



CWP-8089-2023 & connected cases 1

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

(Sr. No.106+224) CWP-8089-2023
Date of Decision : September 24, 2025

Rajinder Singh .. Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others .. Respondents

(2) CWP-8917-2023

Paramjit and others .. Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others .. Respondents

(3) CWP-12991-2023

Dalwinder Singh and others .. Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others .. Respondents

(4) CWP-13529-2023

Hushiar Singh and others .. Petitioners

Versus

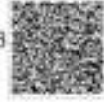
State of Punjab and others .. Respondents

(5) CWP-13286-2023

Pawan Kumar and others .. Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others .. Respondents



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- (60) **CWP-29737-2024**
Hukum Chand and others .. **Petitioners**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**
- (61) **CWP-34877-2024**
Rita Devi and others .. **Petitioners**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**
- (62) **CWP-607-2025**
Fair Price Shop Association Regd. .. **Petitioner**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**
- (63) **CM-10327-CWP-2025 in/and**
CWP-1682-2025
Jaswant Singh and others .. **Petitioners**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**
- (64) **CM-10329-CWP-2025 in/and**
CWP-5087-2025
Gurwinder Singh and others .. **Petitioners**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**
- (65) **CWP-5169-2025**
Arjanbir Singh and others .. **Petitioners**
Versus
State of Punjab and others .. **Respondents**



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(72) COCP-806-2024

Savita Badhan .. Petitioner

Versus

Vikas Garg and others .. Respondents

(308) CWP-32672-2024

Sucha Singh and others ..Petitioners

Versus

State of Punjab and others .. Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI
HON'BLE MRS. JUSTICE RAMESH KUMARI**

Present: Mr. Surjit Singh Swaich, Advocate,
Mr. Sahibjeet S. Sandhu, Advocate,
Mr. Vipin Mahajan, Advocate and
Mr. Amit Gupta, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP-8089 and 8917 of 2023.

Mr. M.S. Khaira, Senior Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
(joined through VC) with
Mr. Jaswinder Singh, Advocate in CWP-27888-2024.

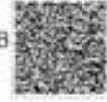
Mr. Vijay K. Jindal, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP-22884-2023, CWP-5700-2024, CWP-29064-2023,
CWP-25561-2024, CWP-25609-2024, CWP-24463-2024,
CWP-25365-2024, CWP-25388-2024, CWP-29915-2024,
CWP-29696-2024 and CWP-29701-2024.

Mr. Geeteshwar Saini, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP-32374-2024, CWP-34627-2024, CWP-750-2025
and CWP-12673-2025.

Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Arora, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP-12991-2023 and CWP-13529-2023.

Mr. Narinder Saini, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP-28749-2024 and CWP-30453-2024.

Mr. Sukhandeep Singh, Advocate, for the petitioner(s)
in CWP Nos. 14530, 12823, 12824, 12898, 12899, 13472,
13547, 13603, 13825, 13249, & 26855 of 2023,

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CWP Nos. 24863, 24862, 25000, 25122, 25124, 25159, 25164, 25166, 25167, 29804, 30001, 30049, 30740, 28474, 28482, 28985, 28987, 28984, 31336, and 34877 of 2024 and CWP Nos. 1682, 5087, 5169, 6152, 6168, 15226, 15228 of 2025 and COCP-806-2024.

Mr. Deepak Gupta, Advocate, for the petitioners
in CWP-13765-2023.

Mr. T.P.S. Chawla, Sr. Deputy Advocate General, Punjab, with
Mr. Jastej Singh, Addl. A.G., Punjab.

HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI J. (ORAL)

CM-199-CWP-2025 in CWP-27888-2024
CM-10328-CWP-2025 in CWP-6168-2025
CM-10329-CWP-2025 in CWP-5087-2025
CM-10327-CWP-2025 in CWP-1682-2025

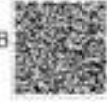
Present applications have been filed for placing on record short reply by way of an affidavit of Mr. Amanjit Singh, District Controller, Food Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Amritsar on behalf of respondents No.1 to 3.

Keeping in view the averments made in the applications, which are duly supported by an affidavit, the applications are allowed. Reply filed on behalf of respondents No. 1 to 3 is taken on record.

