

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.22667 of 2022

Suryanarayan Sethi

....

Petitioner

-versus-

State of Odisha & others

....

Opposite Parties

COROM:

JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY

ORDER

Order No

14.09.2022

1. This matter is taken up through Hybrid Mode.
2. Heard learned counsel for the Petitioner as well as learned counsel for the State. Perused the record.
3. The present writ petition has been filed by the Petitioner with the following prayer:-

“To direct the State/Opposite Parties for sanction and disbursement of grade pay of Rs.5400/- instead of Rs.4800/- under 3rd RACP on completion of 30 years of service in the post of P.E.O/VLW w.e.f. 25.3.2015 in view of Panchayati Raj Dept. Notification No.9652 dtd.19.6.2014 under Annx-3 and the settled principle of law in Bihari Lal case and consequently, the order of the dtd.8.2.2018 under Annx-5 in respect of the petitioner be modified with direction the O.Ps to disburse the consequential arrear financial benefits to the petitioner”.

4. Learned counsel for the petitioner states that similar question had come up for consideration before a Division Bench of this Court in W.P.(C) No. 2831 of 2016 disposed of on 27.06.2016 (***State of Odisha and another v. Bihari Lal and others***), which was arising out of an order dated 12.03.2015 passed by the State Administrative Tribunal in O.A. No. 520 of 2014 and this Court quashed the order dated 21.12.2013 (wrongly

mentioned as 21.12.2012 in the judgment) and held that the applicants are eligible to get financial upgradation in the posts of GPEO/PA, ABDO/SDPO and DPO on completion of 10/20/30 years of service in the post of VLW under the RACP scheme. Therefore, the petitioner's case may be considered in the light of the said judgment.

5. It is also submitted by the learned counsel for the Petitioner that the Opposite Parties be directed to consider the case of the Petitioner as per the settled law decided in the case of **State of Odisha-vrs.-Biharilal Barik** decided by this Court in W.P.(C) No.20358 of 2017 decided on 23.08.2017.

6. Considering the limited nature of prayer of the Petitioner and considering the fact that the Principal Secretary to Government, Panchayati Raj & D.W. Department, Bhubaneswar (Opposite Party No.1) shall do well to consider the case of the Petitioner within a period of two months from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order. The decision so taken shall be communicated to the Petitioner within a period of two weeks from the date of such decision. The case of the Petitioner shall be considered by the Opposite Party No.1 in the light of the judgment in the case of **State of Odisha-vrs.-Biharilal Barik** decided by this Court in **SLP No.20358 of 2017** decided on 23.08.2017. The writ petition stands disposed of directing the Competent Authority to dispose of the case of the petitioner by undertaking the entire exercise within a period of two months from the date of production of certified copy of this order.

Issue urgent certified copy as per Rules.

(Biraja Prasanna Satapathy)
Judge

Subrat