

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

**CWP (PIL) No. 22859 of 2017
Date of decision: 16.11.2018**

Hari Chand, Advocate

... Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and others

... Respondents

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE KRISHNA MURARI,
CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI, JUDGE**

Present: Mr. H.C. Arora, Advocate, and
Mr. Damodar Khanna, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Avinit Avasthi, AAG, Punjab.

KRISHNA MURARI, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

This petition in the nature of Public Interest Litigation has been filed seeking a writ of Mandamus to command the respondent-State authorities to release the amount of cash award to all such sports persons who have brought medals in competitions at National, South Asia and International Level during the sessions 2015-16 and 2016-17.

Today, an affidavit has been filed on behalf of the respondent-State authorities, stating that the cash award amounting to Rs. 2,48,89,900/- has been released on 15.11.2018 to be disbursed to 786 sports persons, as per policy, who have obtained medals in various sports activities during the session 2015-16.

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Mr. Avinit Avasthi, learned Assistant Advocate General, appearing for the State of Punjab, on instructions from Kartar Singh, Assistant Director, Department of Sports, Punjab, states that in so far as the session 2016-17 is concerned, applications from eligible sports persons have been invited and after processing the same, necessary amount shall be released, to be paid to the eligible sports persons. He, however, states that some reasonable time may be allowed to process the applications.

In such circumstances, we allow six months' time to the respondent-State authorities to complete the entire exercise and release the amount for being paid as cash award to the eligible sports persons for the session 2016-17.

In the wake of the above, this petition has served its purpose. Accordingly, we dispose of this petition with the aforesaid observations and directions.

(KRISHNA MURARI)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

November 16, 2018

AK Sharma

Whether speaking / reasoned:

YES

Whether Reportable:

NO