

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

CWP No. 14512 of 2014 (O&M)

Date of decision: 30.04.2015

Piara Singh

...Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE JITENDRA CHAUHAN

Present: Mr. Arshdeep Bhullar, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Mehardeep Singh, DAG, Punjab.

Jitendra Chauhan, J. (Oral)

By way of the instant writ petition, under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India, the petitioner seeks issuance of directions to the respondents to pay interest @ 18% per annum on the delayed payment of retiral benefits.

The learned counsel for the petitioner contends that the petitioner retired on 31.07.2012. The payment of GPF was released after a delay of seven months on 28.03.2013, whereas the leave encashment was granted on 20.05.2013 and the gratuity was paid on 06.06.2013. He further states that no interest has been paid on the delayed payments and the benefits were released after the filing of earlier writ petition i.e. CWP No. 7552 of 2013 (Annexure P-4).

On the other hand, the learned State counsel submits that the petitioner was telephonically informed of the deficiency in the papers submitted by him six months prior to release of the GPF. However, in the absence of any documentary evidence, the said assertion cannot be accepted.

In the circumstances, the present petition is disposed of with the direction to the competent authority to consider the claim of the petitioner and pay the interest on the delayed payment @ 8% per annum from the date it fell due till its realization, within a period of four months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

30.04.2015

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(JITENDRA CHAUHAN)
JUDGE