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

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CWP-9188-2020

Date of Decision: **January 15, 2026**

Santosh Kumari

....Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Punjab and others

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE HARPREET SINGH BRAR

Present : Mr. Harpal Singh Saini, Advocate for the petitioner (through V.C.).

Mr. Vikas Arora, DAG, Punjab.

None for respondent No.4.

Mr. Chandan Singh, Advocate for respondent No.5.

HARPREET SINGH BRAR, J. (Oral)

1. The present petition has been filed under Article 226/227 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a writ in the nature of *certiorari* for quashing the order No.28 dated 07.01.2020 (Annexure P-1) because of which petitioner is being dragged from one office to another for no fault on her part. Further praying for issuance of a writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to release the pension of the petitioner w.e.f. 01.09.2019 and also to release the amount of DA which was to be deposited



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in the GPF account and also the arrears of revision of pay scale from 01.01.2006 to May 2009 (which was also to be deposited in the GPF account of petitioner).

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner, *inter alia*, contends that the petitioner had retired on 31.08.2019 after rendering more than 30 years of service. The retiral dues of the petitioner were not released immediately upon her retirement. Learned counsel further refers to reply filed on behalf of respondent No.4 and submits that the balance PF of the petitioner lying with the respondent No.4 was given to respondent No.5 vide cheque No.336180 dated 26.03.2013 amounting to Rs.64,870/-. The intimation regarding the same was also provided to the petitioner on 24.06.2020 through registered post along with photocopy of the cheque. The respondent was duty-bound to disburse the same to the petitioner within two months from the date of her retirement; however, the petitioner's pensionary benefits were released only after an inordinate and unjustified delay. As such, the delay in releasing all her retiral dues entitles the petitioner for grant of interest on the same terms of the judgment rendered by a Full Bench of this Court in ***A.S. Randhawa Supdg. Engineer (Retd.) vs. State of Punjab 1998 (1) SCT 343.***

3. There is no representation on behalf of respondent No.4. However, learned counsel for respondent No.5 submits that an amount of Rs.33,383/- has been paid to the petitioner through the cheque dated



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15.01.2026. However, he is not in a position to controvert the fact that the same has been paid after an inordinate delay for which the petitioner is entitled to interest in terms of judgment passed in *A.S. Randhawa (supra)*. Learned counsel for respondent No.5 is not in a position to confirm or controvert the stand taken by respondent No.4 in his reply regarding amount of PF transferred by respondent No.4 to respondent No.5.

4. Having heard the submission made by learned counsel for the parties and after perusing the record with their able assistance, it transpires that the petitioner retired from the service on 31.08.2019 and her retiral dues have been paid after an inordinately long delay. The respondents were obligated to release her all retiral dues within two months of her retirement. As such, her case is squarely covered by the judgment rendered by a Full Bench of this Court in *A.S. Randhawa (supra)* wherein it was opined that disbursement of pension and other benefits payable at retirement must be done in a timely manner. Any delay over a period of two months qua the said disbursement would entitle the retired employee to claim interest on the amount due.

5. As far as the calculation of the amount is concerned, the present petition is disposed of with a direction to respondent No. 2 to examine the contextual facts and determine whether there has been any delay in releasing the retiral dues and, if so, to ensure payment of interest on the delayed payment of the admissible retiral dues accrued to the petitioner at the rate of 6% per annum. Such interest shall be calculated from the expiry of two

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months after her retirement until the date of actual payment. The needful be done within a period of three months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order.

6. Copy of this order be supplied to the learned State counsel for information and strict compliance.

7. In case, the officer concerned deviates from the directions issued by this Court, the petitioner would be at liberty to file appropriate application under Article 215 of the Constitution of India to initiate contempt proceedings.

8. Pending miscellaneous application(s), if any, also stands disposed of.

(HARPREET SINGH BRAR)
JUDGE

January 15, 2026
P.C

Whether speaking/reasoned. : Yes/No
Whether Reportable. : Yes/No