

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

(126)

CWP-5556-2023**Date of decision: - 17.03.2023****Kirpal Singh and others****....Petitioners****Versus****State of Punjab and others****.....Respondents****CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE VIKAS BAHL**

Present:- Mr. Surinder Sharma, Advocate, for the petitioners.

Mr. Ferry Sofat, Additional Advocate General, Punjab
for the respondents.

VIKAS BAHL, J. (ORAL)

This writ petition has been filed under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India for issuance of writ, order or direction in the nature of mandamus directing the respondents to pay the Honorarium Allowances to the petitioners who are the elected Sarpanches of various villages of Block II, Hoshiarpur from the day they are elected till date alongwith interest.

Learned counsel for the petitioners has submitted that for the grievances raised in the present writ petition, the petitioners had given a representation/notice dated 05.12.2022 (Annexure P-3) and in the said representation, reference has been made to an order passed in a similar matter, vide which the prayer of similarly placed people was allowed. It is further submitted that the petitioner would be satisfied, at this stage, in case respondent No.2- Director, Rural Development and Panchayat,

Punjab, takes a final decision on the representation/notice dated 05.12.2022 (P-3) in a time bound manner and releases the money found due within some stipulated time.

Learned State counsel has submitted that every endeavour would be made by respondent No.2 to consider the representation dated 05.12.2022, but since there are 104 petitioners, thus, atleast two months be granted to take a decision on the representation/notice dated 05.12.2022 and in case, money is found due to the petitioners, the same would be released as expeditiously as possible, preferably, within a period of two months from the date a decision is taken on the representation.

Keeping in view the above-said facts and circumstances, the present writ petition is disposed of with the following terms: -

- (i) Respondent No.2 is directed to consider the representation/notice dated 05.12.2022 (P-3), within a period of two months from today.
- (ii) In case respondent No.2 finds merit on the representation/notice dated 05.12.2022 (P-3), then, the amount due to the petitioners be released to them as expeditiously as possible, preferably, within a period of four months from today.
- (iii) In case respondent No.2 finds that the claim of any of the petitioners is meritorious, then, a speaking order rejecting the said claim be passed within a period of two months from today.

March 17, 2023
naresh.k

(VIKAS BAHL)
JUDGE

Whether reasoned/speaking?
Whether reportable?

Yes/No
Yes/No