

Directorate of School Education (Secondary), Punjab
PSEB Complex, Phase-8, SAS Nagar
(Establishment-I Branch)

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Order No. E- 911934 E-1(3) / 2025300861-63

Dated: S.A.S Nagar: 09.10.2025

Speaking Order

1.0 Sh. Mohit Suri, Lecturer commerce, School of Eminence Morinda District Roopnagar and 63 others, had filed Civil Writ Petition No. 14961 of 2025 in the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court with the prayer for issuance of a writ in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to grant the statutory pay scale to the petitioners as per 2018 Rules viz. 10300-34800+ Grade Pay Rs.5400/- from entry into Service along with arrears and interest at 12% thereon. The petitioners has further prayed for issuance of writ directing the respondents to take into account the statutory pay scale of Rs. 10300-34800+Grade Pay Rs. 5400/- with further pay revisions. The petitioners had further prayed for directing the respondents to quash the instructions dated 17.07.2020 and 21.10.2020 (Annexures P-4 and P-5 respectively).

2.0 The Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court disposed of the petition vide order dated 22.05.2025. The operative portion of the order is reproduced as below:-

*Prayer made in the present petition is for directing the respondents to grant the pay scale as per the statutory rules with regard to which reliance is placed on the judgment of this Court in **Saurabh Sharma and others vs. State of Punjab and another**, CWP-15896-2023, which was allowed on 13.09.2024 against which LPA-2977-2024 has also been dismissed on 10.12.2024. Regarding the claim raised in the present petition, a legal notice dated 14.05.2025, Annexure P-10, has been served upon the respondents, which has yet not evoked any response. She, on instructions, prays that a direction may be given to the respondents to decide the same keeping in view the aforesaid judgment, in a time bound manner, to which learned State counsel has no objection*

In view of the above and without commenting upon the merits of the case, this petition is hereby disposed of with a direction to the respondents to decide the legal notice dated 14.05.2025, Annexure P-10, taking note of the aforesaid judgment, within a period of 6 months, which this Court has no reason to believe the authorities would not address in a just, fair and reasonable manner. Upon doing so, after notice and hearing offered to them and if found entitled, grant the benefit forthwith. Needless to say, if the orders are adverse to their interest, the same shall contain reasons and the petitioners shall be free to seek legal redress thereupon.

Amr

In compliance with the above said direction of the Hon'ble Court, I have carefully gone through the order dated 22.05.2025 and order dated 13.09.2024 passed by the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in CWP No. 15896 of 2023 titled as Saurabh Sharma and others versus State of Punjab and another which held that all candidates appointed under the same recruitment process are entitled to equal pay as per the 2016 Rules regardless of actual appointment date in terms of which the present Petition has been disposed of. The relevant portion of the judgment in CWP No. 15896 of 2023 followed in Saurabh Sharma and Imran Hussain's case, explicitly directed that: -

"At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioners submit that though the petitioners have claimed interest but keeping in view the fact that they are only interested in the pay scale as entitled to them under 2016 Rules, they are not pressing their claim for the grant of interest..."

In compliance with the Hon'ble High Court's order dated 13.09.2024, the Finance Department, being the competent authority, issued a circular dated 03.10.2025, advising all administrative departments to examine whether the factual circumstances of the petitioners under their jurisdiction are comparable to those in the case of Saurabh Sharma. In cases where such parity is established, the departments were directed to carry out due verification of the records and prepare a comparison statement in a tabulated format. Pursuant to this verification, the departments were further instructed to submit a comprehensive proposal for the grant of benefits, in conformity with the Hon'ble High Court's judgment dated 13.09.2024 in Saurabh Sharma case, with specific reference to the applicable service rules and regulations of the concerned administrative department. The information in this regard was obtained from DEO office.

Thereafter, the Finance Department has conveyed its concurrence vide communication dated 03.10.2025 for the grant of benefits to the petitioners in compliance with the judgement dated 22.05.2025 passed in CWP No. 14961 of 2025, subject to the following condition: -

i. The Administrative Department is advised to implement the orders of Hon'ble High Court in, C W No. 14961 of 2025. The Administrative Department also advised to verify whether the facts of the present case are identical to those in Saurabh Sharma and Others vs. State of Punjab. If the facts are the same, the benefit granted in the Saurabh Sharma case may be extended to the petitioners.

Accordingly, in light of the concurrence conveyed by the competent authority, i.e., the Finance Department vide communication dated 03.10.2025, and based on

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due verification of records by the concerned District Education Officers (Secondary Education), I, hereby accept the claim of the petitioners regarding grant of pay scale as applicable in Statutory Service Rules namely " Punjab Educational Service (School and Inspection) Group B Service Rules, 2018" as sought in the present writ petition bearing CWP No. 14961 of 2025, titled as Mohit Suri and others Versus State of Punjab and Others as decided by the Hon'ble Court vide order dated 22.05.2025. It is hereby further directed and placed on record that this order is issued strictly in compliance with the binding directions of the Hon'ble High Court and the conditional concurrence granted by the Finance Department. The said concurrence is expressly limited to the peculiar facts and circumstances of the present case and is not to be cited, construed, or treated as a precedent in any other case, claim, or context, now or in future. Any attempt to invoke this order beyond its scope shall be considered legally untenable and administratively impermissible. As per above explained position concerned DDO'S are directed to release benefits at the earliest.

Gurinder Singh Sodhi, P.C.S.

Director of School Education (SE), Punjab

dated: 13.10.2025

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A copy of the above is sent to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of School Education (Education-2 Branch), Civil Secretariat (II, Sector-9, Chandigarh).
2. Concerned District Education Officers (SE) to inform the petitioners.
3. Concerned Petitioners as per List Through D.E.O. (SE)


Assistant Director (S.E)

ਦਫਤਰ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ(ਸੈ.ਸਿ) ਬਠਿੰਡਾ

ਮਿਤੀ 26.11.2025

ਪਿਠਾਅਕਟ ਨੰ: ਅ-6/11()2025/ 1832

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਦਾ ਉਤਾਰਾ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਸਕੂਲ ਮੁਖੀਆਂ ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਬਠਿੰਡਾ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜ ਕੇ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਉਕਤ ਸਪੀਕਿੰਗ ਆਰਡਰ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਪਟੀਸ਼ਨਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਨੋਟ ਕਰਾਉਣ ਉਪਰੰਤ ਬਣਦੀ ਕਾਰਵਾਈ ਕਰਕੇ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਭੇਜਣੀ ਯਕੀਨੀ ਬਣਾਈ ਜਾਵੇ।

26/11/25
ਜਿਲ੍ਹਾ ਸਿੱਖਿਆ ਅਫ਼ਸਰ (ਸੈ.ਸਿ)
ਬਠਿੰਡਾ