

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

CWP-20184-2020
Date of Decision: 24.05.2023

Mandeep SinghPetitioner

Versus

State of Haryana and others ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARNARESH SINGH GILL

Present: Mr. S.K. Kaushik, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Sanjeev Kaushik, Addl. AG, Haryana.

HARNARESH SINGH GILL, J. (Oral)

Prayer in the present petition is for issuance of a writ in the nature of Mandamus directing the respondents to pay the petitioner the arrears of salary @ Rs.57,700/- per month from 01.07.2019 till today along with interest @ 18% per annum, as per Instructions dated 27.06.2019, besides the prayer for quashing the order dated 04.09.2020.

At the outset, learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has been paid the arrears of salary from 01.07.2019 upto 31.03.2021, on 20.05.2021, but no interest thereon has been paid. It is further submitted that as the respondents had withheld the said dues of the petitioner without any justified cause, they are liable to pay interest on the said amount @ 18% per annum.

On the other hand, learned State counsel would submit that there was no intentional lapse on the part of the

respondents in withholding the arrears of salary of the petitioner and therefore, the petitioner is not entitled to any interest on the said amount.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties.

Indisputably, the entire arrears of salary, stand paid to the petitioner on 20.05.2021. The only surviving dispute now relates to payment of interest. This Court is of the considered opinion that once the respondents had withheld the rightful dues of the petitioner for nearly 20 months, without any justified cause, they are liable to pay interest on the said amount.

In view of the above, the present writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the respondents to pay the petitioner interest @ 6% per annum on the amount of arrears of salary, already paid to him on 20.05.2021, within a period of three months.

24.05.2023
ds

(HARNARESH SINGH GILL)
JUDGE

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