

07.12.2023
Court No.13
Item No. 200
AP

WPA 13524 of 2023

**Mira Bhattacharya
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors**

Mr. Sakti Pada Jana
Mr. Subhajyoti Das

... .. for the Petitioner.

Mr. Benazir Ahmed

... .. for the State.

Affidavit of service and the report of the State
filed in Court today be kept with the record.

The issue to be decided in the present writ
petition is whether an employee will be entitled to
receive pension on and from the date following
retirement or from the date of refund of the
employer's share of contribution.

The petitioner retired from service on
attaining the age of superannuation on 31.01.1993.

In response to the notification published by
the School Education Department being No. 79-
SE(L)/SL/5S-56/13(Pt-V) dated 13th June, 2014
issued in compliance of the direction passed by the
Hon'ble Special Bench of this Court in the judgment
dated 16th July, 2013 in the matter of District
Inspector of Schools (S.E.), Kolkata -vs- Abhijit
Baidya the petitioner exercised option to switch over
from CPF to GPF and refunded the employer's share
of contribution with interest and additional interest
on 24.09.2014.

Pension Payment Order was issued in favour
of the petitioner with effect from the date of refund
of the employer's share of contribution.

The petitioner claims that pension ought to
have been released on and from the next date of

retirement and not from the date of refund of the employer's share of contribution.

A similar issue has been decided by this Court in the matter of WPA No. 964 of 2022 (Sitala Mandal (Chaudhuri) –vs- State of West Bengal & Ors.).

The judgment passed in the aforesaid matter on 8th February, 2022 will cover the present writ petition.

Instant writ petition is disposed of by directing the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance and the concerned Treasury Officer to verify the records, and in the event, it is found, that the petitioner exercised option and refunded the employer's share of contribution within the time specified in the notification dated 13th June, 2014, then steps shall be taken to issue Revised Pension Payment Order in favour of the petitioner with effect from the date following the date of retirement on superannuation and to release the pension in accordance with the Revised Pension Payment Order. Such steps shall be taken within a period of twelve weeks from the date of communication of a copy of this order. Payment shall positively be released immediately upon issuance of the Revised Pension Payment Order.

For the aforesaid purpose, the DI of Schools concerned shall process the claim for arrears of pension and make/forward a necessary recommendation/sanction to the DPPG expeditiously. The DPPG in turn shall act based on such recommendation/sanction.

The instant writ petition is disposed of.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be given to the parties on completion of usual formalities.

(Rajasekhar Mantha, J.)