



BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

DATED : 27.08.2021

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THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE D.KRISHNAKUMAR

WP(MD) No.15385 of 2021

WEB COPY

G. Kanagaraj

... Petitioner

Vs.

The Management of Tamil Nadu
State Express Transport Corporation Ltd,
Represented by its General Manager,
Pallavan Salai,
Chennai - 2.

... Respondent

PRAYER: Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, for the issuance of a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents to pay interest at the rate of 12 % per annum, for the period of delay from my date of petitioner's retirement (30.06.2019) to till the date of reimbursement (22.01.2021) of amount paid towards the petitioner's terminal and pension benefits namely EPF Employee's Contribution, Gratuity, Encashment of Earned/Sick Leaves and commutated value of pension, within a time frame as may be fixed by this Court without affecting the petitioner's right to claim balance amounts towards those benefits.

For Petitioner : Mr.R. Murugan
For Respondent : Mr. R. Rajamohan

O R D E R

This Writ Petition has been filed for the issue of a Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondent to pay 12 % interest on the delayed payment of retirement benefits paid to the petitioner in view of the petitioner's representation dated 21.08.2021.

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 is a retired employee of the respondent transport corporation. The petitioner retired from service on 30.06.2019. The respondent has settled the retirement benefits to the petitioner only in the month of January, 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 more than 1 year 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 12 % 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 TNSTC (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 in the present Writ Petition.

6. Mr. R. Rajamohan, learned Standing Counsel appearing for respondent would submit that the respondent 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 2020.

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, subject to the condition that if the petitioner has not already given up his right for claiming interest for the retirement benefits.

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

Sd/-

Assistant Registrar (CS III)

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Sub Assistant Registrar(CS)

mnr



To

The General Manager,
The Management of Tamil Nadu
State Express Transport Corporation Ltd,
Pallavan Salai,
Chennai - 2

+1 CC to M/s.R.RAJAMOHAN, Advocate (SR-27582[F] dated 27/08/2021)

+1 CC to M/s.R.MURUGAN, Advocate (SR-27544[F] dated 27/08/2021)

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ES (CO)

SB(07.09.2021) 3P 4C