

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 27.07.2017

CORAM

THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM

W.P.No.16356 of 2017

A.Nagarajan

..Petitioner

Versus

1. The Controlling Authority and
Assistant Commissioner of Labour,
Salem.
2. The Management,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (Coimbatore) Ltd,
Chennimalai Road,
Erode Region, Erode.
Rep by its General Manager.

..Respondents

Prayer: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying for the issuance of Writ of Mandamus to direct the 2nd respondent to pay the balance award amount and the accrued interest for the gratuity amount of Rs.3,66,173/- at the rate of 10% per annum from 30.04.2014 till the date of payment to the petitioner as per the award dated 05.05.2016 passed in P.G. No.201/2015 by the 1st respondent within stipulated time as may be fixed by this Court.

For Petitioner :Mr.I.C.Vasudevan

For Respondents :Mr.M.Perumal,
Government Advocate for R1
Mr.P.Kannan Kumar for R2

ORDER

The Writ Petitioner served in Tamilnadu State Transport Corporation (Coimbatore) Ltd., and retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.04.2014. He retired as Special Grade Driver and the learned counsel for the writ petitioner states that till today, the balance award amount and the Gratuity amount Rs.3,66,173/- along with the interest at the rate of 10% per annum with effect from 30.04.2014 was not paid

to the writ petitioner without any valid reasons and that the writ petitioner was allowed to retire from service and his accrued interest for the gratuity amount was not paid till today.

2. The learned Government Advocate and the Learned counsel appearing for the 2nd respondent pleads that due to financial crunch they are unable to pay the accrued gratuity amount due to the petitioner.

3. The terminal benefits are the right of an employee. A Driver who was serving in the Corporation for more than two decades, is entitled for his livelihood. It does not mean a mere life and it includes decent life as ensured under Article 21 of the Constitution of India.

4. The terminal benefits are not bounty and it is a deferred portion of wages for the services rendered by an employee. Hence, non payment of terminal benefits to the employees without any valid reason, is no doubt, a violation of right to Life enshrined under Article 21 of the Constitution of India. The State being a model employer, has to settle the benefits to its employees and immediately after their retirement and it is the duty mandated on the part of the State to settle the terminal benefits. Therefore, this Court is of the view that batch of writ petitions are filed before this Court seeking direction to pay terminal benefits and the attitude of the respondents driving the retired employees to approach this Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, is deprecated.

5. In view of the above, this Court is inclined to follow the earlier directions granted by this Court and by following the terms stated therein. Accordingly, the Writ Petition stands disposed of and the respondents are directed to disburse the aforementioned retiral benefit to the petitioner herein, in six equal monthly instalments with effect from September 2017, in the light of the common judgment passed by this Court in W.A. (MD)Nos.383 to 457 of 2015 (K.Rajendran and others Vs. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation, Madurai Limited rep. by its Managing Director, Madurai and others) dated 12.06.2015. It is also made clear that the first instalment shall commence from September 2017. No costs.

Sd/-
Asst.Registrar (CS IV)

/true copy/

Sub Asst. Registrar

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To

1. The Controlling Authority and
Assistant Commissioner of Labour,
Salem
2. The Management,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (Coimbatore) Ltd,
Chennimalai Road,
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Rep by its General Manager.

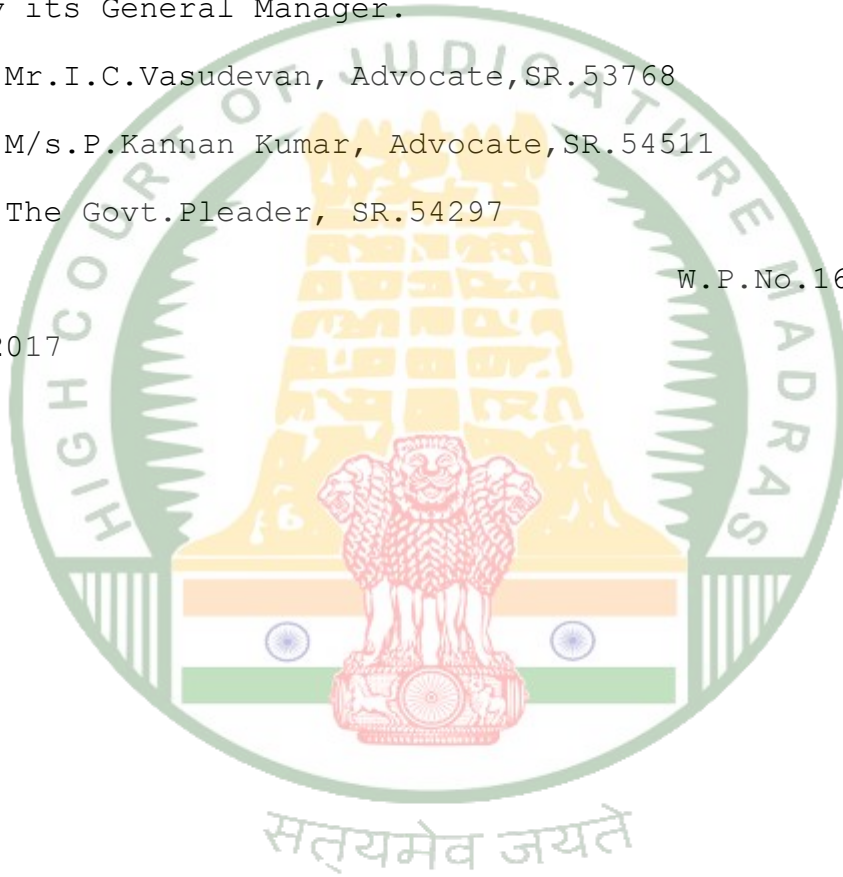
+ 1 cc to Mr.I.C.Vasudevan, Advocate,SR.53768

+ 1 cc to M/s.P.Kannan Kumar, Advocate,SR.54511

+ 1 cc to The Govt.Pleader, SR.54297

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NR 01/09/2017



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