

CWP-16428-2021

Date of decision: 25.08.2021

Rachpal Singh and others

.....Petitioners

versus

The Additional Chief Secretary and another

.....Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE FATEH DEEP SINGH**Present:** Mr. Sumit Saddi, Advocate
for the petitioners.**FATEH DEEP SINGH, J. (ORAL)**

Due to outbreak of pandemic COVID-19, the instant case is being taken up for hearing through video conferencing.

The petitioners have invoked the jurisdiction of this Court in terms of Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India seeking prayer by way of writ of *certiorari/mandamus* for issuance of directions to the respondents to release interest @ 18% per annum on the delayed payments of arrears of salary/retirement benefits of the petitioners which were due to be paid in December, 2012 but paid during the years 2019 i.e. too in 3-4 installments after culpable delay of many years as detailed in Annexure P-1, till the date of actual payment.

Notice of motion to the official respondents.

Ms. Simran Grewal, AAG, Punjab puts in appearance and accepts notice on behalf of the official respondents-State. Copy supplied.

Heard.

Upon hearing learned counsel of both the sides and on perusal of the records, the present petition stands disposed off with the directions to the official respondents to consider the legal notice dated 21.01.2021 (Annexure P-7) as representation moved by the petitioners and decide the same in accordance with law, by passing a speaking order preferably within a period of one month from the date of receipt of the certified copy of this order.

If found entitled and if there is no impediment for the release of payment, the same be granted to the petitioners without any delay, as per law.

The petition stands disposed off accordingly.

25.08.2021

Neha

**(FATEH DEEP SINGH)
JUDGE**

Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether reportable : Yes/No