



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

CWP-38476-2025 (O&M)

Date of decision: 23.02.2026

Raman Kumar and others

....Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KULDEEP TIWARI

Present: Mr. H.C. Arora, Advocate, and
Mr. Gagandeep Sandhu, Advocate,
for the petitioners.

Mr. Sahil R. Bakshi, AAG, Punjab, along with
Mr. Puneet Garg, Deputy Director,
Department of Water Supply and Sanitation.

KULDEEP TIWARI, J. (Oral)

1. In essence, the grievance of the petitioners has cropped up, owing to a lackadaisical and indolent approach of the respondent authorities in not deciding their demand/legal notice, with respect to regularization of their services, as they have been working on contractual basis since 2011.

2. At the outset, learned State counsel, while referring to the Standing Order dated 29.05.2023, framed under the Rules of Business of the Government of Punjab, 1992, raises a preliminary objection that till date, the petitioners have not approached the Head of the Department concerned, who is the competent authority to look into the matter.

3. This Court has heard the learned counsel for the parties, and gone through the Standing Order (supra), which is taken on record as

Mark 'A'.



4. As per serial number 17 of Annexure-IV of the Standing Order, power to deal with the issue of regularization of service of the employees working in Group-C and D posts, is vested with the Head of the Department. Further, it is an admitted position on record that the petitioners till date, have not approached the competent authority, as referred to above. In such circumstances, this Court has no occasion to issue the asked for Mandamus. However, the petitioners are granted liberty to approach the Head of the Department, i.e. Special Secretary, Department of Water Supply and Sanitation, Punjab, by way of a comprehensive representation/legal notice, within a period of 15 days from the receipt of a certified copy of this order. In the event, any such representation/legal notice is received, the Head of the Department shall consider and decide the same by passing a speaking order, in accordance with law, within 08 weeks therefrom, after hearing the petitioners.

5. Needless to assert that this order shall not constitute any expression of opinion on merits of the case of either party, as the competent authority concerned, as referred to above, shall examine the concerns/grievances of the petitioners, strictly in accordance with law.

(KULDEEP TIWARI)
JUDGE

23.02.2026
Ak Sharma

Whether speaking/reasoned	Yes
Whether reportable	Yes/No