



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

104 (and connected matters)

Date of Decision: 15.05.2026

1. CWP-39208-2025

MEENA RANI & ANOTHER

...Petitioners

Versus

STATE OF HARYANA & OTHERS

...Respondents

And

Sr. No.	Case No.	Petitioner(s)	Respondent(s)
2.	CWP-1415-2026	PUSHPA DEVI	UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITARAN NIGAM LIMITED & ANOTHER
3.	CWP-1430-2026	SUKHRAM	DAKSHIN HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED & ANOTHER
4.	CWP-5310-2026	BATTU LAL & ANOTHER	UTTAR HARYANA BIJLI VITRAN NIGAM LIMITED & OTHERS

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JAGMOHAN BANSAL

Present:- Mr. Rahul Singla, Advocate
For petitioners (in CWP-39208-2025)

Mr. Sunil Kumar Tandon, Advocate
For petitioners (in CWP-1415-2026,
CWP-1430-2026 & CWP-5310-2026)

Mr. Deepak Vashisht, DAG, Haryana

Mr. Ravish Kaushik, Advocate
For respondents-Nigam



JAGMOHAN BANSAL, J. (ORAL)

1. As common issues are involved in the captioned petitions, with the consent of both sides, the same are hereby disposed of by this common order. For the sake of brevity and convenience, facts are borrowed from ***CWP-39208-2025***.

2. The petitioners through instant petition under Articles 226/227 of the Constitution of India are seeking direction to respondents to pay interest on delayed payment of compensation.

3. The petitioners' son was studying in 9th Class and he passed away on account of electrocution on 07.08.2021. The petitioners filed *CWP-15620-2022* before this Court seeking direction to respondents to pay compensation as per applicable notification. This Court vide order dated 15.09.2022 disposed of said petition with a direction to respondents to consider petitioners' claim. The respondents determined amount of compensation as per notification dated 08.07.2019 and released a sum of Rs.17,14,050/- on 26.07.2024. The respondent did not pay interest as contemplated under Section 4A of Employees Compensation Act, 1923 (for short '1923 Act').

4. Learned counsel for the petitioners submit that petitioners are entitled to interest as per Section 4A of 1923 Act.

5. Learned counsel for respondents expressed their inability to controvert applicability of Section 4A of 1923 Act, however, submitted that matter with respect to rate of interest and the date from which it should be calculated is under consideration. The notification dated 08.07.2019 has



borrowed provisions of 1923 Act with respect to formula to determine amount of compensation. There was no intention to apply provisions relating to interest and penalty.

6. Heard the arguments and perused the record.

7. Clause 11 of notification dated 08.07.2019 provides for compensation to private persons in case of fatal or non-fatal accidents. Clause 11 of the notification reads as: -

“11. Private Person for Fatal Accident & Non-Fatal Accidents

UHBVN is engaged in the hazardous activity and risky for the human life and thus UHBVN owns strict liability for compensation to the private person. Accordingly, the compensation to the private person shall be payable in case of fatal as well as non-fatal accident irrespective of the reasons for such accident as the electricity system is open to the public. The compensation amount shall be payable as per provision of the Employees Compensation Act, 1923. However, this compensation shall be applicable for the accident cases occurring with the electrical network of the UHBVN and not in private premises.”

8. From the perusal of above-quoted Clause, it is evident that compensation is payable as per provisions of 1923 Act. It has not been provided that provisions of 1923 Act are borrowed just to determine amount of compensation. In the absence of specific provisions, the petitioners are entitled to interest as per Section 4A of 1923 Act.

9. The matter needs to be examined from another angle. It is settled law that interest is compensatory in nature. The Courts have always



granted interest on compensation awarded under Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 as well as Railways Act, 1989. Thus, respondents are liable to pay interest and cannot avoid their responsibility.

10. In the wake of above discussion and findings, this Court is of the considered opinion that respondent is liable to pay interest @ 12% per annum as prescribed under Section 4A of 1923 Act from the date of filing application. Where the petitioner has not filed application before respondent and directly approached this Court, the interest would be payable from the date of disposal of writ petition by this Court directing the respondents to consider petitioner's claim. The respondents shall calculate and release payment of interest within 6 weeks from today.

11. Allowed in above terms.

12. Pending Misc. application(s), if any, shall stand disposed of.

(JAGMOHAN BANSAL)
JUDGE

15.05.2026
SDK

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