



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED: 22.01.2020

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE J.NISHA BANU

W.P. (MD) No.1134 of 2020

M.Murugesan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1. The Managing Director
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (KMBU) Ltd.,
27, New Railway Station Road,
Kumbakonam - 612 001.
Thanjavur District.
- 2.The Financial Advisor,
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (KUMBU),
Ltd., 27. New Railway Station Road,
Kumbakonam - 612 001.
Thanjavur District.
- 3.The Administrator,
TNSTC Employees Pension Trust,
Thiruvalluvar House,
No.2, Pallavan Salai,
Chennai - 600 002.

... Respondents

PRAYER: Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, to direct the respondents to settle the petitioner's ERPS (Employees Retirement Pension Scheme) amount for 19 years from 01.09.1992 to till the date of retirement on 29.02.2016 and surrender leave salary for 106 days in respect of the years 2011-2012, 2012-2013, 2013-2014, 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 together with interest at the rate of 6% per annum payable as per Court direction, in one instalment to the petitioner according to the last drawn salary in the month of February 2016 to the petitioner as per representation date on 19.12.2019, within a stipulated time frame as fixed by this Court from the date of retirement to till the date of actual payment.

For petitioner : Mr.K.Thirugnanasambandan

For R1 & R2 : Mr.P.Bakasubramanian

For R3 : Mr.A.Swaminathan



ORDER

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

2. Since the petitioner, who is the retired employee of the Transport Corporation, claims to have not been paid with the surrender leave salary for the period from 2011 to 2016 and the retirement benefits ie., Employees Retirement Pension Scheme amount with interest, the present writ petition has been filed seeking for direction in that regard.

3. The petitioner would submit that he has already made a representation dated 19.12.2019 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, there 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 with regard to the surrender leave salary 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



interfere with the order passed by the learned Single Judge.'

6. In the light of the above, this Court is of the view that the petitioner would be entitled to claim salary for the surrender leave.

7. For all the forgoing reasons, although the petitioner has made a representation dated 19.12.2019, the petitioner is directed to make a fresh representation, enclosing a copy of this order, seeking for settlement of his surrender leave salary and on receipt of the such representation, the respondents herein shall consider the same and disburse the eligible leave salary through four equated monthly installments in the light of the aforesaid Division Bench 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 a copy of this order.

8. So far as non payment of ERPS (Employees Retirement Pension Scheme) amount is concerned, the petitioner is directed to submit a separate representation to the respondents along with a copy of this order and the same shall be considered by the respondents within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of such representation. It is needless to say that the petitioner is entitled to get interest for the belated payment of terminal and pensionary benefits.

9. With the above directions, this Writ Petition stands disposed of. No costs.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar(AD-I)

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Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

msa

+1 CC to M/s.K.GOKUL, Advocate (SR-2412[F]

+1 CC to M/s.P.BALASUBRAMANIAN, Advocate (SR-2384[F]

Order made in
W.P. (MD) No.1134 of 2020
22.01.2020

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