



\$~5

* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ **W.P.(C) 19810/2025**
AJAB SINGH AND ORSPetitioner

Through: Mr. Kirtiman Singh, Sr. Adv. with Mr.
Abhishek Singh, Mr. Ritvik Shaha and
Mr. Bhaskar Joshi, Advs.
Mr. Vipin Kumar Bharti, Adv.

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORSRespondents

Through: Mr. Himanshu Sethi, SPC with Ms.
Nikita Sethi, Adv. and Mr. Vivek
Nagar, GP, for UOI

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS MAHAJAN
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VINOD KUMAR

% **ORDER**
26.12.2025

**CM. APPL. 82739/2025(under Order I Rule 10(2) read with Section 151
CPC by Applicants)**

1. The present application has been filed by the Applicants who are stated to be Inspectors of Central GST belonging to the 2014 batch and have been placed in the final seniority list of Inspectors dated 03.07.2025 between Serial Nos. 635 to 695.
2. It is contented that their seniority position is much above the range affected by the impugned corrigendum dated 31.07.2025 (i.e., Sl. Nos. 923–926, 928–1020 and 1026–1049), and their promotions to the post of



Superintendent are in no manner impacted by the dispute raised by the petitioners.

3. It is stated that the applicants have been constrained to file the present application since they are directly affected by the Order dated 24.12.2025, passed in the present Writ Petition, wherein the respondents have been restrained from holding further Departmental Promotion Committee (DPCs) on the basis of seniority list dated 03.07.2025 read with corrigendum dated 31.07.2025, till further orders of the Court.

4. Mr. Kirtiman Singh, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of the applicants submits that since the applicants have no concern with the controversy articulated in the present petition, they were rightly not impleaded as respondents in the present petition.

5. He submits that filing of present application has been necessitated on account of the interim directions passed by this Court whereby the respondents have been restrained from holding further DPC with regard to the entire seniority list dated 03.07.2025, which will adversely affect the applicants as well, who are senior to the petitioners/non-applicants and against whom the petitioners have not ventilated any grievance.

6. In view of the above, issue notice.

7. Mr. Vipin Kumar Bharti, learned counsel for the Petitioners/non-applicants and Ms. Nikita Sethi, learned counsel for the Respondent no.1/UOI accept notice.

8. Having regard to the submission articulated by Mr. Singh, this Court is of the view that the applicants need to be impleaded in the present petition. Accordingly, the application is allowed, and the applicants herein are impleaded as respondent nos. 5 to 13.



9. Let amended memo of parties be filed within a period of one week.
10. The application stands disposed of.

CM. APPL. 82738/2025(under Section 151 CPC on behalf of the newly impleaded respondent for directions)

11. The present application has been filed seeking following relief:-

“A. Direct the Respondents to conduct the regular DPC for the vacancy year 2026 for promotion to the post of Superintendent of Central Excise, GST and Customs in respect of those Inspectors who are senior in the seniority list dated July 03, 2025 to the Petitioners in the present writ petition;

B. Direct the Respondents to conduct the regular DPC for vacancy year 2026 on or before December 31, 2025 in accordance with law, or grant promotion notionally w.e.f. January 01, 2026 in case of delay;”

12. Mr. Kirtiman Singh, learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of the applicants (respondent nos. 5 to 13) submits that the grievance of the petitioners/non-applicants in the writ petition is only *qua* their juniors. To substantiate his contention Mr. Singh, has invited attention of the Court to para 2 of the Writ Petition, which reads as under:-

“2. That the grievance of the petitioners is not against the holding of 'promotions per se, but is confined to the action of the respondents in promoting officers who are admittedly junior to the petitioners, as per the respondents' own final seniority list dated 03.07.2025. The petitioners stand placed above such officers in the said final seniority list, and yet are being excluded from the zone of consideration solely on the basis of the impugned corrigendum, which itself is under challenge.”

(emphasis supplied)



13. He submits that the applicants (newly impleaded respondents no. 5 to 13) are inspectors of Central GST belonging to the 2014 batch whereas the petitioners/non-applicants are the inspectors from the 2017 batch.

14. He submits that there is no inter-se seniority or promotion dispute between the petitioners and the present applicants. He contends that the only grievance articulated in the writ petition is *qua* the promotion of inspectors, who are junior to the petitioners/non-applicants.

15. He submits that *vide* Order dated 24.12.2025, the respondent nos. 1 to 4 have been restrained from holding Departmental Promotion Committee (DPC) on the basis of the seniority list dated 03.07.2025 read with corrigendum dated 31.07.2025, which interim direction directly and substantially affect the applicants (respondent nos. 5 to 13), in as much no DPC will be held pursuant thereto even in respect of the inspectors who are undisputedly senior to the petitioners as per the seniority list dated 03.07.2025.

16. He submits that the promotions to the grade of Superintendent from the cadre of inspectors are processed on zone-wise basis and the DPC for the vacancy year 2006 is required to be convened on or before 31.12.2025. In case the said DPC is not convened within the stipulated time, the same will adversely impact the All India Seniority of the Petitioners in the grade of Superintendent.

17. In view of the above, issue notice.

18. Mr. Vipin Kumar Bharti, learned counsel for the petitioners/non-applicants accepts notice. Ms. Nikita Sethi, learned counsel for the Respondent no.1/UOI also accepts notice.

19. Ms. Sethi also submits that in case DPC is not convened before



31.12.2025, it will impact the All India Seniority in the grade of Superintendent for 2026. She also urges that the respondent nos. 1 to 4 should be allowed to hold the DPC insofar as the inspectors above Sr. No. 923 in the seniority list dated 03.07.2025 are concerned.

20. In view of the submissions made by Mr. Singh as well as Ms. Sethi, and further regard being had to the fact that the controversy involved in the writ petition is only between the petitioners and their juniors whereas the applicants are indubitably senior to the petitioners, the Order dated 24.12.2025 is modified to the extent that the respondent nos. 1 to 4 shall be at liberty to hold further DPC for the inspectors above Sr. No. 923 in the seniority list dated 03.07.2025.

21. The application is disposed of in above terms.

VIKAS MAHAJAN
(VACATION JUDGE)

VINOD KUMAR
(VACATION JUDGE)

DECEMBER 26, 2025

SS