

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 06-12-2017

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM

W.P.No.6153 of 2010

R.D.Devendra Raju

.. Petitioner

-VS-

1.The Director,
Public Health and Preventive Medicine,
259, Anna Salai,
Chennai-6.

2.The Deputy Director of Health Services,
Cheiyar,
T.V.Malai District.

3.The District Medical Officer,
Vellore District.

4.The Commissioner,
Panchayat Union,
Kandali,
Thiruppathur Taluk,
Vellore District.

5.The Accountant General Officer,
Mount Road,
Teynampet,
Chennai.

.. Respondents

Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus, directing the first respondent to count the period from 28.2.1980 to 6.1.1985 as a qualifying service for awarding pensionary benefit to the petitioner.

For Petitioner - Mr.R.Margabandhu

For Respondents-1&2- Mr.K.Thanga Pandi,
Government Advocate.

For Respondent-3 - Dismissed vide Court order dated
11.1.2012

For Respondent-4 - Mr.P.Nethaji

For Respondent-5 - No Appearance

ORDER

The relief sought for in this writ petition is for a direction to direct the first respondent to count the period of service from 28.2.1980 to 6.1.1985 as a qualifying service for the purpose of granting pensionary benefit to the writ petitioner.

2. The writ petitioner was appointed on 28.2.1980 as a Medical Officer on a consolidated pay in Visamangalam, Kanthali in Panchayat Dispensary as approved District Medical Officer and the salary was paid by the Block Development Officer from local fund. The writ petitioner served till 5.1.1985 and thereafter, transferred to Kannamangalam Rural Dispensary, Vellore District. The service of the writ petitioner was regularised and he was appointed as a regular doctor thereafter.

3. The writ petitioner attained the age of superannuation and retired from service on 31.5.2006. However, the services rendered by the writ petitioner on a consolidated pay from 28.2.1980 to 5.1.1985 has not been taken into consideration for the purpose of calculating qualifying service. In this regard, the writ petitioner made a representation and the same was rejected by the Deputy Director of Health Services on the ground that there was no Government Order or Rules, so as to count the temporary service rendered by the writ petitioner on consolidated pay.

4. However, subsequently, the government of Tamil Nadu amended the Rule 11 of the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules. As per the amended Rule, 50% of the services rendered by employees shall be taken into account as qualifying service for the purpose of granting pensionary benefits. In view of the amended Rule 11 of the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules, the case of the writ petitioner deserves to be reconsidered by the respondents.

5. However, this Court is of the opinion that regularisation from the date of initial appointment, cannot be granted, but counting of half of the services pursuant to the amended Rule 11 of the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules, 1978, is to be considered in favour of the writ petitioner. In this regard, in a batch of writ petitions in W.P.No.7217 of 2015 etc., batch, dated 2.8.2017, this Court held as follows:-

"6. The grievances advanced in this writ petition is the non-consideration of the amended Rule 11 of the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules, in respect of

qualifying the services and the amended Rule is extracted hereunder:

Rule 11

QUALIFYING SERVICE

1. "Commencement of qualifying service - {(1)} Subject to the provisions of these rules, qualifying service of a Government servant shall commence from the date he taken charge of the post to which he is first appointed either substantively or in an officiating or temporary capacity. In the case of a Government servant retiring on or after the 1st October, 1969,2{.....} temporary or officiating service in a pensionable post whether rendered in a regular capacity or not shall count in full as qualifying service even it is not followed by confirmation.

(2) Half of the service paid from contingencies shall be allowed to count towards qualifying service for pension along with regular service subject to the following conditions:

- service paid from contingencies shall be in a job involving whole time employment and not part time for a portion of the day.
- Service paid from contingencies shall be in a type of work or job for which regular posts could have been sanctioned, for example Chowkidar.
- Service shall be for which the payment is made out on monthly or daily rates computed and paid on a monthly basis and which, though not analogous to the regular scale of pay, shall bear some relation in the matter of pay to those being paid for similar jobs being performed by staff in regular establishments.
- Service paid from contingencies shall be continuous and followed by absorption in regular employment without a break.
- Subject to the above conditions being fulfilled, the weightage for past service paid from contingencies shall be limited to the period after the 1st January 1961 for which authenticated records of service may be available.

- Pension or revised pension admissible as the case shall be paid from the 23rd June 1988.]

[Half of the service rendered by State Government employee under non-pensionable establishment shall be allowed to be counted for pensionary benefits along with regular service under pensionable establishment subject to the following conditions.

(a) Service under non-pensionable establishment should have been in a job involving whole time employment.

(b) The service under non-pensionable establishment should have been on time scale of pay.

(c) The service under non-pensionable establishment should have been continuous and followed by absorption in pensionable establishment without a break.

(3) These orders shall take effect from the date of this Government Order. In respect of those who retired prior to the date of this order, eligible pension or revised pension, as the case may be, shall be paid from the date of this order, and that there can be no claim for arrears in any case for the period upto the date of this order.

