

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED :18.07.2017

CORAM

THE HON'BLE MR.JUSTICE S.M.SUBRAMANIAM

W.P. No.1963 of 2017

N.Muthukumar

...Petitioner

Vs

The Managing Director
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (Salem) Ltd.,
12, Ramakrishna Salai,
Salem - 636 007.

...Respondent

Prayer: Petition filed Under Article 226 of the Constitution of India to issue of Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondent to pay the retirement benefits such as benefits of Earned and Unearned Leave, Medical Leave Benefit and other retirement benefits and arrears of settlement payable to the petitioner with interest from the date of retirement.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Nagarathinam

For Respondent : Mr.P.Kannan Kumar

O R D E R

The writ petitioner served as a Senior Checking Inspector (Employment No. FC0348) at Tamilnadu State Transport Corporation Ltd., in Salem and after completion of 31 years of service he retired from service on 31.05.2012, and the learned counsel for the writ petitioner states that till today, the terminal benefits are not disbursed to the writ petitioner without any valid reasons and that the writ petitioner was allowed to retire from service and his entitlement for terminal benefits are not paid till today.

2. Learned counsel appearing for the respondent / Corporation pleads that due to financial crunch they are unable to pay the terminal benefits due to his employees.

3. The terminal benefits are the right of an employee to lead his livelihood. An employee who was serving in the Corporation for more than three decades, is entitled for his

livelihood. Life does not mean a mere animal 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, 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 these 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 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 benefits to the petitioner herein, in twelve equal monthly installments, 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 installment shall commence from 01.09.2017. There shall be no order as to costs.

Sd/-

Asst.Registrar (CS VIII)

/true copy/

Sub Asst. Registrar

vv/kas

To

The Managing Director
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (Salem) Ltd.,
12, Ramakrishna Salai,
Salem - 636 007.

+1cc to M/s.A.Nagarathinam, Advocate sr.50484

+1cc to M/s.P.Kannankumar, Advocate sr.51128

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sai(co)

ss(3/8/2017)