



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

1) CWP-9334-2026
Date of decision: 02.04.2026

Bhagwan Singh and othersPetitioners

Versus

The Punjab State Cooperative Bank Limited and another ...Respondents

2) CWP-9335-2026

Gurinder Singh and othersPetitioners

Versus

The Punjab State Cooperative Bank Limited and others ...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Present: Mr. Vikas Singh, Senior Advocate with
Ms. Anamika Sheoran, Advocate
for the petitioners (in both cases).

Mr. Ashwani Prashar, Advocate
for the respondent-Bank (in both cases).

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (ORAL)

1. This common order shall dispose of the aforementioned civil writ petitions, as they arise out of a similar issue regarding the entitlement of the petitioners to enhanced gratuity.

2. The present civil writ petition(s) has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of a writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to pay interest @ 10% on account of delay in payment of gratuity.

3. On 27.03.2026, the following order was passed:-



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*“Learned counsel for the petitioners inter alia contends that the petitioners joined the services of respondent No.2-Bank and retired on attaining the age of superannuation. The service conditions of the petitioners are governed by the Punjab State Cooperative Financing Institution Service Rules, 1958. Under these service conditions, the petitioners are entitled to payment of gratuity under the provisions of the Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972. The maximum limit of gratuity was enhanced on 29.05.2018 from Rs.10 Lakhs to Rs.20 Lakhs. The petitioners have retired after the aforesaid date, however, they have not been paid the gratuity immediately on retirement and only a gratuity of Rs.10 Lakhs has been paid. The petitioners served a legal notice dated 12.12.2025 (Annexure P-2) and relied upon the judgments of this Court in **CWP No.13435 of 2024** titled as **The Punjab State Cooperative Bank Ltd. vs. Deputy Chief Labour Commissioner (Central) Chandigarh and others** decided on 31.07.2024 and **CWP No.24877 of 2025** titled as **Bhajan Singh and others vs. The Punjab State Cooperative Bank Limited and another** decided on 26.08.2025 (Annexures P-3 and P-4 respectively), in which this Court not only directed the employer to pay the enhanced gratuity but also imposed statutory interest of 10% per annum on account of the delay in payment of gratuity to the retired employees.*

At this stage, learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners would be satisfied in case legal notice dated 12.12.2025 (Annexure P-2) is decided by the respondents in terms of judgments (Annexures P-3 and P-4) of this Court.

Mr. Naginder Singh Vashishist, Advocate, on an advance notice, has put in appearance on behalf of the respondent-Bank and seeks a short accommodation to have complete instructions.



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List on 02.04.2026.

Photocopy of this order be placed on the connected file.”

4. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent-Bank could not distinguish the case of the petitioners from the petitioner(s) in ***Bhajan Singh’s case (supra)***.

5. At this stage, learned senior counsel for the petitioners submits that he would be satisfied in case both the above mentioned writ petitions are disposed of with a direction to the respondent-Bank to treat the present writ petitions as a comprehensive representation and the same be decided in a time bound manner in terms of the judgment rendered by this Court in ***Bhajan Singh’s case (supra)*** (Annexure P-4) by passing a speaking order after affording the petitioners an opportunity of being heard.

6. Learned counsel for the respondents submits that the grievance raised by the petitioner in the present writ petition would be considered by passing a speaking order in accordance with the law by respondent(s)/competent authority.

7. Therefore, in view of the submissions made by the learned counsel for the parties, both the above mentioned writ petitions are disposed of and the respondent(s)/competent authority is directed to treat the above mentioned both writ petitions as a comprehensive representation and consider the claim of the petitioners in terms of the judgment rendered by this Court in ***Bhajan Singh’s case (supra)*** (Annexure P-4) and pass a speaking order after affording them an opportunity to be heard, within a period of 03 months from the date of

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receiving a certified copy of this order. Further, the decision taken thereof shall be conveyed to the petitioners. Needless to say, if the petitioners are found entitled to the relief sought, the same shall be granted forthwith by the respondents.

8. A photo copy of this order be placed on the file of connected case.

(HARPREET SINGH BRAR)
JUDGE

02.04.2026
Neha

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