

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

251

**CWP No.23657 of 2016.  
Date of Decision: 01.11.2018.**

Dr. Darshan Singh Sidhu

....Petitioner.

Versus

State of Punjab and others

....Respondents.

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**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEKHER DHAWAN**

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**Present:** Mr. Narinder Pal Sharma, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Balbir Singh Sewak, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

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**Shekher Dhawan, J.**

Present writ petition was initially filed for issuance of direction to the respondents to release the retiral benefits including leave encashment and General Provident Fund with interest at the rate of 18% per annum.

However, during the pendency of the writ petition, the payment on account of retiral benefits has already been released to the petitioner and to that extent the facts are not disputed.

Now the grievance of the petitioner is restricted to the point of payment of interest on account of delayed payment of retiral benefits. The petitioner herein retired on 30.11.2015 and the retiral benefits were released to him after considerable long delay i.e. in the year 2017 and 2018 and there was no valid reason for not releasing the payment within the stipulated period.

In view of the judgment of Hon'ble the Apex Court in case **A.S. Randhawa vs. State of Punjab & others, 1997(3) SCT 468** and judgment dated 11.07.2017 by co-ordinate Bench of this Court in case '**Charan Dass vs. State of Punjab & others, CWP No.8772 of 2015**', the petitioner is certainly entitled to interest on delayed payment from the due date till the date of payment and in this case the petitioner shall be entitled to interest at the rate of 9% per annum on account of delayed payment.

In view of the above, the present writ petition is disposed of with direction to the respondents to pay the amount on account of interest of delayed payment at the rate of 9% per annum from the due date till the date of payment.

(SHEKHER DHAWAN)  
JUDGE

**01.11.2018**  
*jitender*

Whether speaking/ reasoned : Yes/ No

Whether Reportable : Yes/ No