

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS
DATED: 27.02.2017
CORAM:
THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE M.SATHYANARAYANAN
W.P.No.1359 of 2017

R.Muralidharan

..

Petitioner

Vs

1.The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (VPM) Ltd.,
No.3/137, Salamedu,
Valuthareddy,
Villupuram - 605 602.

2.The General Manager,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (VPM) Ltd.,
Vengikkal,
Tiruvannamalai Regional,
Tiruvannamalai - 606 601.

3.The Administrator,
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation
Pension Fund Trust,
Thiruvalluvar House,
Pallavan Salai,
Chennai - 600 002.

... Respondents

Prayer:- Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying for issuance of a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to settle the retirement benefits including gratuity Welfare Fund, Post Retirement Scheme arrears and all other attendant retirement benefits etc. with interest at the rate of 12% for the belated settlement of retirement benefits including the commuted value of pension, gratuity etc., to the petitioner payable from the date of retirement i.e. 30.09.2016 to till the date of actual payment within the time that may be stipulated by this Court on par with similar issue decided in W.P (MD) No.19544 of 2014 dated 23.07.2015 in issuing direction to the Transport Corporations to settle the terminal benefits of its employees in 12 equal monthly instalments and to pay 6 % interest to the terminal benefits.

For Petitioner : Mr.K.Narayanan

For Respondents: Mr.K.Venkataramani,
Additional Advocate General,
Assisted by Mr.P.KannanKumar.

ORDER

By consent, the writ petition is taken up for final disposal.

2. The petitioner joined the services of the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation as a Checking Inspector on 13.06.1987 [Staff No.SR 1167] and he was confirmed in the service on 15.02.1988 and after rendering 33 years of service, retired on 30.09.2016 in the same capacity. The grievance expressed by the petitioner is that though he is entitled to get various retiral/terminal benefits such as Gratuity, Pension Commutation, Welfare Fund, and settlement arrears, the same have not been settled and in this regard, he had submitted a representation to the respondents dated 24.11.2016 and despite receipt and acknowledgment, no orders have been passed and hence, the petitioner came forward to file the present writ petition.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that a similar issue arose for consideration before a Division Bench of this Court in WA[MD] No.383 to 457/2015 [K.Rajendran and others Vs. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation, Madurai Limited rep. by the Managing Director, Madurai-10 and others] and the Division Bench, vide judgment dated 12.06.2015, has ordered the amounts to be paid in twelve equal monthly instalments with an interest @ 6% per annum and also with a default interest and prays for similar orders.

4. Heard the submissions of Mr.K.Venkataramani, learned Additional Advocate General assisted by Mr.P.Kannan Kumar, learned Standing counsel who accepts notice on behalf of the respondents.

5. This Court has taken into consideration the said judgment and also the stand of the respondents including the Administrative Department in its order dated 19.01.2017 made in WP.No.42555/2016 [A.Annamalai Vs. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Limited, Salem and others] and

issued necessary directions and for the purpose of disposal of the cases, it is relevant to extract the common judgment made in the above cited writ appeal :-

"The learned Additional Advocate General submits that he has obtained written instructions vide letter No.7945/B/2015-2 dated 11/06/2015 that the terminal benefits of the appellants would be settled through twelve equal monthly installments, carrying interest of 6% p.a.

2.The said statement is thus taken on record and the respondents will be bound by the same. We have to keep in mind the judicial pronouncement of the Honourable Supreme Court in D.D.Tewari (D) Thr. Lrs. Vs. Uta Haryana Bujli Vitran Nigam Limited & Ors [2014 (e) scale -78] wherein it is held that in case of any delay in making the payment of the installments, the interest payable would become 18% p.a., for the delayed period apart from any other remedy which may be available to the appellants for non-compliance of undertaking given to this Court.

3.The instalments to be paid from July 2015 and each instalments should be paid on or before 7th of each month.

4. The Writ Appeals are disposed of accordingly. No costs. Consequently, the connected miscellaneous petitions are closed."

6. In the light of the above facts and circumstances, the respondents are directed to settle the retiral/terminal benefits to the petitioner in twelve equal monthly installments commencing from 1st June, 2017 bearing interest at the rate of 6% per annum and in the event of default, the interest payable will become 18% per annum. The respondents, apart from paying arrears of pension, shall also continue to pay the pension amount due and payable to the petitioner without any default.

7. The writ petition stands disposed of with the above direction. No costs.

-s/d-

Assistant Registrar

True Copy

Sub-Assistant Registrar

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To

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Chennai - 600 002.

+1 cc to M/s.K.Narayanan Advocate sr 13091

+1 cc to M/s.P.kannankumar Advocate sr 13331

W.P.No.1359 of 2017

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aa15/03/2017

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