Note: In the case of the employees of the former Pudukkottai State and persons transferred from the former Travancore-Cochin State consequent on the reorganisation of State temporary or officiating service rendered in a regular capacity under the former Pudukkottai State or the former Travancore-Cochin State shall count in full for purposes of pension:

Provided that-

(a) in the case of a Government Servant, service rendered before attaining the age of eighteen years shall not count, except for compensation gratuity;

(b) in the case of a Government Servant whose year and month of birth are known, but not the exact date the 16th of the month should be treated as the date of birth. When the year of birth is known but not the month and date 1st July if the year shall be taken.

(c) in the case of a Government Servant with no military service who gives on recruitment only his age,

but not the year of his birth the year should be arrived at by deducting from the year of recruitment the given age and then the date of birth should be taken as the 1st July of that year:

Provided further that in the case of a Government servant with previous military service the date of birth is fixed as laid down below:

When a military employee is transferred to a civil department under the Government and assumes a civilian status, the date of birth to be entered in his service book should be the date stated by him at the time of attestation.

When the documents referring to the previous military service of an individual do not give the definite date of birth but only the age stated at the time of attestation, he should be assumed to have completed the stated age on the date of attestation e.g., if one ex-soldier was enrolled on 1st January 1910 and if, on that date, his age was stated to be 18, his date of birth should be taken as 1st January 1892. This procedure will apply to cases arising on or after 27th June 1938.

Notwithstanding anything contained above in cases where S.S.L.C. Or any other school certificate is available, the date of birth, as entered therein should be taken into account.

[Explanation.--For the purpose of date of birth, the word 'attestation' refers only to the initial records kept by the Defence Department at the time of appointment of the individual and not in the discharge certificate on discharge from the Defence Department.] '

6. While amending Rule 11(4) (iii), the Government imposed the cut-off date as 01.04.2003. It is stated that "Service rendered in non-provincialised service, consolidated pay, honorarium or daily wages basis shall be followed by absorption in regular service before 1st April 2003 without a break".

7. In view of the abovesaid judgment of this Court, the respondents are directed to consider the case of the writ petitioner in the light of the amended Rule 11 of the Tamil Nadu Pension Rules, 1978 and pass appropriate orders on merits and in accordance with law, within a period of twelve weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

8. Accordingly, the writ petition stands disposed of. However, there shall be no order as to costs.

Sd/-

Asst.Registrar (CCC)

/true copy/

Sub Asst. Registrar

Svn

To

1.The Director,
Public Health and Preventive Medicine,
259, Anna Salai,
Chennai-6.

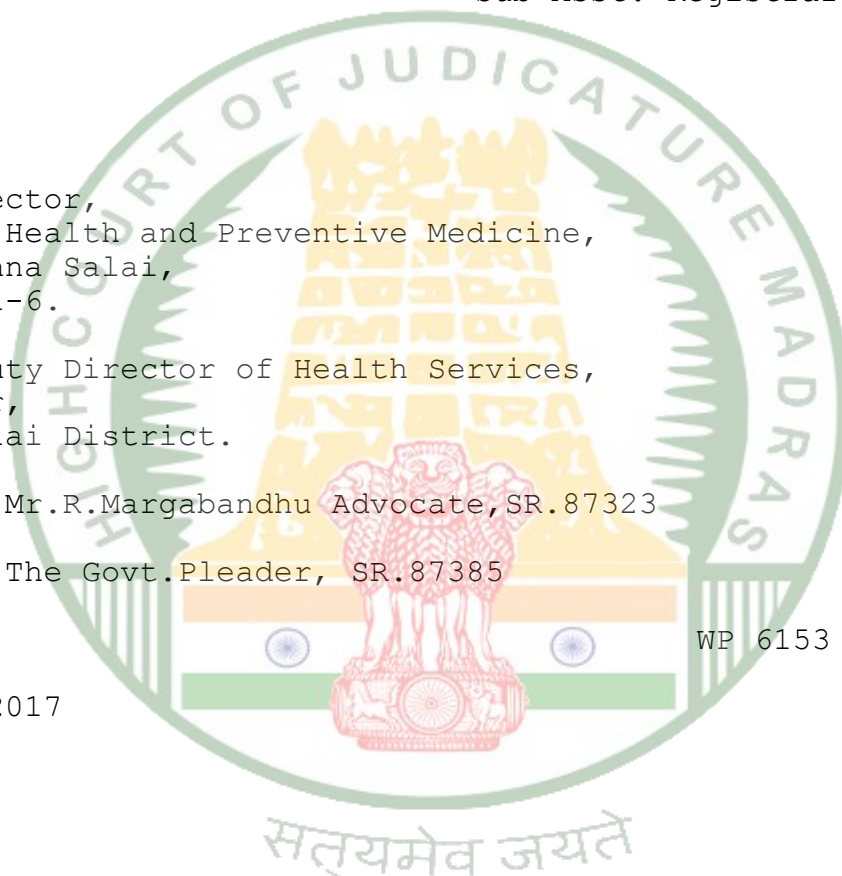
2.The Deputy Director of Health Services,
Cheiyar,
T.V.Malai District.

+ 1 cc to Mr.R.Margabandhu Advocate, SR.87323

+ 1 cc to The Govt.Pleader, SR.87385

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