



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

CWP-16291-2022

URMILA DEVI AND ANOTHER

.....PETITIONERS

VERSUS

NATIONAL TEXTILE CORPORATION LTD. & ORS.RESPONDENTS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP MOUDGIL

Present: Mr. Ankush Singla, Advocate for the petitioners.

Mr. Bharat Bhushan Sharma, Senior Panel Counsel,
for the respondents.

SANDEEP MOUDGIL, J (ORAL)

1. Prayer in this petition is for issuance of directions to the respondents to pay retiral benefits i.e. provident fund, gratuity etc. alongwith interest @18% p.a. to the petitioners.
2. Reply on behalf of respondents No.1 to 4 is already on record whereas separate reply on behalf of respondent No.5 is not required at this stage, as the said respondent is proforma respondent only.
3. Learned counsel for respondents No.1 to 4 prays for time to obtain instructions, particularly in view of the stand taken in the written statement that the case pertains to the year 2003 and that the relevant record is not available. On account of the non-availability of the record, the respondents are presently unable to make a specific statement as to whether the relief claimed by the petitioner has already been granted or not.
4. Though, Mr. Sharma further submits that Form-19 as prescribed under Rule 72(5) of the PF Scheme, 1952, required for withdrawal of the provident fund, has not been submitted by the petitioner so far. It is stated that the

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said form is a mandatory prerequisite for processing the claim, and unless the same is duly filled and submitted, the provident fund cannot be released.

5. In the meantime, the petitioner is directed to complete the said formality, if not already done. However, reliance has been placed by the petitioner upon a letter dated 30.11.2017 (Annexure P-6), along with Form-19, stated to have been submitted earlier.

6. Be that as it may, without entering into the controversy as to whether Form-19 was, in fact, submitted or not, learned counsel for respondents No.1 to 4, on instructions, undertakes that in the event the petitioner now submits Form-19 within a period of two weeks from today, the petitioner's claim for release of the provident fund shall be duly processed, and the needful shall be done strictly in accordance with law within one month thereafter.

7. Learned counsel further undertakes to inform the counsel for the petitioner, within a period of one week from today, if any additional formality is required to be completed by the petitioner for the release of the gratuity amount.

8. The present petition is disposed of accordingly.

04.11.2025*Anjal***(SANDEEP MOUDGIL)
JUDGE**