

21.03.2023  
(D/L-38)  
Ct.-18  
(Susanta)

W.P.A. 2950 of 2023

Parbati Bhandari  
-Vs-  
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mrs. Sabita Khutia (Bhunya),  
.... For the Petitioner.

Mr. Kamalendu Ghosh,  
Mr. Raja Ghosh,  
.... For the State.

Affidavit-of-service filed by the learned advocate  
for the petitioner be kept with the record.

The husband of the petitioner was an Assistant  
Teacher, on January 31, 1999 he retired from his  
said service on superannuation and he died on  
January 05, 2017.

The petitioner is claiming that her husband  
exercised option to switch over to Pension-cum-  
Gratuity from CPF-cum-Gratuity and refunded the  
employer's share of contribution with interest and  
additional interest within the time limited by the  
notification of the Government of West Bengal  
bearing No. 749-SE(L)/SL/5S-56/13(Pt-V) dated  
June 13, 2014.

The grievance of the petitioner is that the  
Pension Payment Order was issued with effect from  
the date of the aforesaid refund, instead from the  
date following the date of retirement of the employee  
concerned on superannuation.

The petitioner by the instant writ petition is  
praying for issuance of a writ of mandamus

commanding the respondents to release the arrear family pension from the date following such date of retirement of the employee concerned.

Learned advocate for the State-respondents does not oppose the prayer of the petitioner.

In view of the judgment of the Special Bench of this Court in the case of **DISTRICT INSPECTOR OF SCHOOLS(SE), KOLKATA vs. ABHIJIT BAIDYA reported in 2013(3) CHN (CAL) 711** and in view of subsequent clarification of some of the paragraphs of the said judgment by the Special Bench in its order dated **September 30, 2019 on G.A. 464 of 2018**, the issue is no longer res integra.

The petitioner is entitled to the arrear pension, as prayed for. The concerned District Inspector of School (PE) is directed to verify the records expeditiously to ascertain as to whether the employee concerned had exercised the said option and refunded the employer's share of contribution within the time limited by the aforesaid notification dated June 13, 2014.

In the event, it is found that the said option was so exercised, the said authority shall process the claim of the petitioner for arrears of family pension and shall forward the necessary recommendation and/or sanction to the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance, who, in turn, shall take steps to issue Revised Pension Payment Order in favour of the petitioner with effect from the date following the date of retirement of the employee

concerned on superannuation and the concerned Treasury Officer, thereafter shall release the family pension in accordance with the Revised Pension Payment Order.

Entire exercise in this regard is required to be completed within a period of twelve weeks from the date of communication of this order.

W.P.A. 2950 of 2023 stands disposed of with the above directions. There shall be no order as to costs.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties subject to compliance with all requisite formalities.

**(Biswajit Basu, J.)**