

28.07.2023  
(D/L-195)  
Ct.-18  
(Susanta)

W.P.A. 10176 of 2023  
Sikha Sarkar  
-Vs-  
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Ms. Sudipa Biswas,  
.... 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 Husband of the petitioner was an approved  
Assistant Teacher of a Secondary school and died-in-  
harness on February 26, 2016.

The first Pension Payment Order of the  
employee concerned was issued on January 08,  
2018.

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  
employee concerned under ROPA, 2019 was issued  
on March 16, 2023, in terms of the said revised  
pension payment order, the petitioner received the  
arrear family pension and gratuity on March 17,  
2023.

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 family 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 family 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. 10176 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.)**