

IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
CIVIL APPELLATE JURISDICTION

CIVIL APPEAL NO(s). OF 2026
(arising out of SLP (C) No(s).621/2021)

CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION & ANR.

APPELLANT(S)

VERSUS

JASPREET SINGH

RESPONDENT(S)

O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appellants challenge the order dated 16.12.2019 in Civil Writ Petition No.29427/2019 (O&M) passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh.
3. The Department of Education, Chandigarh Administration (hereinafter referred to as 'the employer') issued an advertisement on 03.11.2014, inviting applications for filling up 489 posts of Junior Basic Teachers (JBT) and 103 posts of Nursery Teachers on a regular basis. Another advertisement was issued on 10.11.2014, inviting applications for filling up 548 posts of Masters/Mistresses (TGT) on a regular basis.
4. Following the completion of the selection process, a

complaint dated 29.07.2016 led to the registration of FIR No.128 at Police Station, Sector-11, Chandigarh, in which thirty-two (32) candidates, who were selected and appointed as JBT, involved in alleged malpractices were specifically named. Another FIR No.201 dated 11.10.2017 was registered, wherein names of seven (07) candidates of TGT were included.

5. Taking into account several factors and attending circumstances, the employer decided to cancel the entire selection process, terminate the services of all those who stood selected and appointed, and further directed a fresh selection process to be conducted for filling up the posts.

6. In terms of the impugned order dated 16.12.2019, the employer's decision to cancel the entire process and terminate the services of all selected candidates with respect to both the categories of the posts was quashed and set aside. However, the Court clarified that it refrained from passing similar orders of quashing and setting aside the appointments with respect to those candidates who stood specifically named in the FIR or where evidence indicated the selection of similar candidates to be tainted.

7. Aggrieved by the same, the employer preferred the present appeal. Having heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the material on record, we are of the

considered view that the interests of justice would be best met by closing the present appeal. Ordered accordingly.

8. This decision is based on the fact that the private respondent(s) has continued to render service without any blemish from the date of his/her initial selection and appointment. It has been fairly stated by Ms.Aishwarya Bhati, the learned Additional Solicitor General, that the investigation, as it stands today, does not reveal any role or complicity on the part of the respondent(s)-employee in relation to the alleged crime. Further, the investigation is ongoing, and its lack of completion is unrelated/totally unconnected/not attributable to or with the respondent(s).

9. However, we clarify that if, during the course of the investigation/further investigation, any cogent material emerges, indicating the complicity of the respondent(s) in the alleged crime, at any point in time, the employer would be at liberty to initiate all necessary legal steps, including the initiation of disciplinary proceedings and/or cancelling the selection process *qua* him/her.

10. Needless to add, the respondent(s) who is permitted to be in continuous service shall be entitled to all consequential service benefits in terms of, and as a consequence thereof, the impugned order.

11. All pending application(s), if any, also stand disposed of.

.....J.
(SANJAY KAROL)

.....J.
(VIPUL M. PANCHOLI)

NEW DELHI
21-04-2026

ITEM NO.79

COURT NO.11

SECTION IV-B

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
R E C O R D O F P R O C E E D I N G S

Petition(s) for Special Leave to Appeal (C) No(s).621/2021

[Arising out of impugned final judgment and order dated 16-12-2019 in CWP No.29427/2019 (O&M) passed by the High Court of Punjab & Haryana at Chandigarh]

CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION & ANR.

PETITIONER(S)

VERSUS

JASPREET SINGH

RESPONDENT(S)

IA No. 3260/2021 - EXEMPTION FROM FILING C/C OF THE IMPUGNED JUDGMENT

Date : 21-04-2026 This matter was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY KAROL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIPUL M. PANCHOLI

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Gurmeet Singh Makker, AOR

For Respondent(s) :

Upon hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

1. Leave granted.
2. The appeal is closed in terms of the signed order, which is placed on the file.
3. Pending application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(D. NAVEEN)
COURT MASTER (SH)

(ANU BHALLA)
COURT MASTER (NSH)