



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

265

CWP-14154-2023 (O&M)
Date of decision: 20.02.2025

Harinderjit Kaur

....Petitioner

Versus

State of Punjab and Others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE AMAN CHAUDHARY

Present : None for the petitioner

Mr. Charanpreet Singh, AAG Punjab

AMAN CHAUDHARY, J. (ORAL)

1. The prayer made in the present petition is for directing the respondents to release the pension, gratuity and other benefits along with interest.
2. The petitioner had retired on attaining the age of superannuation on 31.05.2021 and had been released the due benefits i.e. GPF on 29.11.2021, leave encashment 29.12.2021 and GIS on 25.03.2022.
3. Learned State counsel refers to para Nos.4 to 6 of the reply filed by way of affidavit of Joint Director, Department of Social Security and Women and Child Development, Punjab dated 03.10.2023, to which there is no rebuttal by filing replication and read thus:

“.... 4. That the case of the petitioner for regular pension was received by the answering respondent on 02.07.2021. When the case of the petitioner was verified by the answering respondent before sending to Accountant General (respondent no 4) it was found that the LPC and other required relevant documents were not attached by the petitioner with her application. In order to procure the relevant document the petitioner was requested time and again to submit her complete documents to the department so that the case of her regular pension could be considered. The copy of the letter

dated 29.06.2022 and 26.08.2022 is annexed herewith as Annexure R-1 and R-2 respectively. It is pertinent to mention here that for procuring the required document in order to consider the case of the petitioner for her pension, various letters have also been written to the concerned Child Development Project Officer, Munak from where the petitioner was retired.

5. That it is further respectfully submitted that after receiving the required documents on the case of the petitioner was again sent to Accountant General Punjab (Respondent no 4) on 30.08.2022. On perusal of the record sent, the Accountant General Punjab (Respondent no. 4) raised some objections which were received by the department on 18.11.2022. Subsequently, after removing the objections raised by the Accountant General Punjab (Respondent no 4) the case of the petitioner was again submitted on 21.02.2023 to Respondent no 4. Thereafter the case of the petitioner for regular pension has been approved by the Respondent no 4 i.e Accountant General Punjab on 18.04.2023 and now the petitioner is drawing regular pension w.e.f 2.05.2023. It is humbly submitted that the delay which occurred was neither intentional nor deliberate and was a procedural one. For the said delay the answering respondents tender an unconditional apology. The copy of the letter dated 18.04.2023 annexed herewith as Annexure R-3.

6. That it is pertinent to mention here that the all other pensionary benefits like GIS, GPF and Leave Encashment benefits have already been released to the petitioner by the respondents way back in the year 2021-22. Presently, the petitioner is drawing the regular pension w.e.f 02.05.2023. In petitioners case the regular pension is not the result of intentional delay. On the contrary, the said delay is on account of petitioner willful inability to produce and submit the relevant documents for which department took timely action of sending reminders to The petitioner as well as to the concerned district officer, Munak from where the petitioner was retired. So as to nable the respondent department to consider petitioner's pension case accordingly. The copy of the letter dated 21.08.2023 regarding release of other retiral benefits is annexed herewith as Annexure R-4.”

4. In view of the above, petition is dismissed.

(AMAN CHAUDHARY)
JUDGE

20.02.2025

M.Kamra

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