

26 31.3.2023
Sc Ct. no.22

WPA 6117 OF 2023

Debjani Dutta

Vs.

The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Biswarup Biswas
Mr. Gora Chand Samanta.

....For Petitioner

Ms. Sangeeta Roy
Ms. Monalisa Maity.

....For the State

Affidavit-of-service, filed in Court, is taken on record.

Ms. Sangeeta Roy, learned advocate appeared for the State.

The petitioner was an approved **Head Mistress** at **Surah Kanya Vidyalaya (a Government Sponsored) High School (H.S), District – Kolkata**. She had retired from **her** employment on **31.1.2017**.

The **Pension Payment Order** was issued by the concerned respondent on **30.5.2019**.

Under **ROPA Rules, 2019**, there was a revision of Pension, Gratuity and computation of Pension of the pensioners under the **Government Notification /Memorandum bearing No.53/ES/P/P&B/10M-99/2019 dated February 14, 2020** and the **Pension Payment Order** of the petitioner under **ROPA, 2019** was issued on **30.5.2019**.

The petitioner now claims interest for the delayed payment of the said gratuity and arrear pension ***on and from February 01, 2017.***

It is trite that, the pension, which is lawfully payable to an employee is its property and if there is any delay in making such payment and the disbursement thereof in favour of such employee, such an employee is eligible and entitled to receive interest.

In view of the above, the respondents and or the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance and the concerned Treasury Officer are directed to pay interest on the ***revised gratuity*** and on ***arrear pension @ 8% per annum*** on and from ***February 01, 2017*** till the date of actual payment being received by the petitioner in terms of the ***revised Pension Payment Order.***

The entire exercise as directed above, shall be carried out and completed positively by the respondents and or the ***Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance and the concerned Treasury Officer*** within a period of ***eight weeks*** from the date of communication of this order. ***In default,*** the said arrear amounts and the entitlement of the petitioner shall carry an ***additional interest of 2% per annum*** till the date the petitioner actually receives the same.

Since affidavits are not called for, the allegations made in the writ petition are deemed not to have been admitted by the respondents.

On the above terms, this writ petition being **WPA 6117 of 2023** stands disposed of, without any order as to costs.

Photostat certified of this order, if applied for, be furnished expeditiously.

(Aniruddha Roy, J.)