

It is the settled law that the right of a retired employee to get his retiral dues on the date of attaining superannuation is a valuable right which acquires in his favour on the date of attending superannuation.

Gratuity and pension were no longer to be a bounty to be handed out by the State at its whim. An employee had a right to receive gratuity and pension as also interest on delayed payment upon retirement.

As such, in view of decision of Union of India Versus Tarmen Singh reported in (2008) 8 SCC 648 in spite of delay in making the application for interest on gratuity the delay was not fatal and shall not take away the claim of the petitioner in getting interest on delayed payment.

The Director of Pension, Provident Fund & Group Insurance, Government of West Bengal as also the Treasury Officer concerned are directed to pay interest at the rate of 9% per annum on the gratuity amount from the next date of retirement till the actual date of disbursement.

Such payment is to be made within three months from the date of communication of the certified copy of this order to the concerned authorities.

With the aforesaid observation and directions, this writ application stands disposed of.

There will, however, be no order as to costs.

Urgent Photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for be given to the petitioner on priority basis.

(SHAMPA SARKAR, J.)