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

**CWP-36900-2025(O&M)
Date of decision : 06.02.2026**

Priyanka

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPINDER SINGH
NALWA**

Present: Mr. R.K. Arora, Senior Advocate with
Mr. Shivam Ahuja, Advocate and
Mr. J.S. Bhogal, Advocate for the petitioner.

DEEPINDER SINGH NALWA, J. (Oral)

In the present writ petition, the petitioner is praying for issuance of a writ in the nature of certiorari for quashing the order dated 01.09.2025 (Annexure P-15) vide which appeal filed by the petitioner against the order dated 13.12.2016 (Annexure P-13) has been dismissed.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner, *inter alia*, submits that a perusal of the impugned order dated 01.09.2025 (Annexure P-15) would show that the abovesaid order in appeal has been passed by the Director, School Education (Secondary), Punjab. He submits that Director, School Education (Secondary), Punjab, is a punishing authority and not an appellate authority which is clear from the earlier order passed in appeal dated 13.12.2016 (Annexure P-13). He submits that a perusal of the order in appeal dated 13.12.2016 (Annexure P-13) would show that the said order was passed by the Additional Chief



Secretary to Government of Punjab, Education Department (Schools), as such, order dated 01.09.2025 (Annexure P-15) passed in appeal by the Director, School Education (Secondary), Punjab, is liable to be quashed as Director, School Education (Secondary), Punjab, is not an appellate authority.

3. Notice of motion.
4. Ms. Neha Sonawane, DAG, Punjab, accepts notice on behalf of the respondents.
5. Learned State counsel could not dispute the fact that Director, School Education (Secondary), Punjab, who has passed an order dated 01.09.2025 (Annexure P-15), is not an appellate authority.
6. In view the above, the present writ petition is allowed. The impugned order dated 01.09.2025 (Annexure P-15) is quashed with liberty to the respondents to pass a fresh order in appeal, in accordance with law, within a period of 04 months from the date of receipt of certified copy of this order. The petitioner shall also be given an opportunity of personal hearing before passing of appellate order.
7. Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand(s) disposed of.

06.02.2026

(DEEPINDER SINGH NALWA)
JUDGE

d.gulati

Whether speaking / reasoned :	Yes	No
Whether Reportable :	Yes	No