



118

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

CWP-14505-2026

Date of decision: 11.05.2026

Arvinderpal Singh Ghuman

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR**Present:** Mr. Anupam Bhardwaj, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Amit Shukla, DAG, Punjab.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

1. The present civil writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of *certiorari* for setting aside the impugned enquiry report dated 14.06.2024 (Annexure P-6) and impugned order dated 15.12.2025 (Annexure P-9). Further, directing to respondent No.2 to decide the appeal filed by the petitioner along with the stay application within a time bound frame either himself or from an officer other than respondent No.3.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner *inter alia* contends that the petitioner has been condemned unheard. The petitioner was promoted as General Manager on 17.05.2023 and the Bank clarified on 13.05.2024 that no disciplinary proceedings were pending against the petitioner. A fresh enquiry report 14.06.2024 (Annexure P-6) was submitted by the retired judicial officer alleging procedural irregularities. The Board of Directors ordered reversion of the petitioner on 28.08.2024 without issuing a charge sheet or conducting a regular departmental inquiry. On 02.01.2025, the Board of Directors declined



CWP-14505-2026

-2-

to review its decision in spite of the fact that the Managing Director has recorded a dissent highlighting the violation of natural justice. The Registrar, Cooperative Societies-respondent No.2 advised reconsideration on 16.09.2025 on the ground that the petitioner had not been heard. Despite this, the impugned order dated 15.12.2025 (Annexure P-9) was passed. The petitioner filed a statutory appeal in December, 2025 which remains pending without there being any effective hearing which violates the principle of natural justice and also the procedure prescribed under Rule 1.2 of the Punjab State Cooperative Financing Institutions Service (Common Cadre) Rules, 1970-71. He further refers to Rule 1.5 and submits that the Appellate Authority, in case of the petitioner being a General Manager is the respondent No.2. As such, at this stage, the petitioner would be satisfied in case a direction is issued to respondent No.2 to decide the statutory appeal filed by the petitioner within a time bound manner.

3. Learned State counsel for respondents No.1 to 3 submits that the statutory appeal filed by the petitioner would be decided in a time bound manner expeditiously, as every employee has the right to have his disciplinary proceedings to be concluded within a reasonable dispatch.

4. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and after perusal of the record with their able assistance, it transpires that the impugned order dated 15.12.2025 (Annexure P-9) was challenged by filing a statutory appeal in December, 2025 itself. However, despite lapse of nearly five months, not even a single date of hearing has been fixed by respondent No.2.

5. At this stage, without commenting further on the conduct of the



CWP-14505-2026

-3-

Appellate Authority, this Court deems it appropriate to dispose of the present writ petition with a direction to respondent No.2 to consider and decide the appeal preferred by the petitioner in a time-bound manner by passing a reasoned and speaking order, after affording an adequate opportunity of hearing to the petitioner, within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

6. Any deviation from the direction issued by this Court, entitles the petitioner to move an appropriate application under Article 215 of Cr.P.C. of the Constitution of India to initiate contempt of Court proceedings.

7. Copy of this order be handed over to learned State counsel for information and necessary compliance.

(HARPREET SINGH BRAR)
JUDGE

11.05.2026*Neha*

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