

Item No.18

In The High Court At Calcutta
Constitutional Writ Jurisdiction
Appellate Side

16.10.2023
Ct-24

WPA 19296 of 2023
Bandana Bhowmik

v.

The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Srikanta Datta
... for the petitioner.

Mr. Usaf Ali Dewan
Mr. Asif Dewan
... for the respondent nos. 2, 3 & 4.

The petitioner is a retired employee of Jiaganj-
Azimganj Municipality.

The grievance of the petitioner is that the gratuity amount mentioned in the revised Pension Payment Order (PPO) dated December 17, 2021 has not been disbursed till date.

Learned advocate representing the Municipality submits, upon instruction that, the said money could not be disbursed on account of paucity of funds of the Municipality. The Court is not inclined to accept the contention put forth by the Municipality for not paying the revised terminal benefits of the retired employee. The employer is bound to pay the employee the terminal benefits in accordance with the PPO issued in her favour.

The Municipality is directed to release the payment in favour of the petitioner positively by January 31, 2024.

As the amount was payable to the petitioner immediately upon issuance of the PPO but the petitioner is yet to receive the same, accordingly, the Municipality shall pay interest @ 7% per annum on the amount due on and from the due date till the date of actual payment. In the event, the payment is not made within the time stipulated hereinabove the petitioner will be entitled to an additional interest @ 2% i.e. $7\%+2\%=9\%$ interest on the due amount.

The writ petition stands disposed of.

Affidavit-of-service filed in Court today be taken on record.

Urgent certified photocopy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties expeditiously on compliance of usual legal formalities.

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(Amrita Sinha, J.)