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By this common order, 72 writ petitions along with one COCP, the details of which have been given in the heading, are being disposed of as all these petitions involve the same question of law on similar facts.

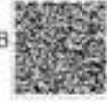
One set of petitions has been filed by the Ration Depot holders (Fair Price Shop) by raising a grievance that the ration depot allotted to the petitioners/depot holders have been cancelled vide letter dated 16.03.2023 and rather fresh selection is sought to be made so as to give the said allotment to other candidates vide Advertisement dated 11.02.2023 and that



too by giving the benefit of reservation against the interest of the petitioners and that too beyond the permissible limit and therefore, the said grievance may kindly be redressed of allowing them to continue to operate the depots till fresh selection is made.

Upon notice of motion, the respondents-Department have filed the reply wherein, the respondents have stated that as of now, the ration depot allotted to the petitioners in pursuance to the Advertisement dated 25.11.2020 have not been cancelled and only notices were issued to seek objections. It is further contended as far as the allotment done in the favour of the petitioners in pursuance of the said advertisement, the same was challenged before this Court by filing CWP No.963 of 2021, the said writ petition was disposed of on 15.02.2023 that a fresh public notice will be issued in compliance with the constitutional permissibility of granting benefit of reservation admissible to any such claimants in accordance to the policy of the State of Punjab and in pursuance to the fresh advertisement issued the claim of the petitioners if raised will be considered and the allotment which has already been done shall continue till the fresh allotment is made in pursuance to the fresh advertisement dated 11.03.2023.

Learned counsel for the respondents submits that in pursuance to the fresh advertisement issued, the claim of all eligible applicants including the petitioners will be considered and the benefit of reservation, in case granted will be as per the norms fixed by the State Government and no violation will be done qua the said aspect and till any fresh selection of the candidates is made, the allotment already made will be allowed to operate.

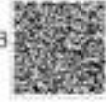


Learned senior counsel for the petitioners submits that keeping in view the statement of learned State counsel that the reservation quota will only be granted to applicant as per the limits set by the State and the petitioners will be allowed to continue to operate the said ration depots till any final selection is made and also they will be given opportunity to compete in pursuance to the fresh advertisement the same, no further grievance of the petitioners survives and the present writ petitions may kindly be disposed of having been not pressed any further.

Ordered accordingly.

At this stage, another set of petition contends that though, the learned Single Judge while passing order in ***CWP No.963 of 2021 titled as Ransher Singh and others vs. State of Punjab and others on 15.02.2023 (Annexure P-4)*** had allowed the continuance of allotment that had already been given till the fresh selections qua allotment of said depots are made but the said allotment cannot be allowed to continue as fresh advertisement has already been issued and therefore, the allotment which were allowed to continue as an interim measure should come to an end.

It may be noticed that the said argument cannot be accepted as the said order passed by the Court in CWP No.963 of 2021 is to allow the allotment already made in favour of the petitioners as an interim measure, till the fresh selection qua allotment of said depots are made. While passing the said order in these bunch of writ petitions, the fresh allotment made in favour of petitioners was stayed hence, such interim arrangements made by the Court till fulfillment of the criteria of reservation while allocating such depots are continuing under the orders of the Court.



Further, even the State is before this Court with the stand that till any fresh allotment for continuing of said ration depots is made and a chance is given to the allottees who are continuing by way of interim measure so as to apply for allocation of depots, the allotment already in their favour cannot be withdrawn rather, the same will cause prejudice to the consumers who are being benefited from the ration buy are getting by way of such allotment. That being so, the prayer of the petitioners that the interim allotment granted in favour of petitioners should be stopped even before finalizing the fresh allotment which is to be done in pursuance to the impugned fresh advertisement issued keeping in view the order passed by this Court in ***Ransher Singh's case (supra)***, cannot be accepted.

It is made clear that all the interim allotment already continuing will continue till any fresh allotment is made in pursuance to the fresh advertisement dated 11.03.2023 already issued.

Civil miscellaneous application pending if any, also stands disposed of.

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

(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

September 24, 2025
harsha

(RAMESH KUMARI)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes
Whether reportable : No