

03.07.2023  
(D/L-172)  
Ct.-18  
(Susanta)

W.P.A. 7344 of 2023  
Swarnalekha Kar  
-Vs-  
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Ms. Arpita Saha,  
.... For the Petitioner.

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

In spite of service, none-appears on behalf of  
the State-respondents.

The petitioner was an approved Assistant  
Teacher of a secondary school and retired from her  
said service on superannuation on August 31, 2020.

The first pension payment order of the  
petitioner was issued on August 24, 2020.

Under the ROPA Rules, 2019, there was  
revision of the pension, gratuity and computation of  
pension of the pensioners vide Memorandum of the  
Government of West Bengal bearing No.  
53/ES/P/P&B/10M-99/2019 dated February 14,  
2020 and the revised pension payment order of the  
petitioner under ROPA, 2019 was issued on June 03,  
2021, in terms thereof, the petitioner received the  
arrear pension and gratuity on June 08, 2021.

The petitioner in the instant writ petition is  
claiming that she is entitled to interest for the  
delayed payment of the said gratuity and arrear  
pension and is praying issuance of writ of  
mandamus commanding the Director of Pension,  
Provident Fund and Group Insurance and the

concerned Treasury Officer, the respondents herein, to pay such interest.

It is now well settled that the petitioner is entitled to the interest, as prayed for.

The aforementioned respondents are, therefore directed to pay interest on the revised gratuity and arrear pension @ 8% per annum from the date of notification of the aforesaid Government order i.e. February 14, 2020 till the date of payment of revised gratuity and arrear pension in terms of the said revised Pension payment order.

The payment, as aforesaid, shall be made within a period of twelve weeks from the date of communication of this order, in default, the said arrears amount shall fetch an additional interest of 2% per annum.

W.P.A 7344 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.)**