

09.03.2021
Ct. No.13
Sl. No.154
ap

W.P.A. 5726 of 2021 [via video conference]

[Bijay Roy & Ors. -Vs- The State of West Bengal & Ors.]

Mr. Sudip Sarkar.

... .. for the petitioners

Despite service of notice, none appears on behalf of the State-respondents. Affidavit of service filed in Court today be kept with the record.

The father of the petitioners was a Panchayat Karmee who died in harness on 09.11.2010. The pension payment order was issued on 28.04.2017. They had completed all pension-related formalities just after death of their father. However, the concerned authorities delayed the arrear pensionary benefit amount and ultimately released the same on 22.06.2018. The mother of the petitioners died on 31.12.2008.

The petitioner herein seeks interest to be paid on the arrear pension amount for the interim period of delay in receipt of the arrear pension amount. There is a considerable delay in filing the writ petition, which the petitioner seeks to justify by stating that there is no statutory period of limitation and neither parties have suffered due to this delay and, therefore, the instant petition should be allowed.

The petitioner relies upon an order in WP 17557 (W) of 2017 (***Narayan Chandra Saha -Vs.- State of West Bengal & Ors.***) wherein a co-ordinate Bench had relied upon the Supreme Court judgment in the case of ***Union of India –Vs.- Tarmen Singh***, reported in ***(2008) 8 SCC 648*** on the issue of limitation

relating to payment or refixation of pay or pension wherein the Apex Court had held that relief may be granted in spite of delay as it does not affect the rights of the third party.

In view of the above and after hearing the learned Counsel for the parties, I direct the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance, Government of West Bengal as also the concerned Treasury Officer to pay interest to the petitioner @ 8% per annum on the arrear pension amount calculated from 10.11.2010 till the date of actual payment. Such payment is to be made within a period of eight weeks from the date of communication of this order.

With the above observations, the writ petition is disposed of without however no order as to costs.

Since no affidavit is called for, the allegations made in the writ petition are deemed to have been denied by the respondents.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be given to the parties on usual undertaking.

(Rajasekhar Mantha, J.)