Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

The State of Punjab and others

....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDEEP TIWARI

Present: Mr. R.D. Bawa, Advocate,
Mr. Rishabh Rana, Advocate, and
Mr. Samuel Gill, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Kumar Goyal, Addl. A.G., Punjab.

KULDEEP TIWARI, J. (Oral)

1. Through the instant writ petition, as cast under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, an order dated 19.07.2000 (Annexure P-3), is put to challenge, vide which, the petitioner was ignored for promotion to the post of Sub Divisional Engineer (Civil), whereas, his juniors were promoted.

2. Upon a perusal of the record, what this Court has gathered is that the petitioner has been litigating since 2001, for such a promotion, which was made purely on *ad hoc* basis. In the impugned order, it was specifically recorded that the promotion would remain operative only till the orders, as regards vacant posts of the quota of direct recruits for the post in question, were issued. So much so, it was also clarified that the period, during which the promotees would work on such *ad hoc* posts, would not be computed for the purpose of seniority. The relevant part of the impugned order reads as under:-

“For effective working of the Department and keeping in view the necessity of providing the facility of water at right time to the people and in public interest, the under-



mentioned employees from different sources are promoted to the post of Sub Divisional Engineer on temporarily adhoc basis, Public Health in the pay scale of Rs.7880-220-31000-275-10300-340-12000-375-13500 (Entry Scale with start of Rs.8000/-) with allowance sanctioned by the Government from time to time on adhoc basis and purely as a temporary arrangement till further orders against vacant posts of the quota of direct recruits for the post of Sub Divisional Engineer Public Health (Civil) in Public Health Department, Punjab. These promotions are made under the provisions of Rule 6 (3) of PSC Class-II Rules, 1967 (Public Health Branch). The period for which they would work on the higher post (means as sub divisional engineer, Public Health) as a stop gap arrangement would not be counted for the purpose of seniority.”

3. Upon being confronted, as to whether, any cause of action still survives, in the light of the fact that the promotion in question was only a stop gap arrangement, learned counsel for the petitioner could not satisfy this Court.
4. It appears that with the efflux of time, the cause of action has become redundant, and nothing substantive remains to be adjudicated by this Court.
5. Accordingly, the instant writ petition is **disposed of**, reserving liberty to the petitioner to avail such other remedies, as shall be admissible in law, in case his regular promotional right is adversely affected.

(KULDEEP TIWARI)
JUDGE

18.05.2026
Ak Sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether reportable	Yes/No