

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

COCP No. 2399 of 2019
Date of decision: 21.8.2019

Harjit Singh and others

.. Petitioners

v.

Gurlovleen Singh Sidhu and another

.. Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AVNEESH JHINGAN

Present: Mr. D. K. Chaudhary, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Anupam Singla, Advocate for the respondents.

...

AVNEESH JHINGAN, J. (Oral)

The present contempt petition has been filed pleading wilful disobedience of the order dated 5.2.2019 passed by this Court in CWP No. 3344 of 2018. The operative part of the said order is reproduced below:

“In view of the above, as there is no justifiable reason with the respondents to withhold the pensionary benefits and the only ground given of the financial crisis is not a valid ground to withhold the benefits, the petitioners are held entitled for interest on the delayed payments @ 9% per annum from the date it became due till the same was released to them. Let the calculation of the interest be done by the respondent-Corporation within a period of two months from the date of receipt of copy of this order and the amount so calculated by the respondents shall be released to the petitioner(s) within a period of one month thereafter.”

Short reply by way of affidavit of Gurlovleen Singh Sidhu, Managing Director, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala dated 20.8.2019 filed in Court is taken on record. Copy thereof has been handed over to learned counsel for the petitioners.

In the affidavit, it has been stated that interest on leave encashment and gratuity has been paid, however, interest on GPF remains to be paid.

Learned counsel for the respondents states that needful will be done within six weeks from today.

Learned counsel for the petitioners states that detail of calculation of interest has not been provided.

Learned counsel for the respondents states that the same would be provided within two weeks from today.

In view of the above, the contempt petition is disposed of with a direction that the respondent will provide the calculation of interest within two weeks from today to the petitioners. In case of any grievance, the petitioners would be at liberty to avail remedies in accordance with law. The interest on gratuity will be paid within six weeks from today to the petitioners. In case of failure to do so, the petitioners would be at liberty to revive the contempt petition and in that case, costs may be imposed which shall be recoverable from the defaulting official.

(AVNEESH JHINGAN)
JUDGE

21.8.2019
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Whether speaking/reasoned: Yes/No
Whether reportable: Yes/No