



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

CWP-PIL-296-2025

Date of decision: 29.10.2025

Court on its own motion

....Petitioner.

Versus

State of Punjab through its
Chief Secretary

...Respondent.

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJIV BERRY, JUDGE

Present:- Mr. Vipin Pal Yadav, Addl. AG, Punjab.

.....

SHEEL NAGU, CHIEF JUSTICE (Oral)

Suo moto cognizance has been taken through 'The Indian Express' e-paper on 03.10.2025 to the extent of "*forced to do extra duties; 06 months on, over 50,000 anganwadi workers in Punjab yet to get honorarium*".

2. An affidavit/reply of the Chief Secretary dated 17.10.2025 had been filed accompanied with (Annexure R-1) which is a summary of accounts as on 10.10.2025. As per the said affidavit/reply, arrears of 06 months' of honorarium withheld for the said anganwadi workers have been cleared.

3. The aforesaid reply/affidavit reveals that delay has occurred due to technical issue and after completion of mapping of SNA Bank Account funds had been released.

4. Since the State of Punjab is a welfare State, which may also consider paying appropriate quantum of interest over the delayed



payment of honorarium to the anganwadi workers who had not received honorarium from the last several months.

4. We hope and expect that the State of Punjab shall rise to the occasion and pass appropriate orders instead of rejecting the aforesaid observation of this Court in a mechanical manner. Let the aforesaid decision as regards payment of interest on delayed payment be taken and made within a period of 60 days.

5. With the aforesaid observation, this petition stands disposed of.

(SHEEL NAGU)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(SANJIV BERRY)
JUDGE

29.10.2025

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i)	<i>Whether speaking/reasoned?</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>
ii)	<i>Whether reportable?</i>	<i>Yes/No</i>