



**208/2 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

**LPA-673-2023 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 09.10.2025**

**HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION ... APPELLANT
VS.
SUMIT .. RESPONDENT**

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ROHIT KAPOOR**

Present: Mr. Puneet Gupta, Additional Advocate General, Haryana.

Mr. D.P.S.Bajwa, Advocate, for the respondent.

ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA, J. (ORAL)

This appeal arises out of an order passed by the learned Single Judge, directing the appellant-Commission to award 05 marks under the socio-economic criteria.

The legality of awarding 05 marks under socio-economic criteria fell for determination before the Division Bench of this Court in **CWP-1563-2024** titled as '***Sukriti Malik Vs. State of Haryana and others'***. The Division Bench has categorically held such award of marks to be impermissible. The Division Bench judgment has attained finality.

When the matter was heard lastly, this Court passed the following order:-

*“Learned counsel for the contesting respondents pray for time to assist the Court as to whether in the light of the judgment of a Coordinate Bench dated 31.05.2024 rendered in CWP No.1563 of 2024 – **Sukriti Malik Vs. State of Haryana and others** can the respondents be granted marks under “socio-economic criteria”.*

Adjourned to 04.02.2025.

A photocopy of this order be placed on the files of the other connected cases.”

Learned counsel for the appellant submits that the judgment passed by the Division Bench in *Sukriti Malik' case (supra)*, has attained finality.

Once that be so, we hold that marks of socio-economic criteria cannot be granted. The judgment of the learned Single Judge is, therefore, set aside.

Accordingly, present appeal is allowed and judgment of the learned Single Judge is set aside.

Pending applications, if any, also stand disposed of.

**(ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA)
JUDGE**

09.10.2025
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**(ROHIT KAPOOR)
JUDGE**

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