



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 02.08.2021

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THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE D.KRISHNAKUMAR

W.P. (MD) No.13218 of 2021

R.Singara Velan

... Petitioner

Vs.

The General Manager,
The Tamil Nadu State Transport,
Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd.,
Tirunelveli Region,
Tirunelveli District.

... Respondent

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, for issue of Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents to pay interest at the rate of 18% per annum, for the period of delay from 31.03.2020 to 02.06.2021 in paying the amounts paid towards the terminal benefits within a time frame as may be fixed by this Court.

For Petitioner : Mr.G.M.Xavier
For Respondent : Mr.R.Rajamohan
Standing Counsel

ORDER

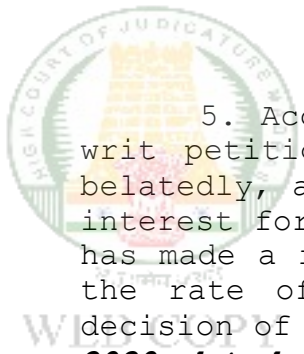
The petitioner has filed the present writ petition to direct the respondents to settle interest at the rate of 18% per annum for the belated payment of his retirement benefits from the date of retirement till the date on which the said benefits were settled.

2. Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent.

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

4. The petitioner was a driver in the respondent transport corporation. The petitioner retired from service on 31.03.2020. The respondent has settled the retirement benefits to the petitioner and the details are stated hereunder:

Sl.No.	Details of the amount payable	Amount in Rs.	Date of Settlement
1	Gratuity	9,58,365/-	02.06.2021
2	Medical Leave Salary	17,162/-	02.06.2021
3	Provident Fund	6,82,471/-	02.06.2021
4	Earned Leave Salary	3,41,329/-	02.06.2021
	Total	19,99,327/-	02.06.2021



5. According to the petitioner, the issues involved in the present writ petition are that the respondent had settled the aforesaid amount belatedly, after a delay of 14 months and the respondent has also not paid interest for the belated payment to the petitioner. Hence, the petitioner has made a representation to the concerned authorities to pay interest at the rate of 18 % per annum. The petitioner has also relied on the decision of the earlier writ petition of this court in **W.P. (MD) No.19950 of 2020 dated 04.01.2021, J. Gurumoorthy vs TNSCTC (Kumbakonam) Ltd.** In the above referred judgement, this Court has fixed the rate of interest at 6 % per annum for the belated payment of retirement benefits. On the same line, orders to be passed in the present Writ Petition.

6. Mr.R.Rajamohan, Standing Counsel for Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd, would submit that the respondents had settled the retirement benefit to the petitioner belatedly. Therefore, the petitioner is entitled for the interest as decided in the earlier writ petition of this Court in W.P. (MD).No.19950 of 2021.

7. In the light of the above observations and with the consent of both parties, there shall be a direction to the respondent to pay the penal interest at the rate of 6 % per annum on the belated payment of the retirement benefits for the period from the date of the retirement till the date of actual disbursement, as expeditiously as possible and in any event, within a period of four months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

8. With the above direction, the writ petition stands disposed of. No costs.

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (AE)

// True Copy //

/ /2021

Sub Assistant Registrar (CS)

To

1.The General Manager,
The Tamil Nadu State Transport,
Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd.,
Tirunelveli Region,
Tirunelveli District.

+1CC to M/s.R.Rajamohan, Standing Counsel (SR24891)

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02.08.2021

ES

RS (12.08.2021) 2P-3C

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