

19.03.2021
adeb
Sl. 202
Ct. 15

W.P.A. No. 6995 of 2021

Anil Baran Nath
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Banshi Badan Maity
.....For the Petitioner
Mr. Arup Kumar Nag
....For the State

Affidavit-of-service filed in Court today is kept with the record.

The material facts of the case are admitted and hence I have not called for affidavits.

The petitioner was appointed as an Head Teacher of a Primary School. The petitioner retired from service on 31.05.2008. The first pension payment order was issued on 20.05.2008. Under the ROPA Rules, 2009 there was revision of the pensionery and gratuity amount payable to the petitioner. The revised pension payment order was issued on 01.08.2012 and the revised arrear pension and gratuity amount was disbursed on 28.10.2012 in terms of ROPA, 2009. The petitioner claims interest on delayed payment of the revised gratuity and revised arrear pension.

I have heard learned counsel for both parties and I have considered the orders passed by this court in similar facts. It is settled law that retired employee is entitled to some amount of interest on delayed payment of revised gratuity and revised arrear pension.

There is a considerable delay in filing of 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. It is the submission of the petitioner that accordingly the petition should be allowed. The petitioner relies upon an order in W.P. 17557 (W) of 2017 (Narayan Chandra Saha Vs. State of West Bengal & Ors.) wherein a co-ordinate bench had relied upon the Supreme Court judgement in the case of Union of India Vs. Tarsem Singh, reported in (2008) 8 S.C.C. 648 on the issue of limitation relating to payment or re-fixation 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 aforesaid, 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 writ petitioner @ 8% per annum on the revised arrear pension and revised gratuity amount calculated from 19.05.2009 till the date of payment.

Such payment is to be made within eight weeks from the date of communication of this order.

This writ petition is disposed of, however, no order as to costs.

Urgent photostat certified copy, if applied for, be given to the parties on urgent basis.

(Rajarshi Bharadwaj, J.)