

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

RSA-356 of 2020 (O&M)

Date of Order:20.10.2023

State of Punjab and others**.Appellants****Versus****Jaswant Singh and another****..Respondents****CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANIL KSHETARPAL****Present:** Mr. Vikas Arora, AAG, Punjab**ANIL KSHETARPAL, J**

1. In this second appeal, the correctness of the concurrent findings of fact arrived at by the courts below is assailed by the State of Punjab (defendant in the suit).

2. The only dispute which requires adjudication in this second appeal relates to the requirement to pay interest on account of delay in reimbursement of medical bills.

3. Both the courts have ordered that there is an unreasonable delay of two years in reimbursement of the amount to the former employee. Thus, the courts have ordered payment of the amount along with 6% interest.

4. The learned counsel representing the State of Punjab submits that in the absence of clear policy-instructions for reimbursement of charges of robotic surgery, there was a delay in payment of the amount. He submits that in these circumstances, the State should not have been burdened with the amount of interest.

5. This court has considered the submissions of the learned counsel representing the appellant-State.

6. The former employee has been deprived of the timely reimbursement for a considerable period of time which is more than two years. In such circumstances, the courts have directed reimbursement along with interest @ 6% which is not equivalent to the rate of inflation.
7. Keeping in view the aforesaid facts and discussion, no ground to interfere is made out.
8. Dismissed.
9. All the pending miscellaneous applications, if any, are also disposed of.

October 20, 2023
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(ANIL KSHETARPAL)
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned :YES/NO
Whether reportable :YES/NO