



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 13.01.2020

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE **MRS.JUSTICE J.NISHA BANU**

W.P. (MD) No.804 of 2020

WEB COPY

M.Pandi Muniyandi

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Ltd.,
Rep.by its Managing Director,
Madurai Division,
Bye Pass Road, Madurai-625 016.

2.The General Manager,
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation Ltd.,
Madurai Region,
Bye Pass Road, Madurai-625016.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, to direct the respondents to pay the Service Surrender Leave salary amount of Rs.73,525/- payable to the petitioner for the period from 2009 to 2018 together with 18% interest from the date of his retirement i.e. 30.06.2018 to till date of payment and all other attendant benefits to him within the stipulated period.

For Petitioner
For Respondents

: Mr.A.Rahul
: Mr.T.Senthil Kumaraiah

ORDER

By consent of both parties, this writ petition is taken up for final disposal at the stage of admission itself.

2.The petitioner is the retired employee of the Transport Corporation. His grievance is that his surrender leave salary in respect of the years from 2009 to 2018 has not been paid and therefore, the present writ petition has been filed.

3.The learned counsel for the petitioner would submit that

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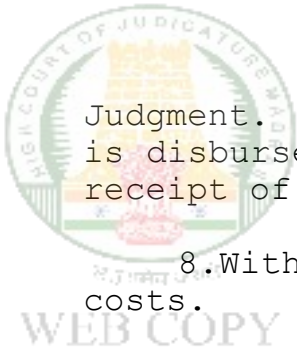


ventilating the aforesaid grievance, he has already made a representation dated 10.12.2019, in this regard, which is said to be pending. If the said representation is directed to be disposed of within stipulated time, the ends of justice could be secured.

4. Whenever a representation is made to a statutory authority to redress the claim of the employee, it is a duty cast upon the respondents to consider the same on its own merits and pass appropriate orders in one way or other, instead of keeping the same pending indefinitely. Such an inaction would amount to dereliction of duties and thereby this Court would be justified in invoking its extraordinary powers under Article 226 of Constitution of India and thereby direct such authority to consider the representation within the stipulated time.

5. An identical issue came up for consideration before the Division Bench of this Court in W.A(MD) No.210 of 2019 and the Hon'ble Division Bench by judgment dated 04.09.2019 had upheld the view of the learned Single Judge against which the writ appeal came to be filed and also rejected the Corporation plea that the employee had not claimed the encashment of the surrender leave within the stipulated time. The relevant portion of the said order reads as follows:-

'2. This appeal is filed by the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation, Kumbakonam Division. The respondent filed W.P(MD).No.2449 of 2018 praying for a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus to quash the order dated 21.12.2017 and direct the appellants to settle the petitioner's surrender leave salary. The appellant Corporation resisted the claim by contending that even though as per the settlement entered into under Section 12(3) of the Industrial Dispute Act, the employee is entitled for surrendering and encashing 15 days in one year or 30 days in two years, the same has not been done by the writ petitioner during his service during 2011-2014 and after superannuation only in the year 2016, he has made a claim of surrender of earn leave, based on the circular issued by the appellant Corporation, dated 09.01.2017. Further, it is submitted that the circular is not meant for enabling the retired employees to renew their claim of surrendering their earned leave of 15 days in a year during the service i.e., between 2011-2014 and it is applicable only for existing employees. Therefore, it is submitted that the respondent/writ petitioner cannot lay his claim based upon the circular, dated 09.01.2017.



Judgment. The respondents shall ensure that the first installment is disbursed at least within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of fresh representation along with this copy of this order.

8. With the above directions, this Writ Petition is allowed. No costs.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (Records)

// True Copy //

/ /2020

Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

gns

+1 CC to M/s.J.SENTHIL KUMARAIAH, Advocate (SR-1702[F] dated 13/01/2020)

+1 CC to M/s.A.K.THANGAVELU, Advocate (SR-1672[F] dated 13/01/2020)

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KK/SAR/06.02.2020/4P-3C/