

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

CWP-18421-2017

Date of decision: - 03.05.2019

Ravinder Singh

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and another

.....Respondents

CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI

Present:- Mr. Gaurav Sharma, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Mehardeep Singh, Additional Advocate General, Punjab.

HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI, J. (ORAL)

In the present writ petition, the grievance which is being raised by the petitioner is for the grant of interest on the delayed payment of arrears of proficiency step up, pension and other retiral benefits.

Counsel for the petitioner argues that though the petitioner had retired on 31.03.2006, but the benefits for which he was entitled for such as pension and other retiral benefits including the arrears of proficiency step up were only released in the year 2017 and therefore, as there is an inordinate and unjustifiable delay in the release of the benefits, hence the petitioner is entitled for interest.

Notice of motion was issued on 21.08.2017. Despite an expiry of more than 1 ½ years, respondents have not filed the reply.

Counsel for the petitioner states that for the relief which has been sought in the present writ petition, the petitioner has served the respondents with a legal notice on 02.06.2017 (Annexure P-12), which is still pending consideration with the respondents and the petitioner will be satisfied, at this stage, in case a time bound direction is issued to the respondents to decide the said legal notice by passing an appropriate speaking order.

Counsel for the respondents states that the respondent department has no objection in case the prayer made by the counsel for the petitioner with regard to disposal of the above-said legal notice within a time bound manner is accepted.

In view of the above, without expressing any opinion on the merits of the case or the claim being made by the petitioner, the respondents are directed to decide the legal notice dated 02.06.2017 Annexure P-12) by passing a speaking order within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order. In case after the decision, it is found that the petitioner is entitled for any monetary benefit, the same shall also be released to him within a period of next three months.

Present writ petition stands disposed of.

May 03, 2019
naresh.k

(HARSIMRAN SINGH SETHI)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?	Yes
Whether reportable?	No