



WEB COPY



W.P.No.332 of 2023

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated: 05.01.2023

Coram:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ABDUL QUDDHOSE

W.P.No.332 of 2023

S.Manoharan

... Petitioner

Vs.

1.The Government of Tamil Nadu,
represented by its Secretary to Government,
Transport Department, Secretariat,
Chennai-600 009.

2.The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation
(Villupuram) Ltd.,
Villupuram Division,
Villupuram District.

3.The General Manager,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation (Villupuram) Ltd.,
Vellore Region,
Vellore District.

4.The Administrator,
Tamil Nadu State Transport
Corporation Employees Pension Fund Trust,
Thiruvalluvar House,
Pallavan Salai, Chennai – 600 002.

... Respondents



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Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus directing the respondents to settle the interest for the belated payment of retirement benefits along with Gratuity, Earned Leave, Commutation of Pension and other retirement benefits payable to the petitioner with 18% rate of interest within the time frame that may be stipulated by this Court.

For Petitioner : Mr.N.Sudhagar Nagaraj

For Respondents : Mr.R.U.Dinesh Rajkumar,
Additional Government Pleader
for R1

Mr.M.Aswin,
Standing Counsel for R2 and R3

Mr.C.S.K.Sathish for R4

ORDER

By consent of both the parties, this writ petition has been taken up for final disposal at the admission stage itself.

2.This writ petition has been filed for a Mandamus seeking for a direction to the respondents to settle the interest for the belated payment of retirement benefits along with Gratuity, Earned Leave, Commutation of



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Pension and other retirement benefits payable to the petitioner with 18% interest per annum, within a time frame to be fixed by this Court.

3.The grievance of the petitioner in this writ petition is that his retirement benefits were paid belatedly by the respondent Transport Corporation. According to him, he is entitled for interest for the belated payments.

4.Heard Mr.N.Sudhagar Nagaraj, learned counsel for the petitioner, Mr.R.U.Dinesh Rajkumar, learned Additional Government Pleader, who accepts notice on behalf of the first respondent, Mr.M.Aswin, learned Standing Counsel, who accepts notice on behalf of the respondents 2 and 3 and Mr.C.S.K.Sathish, learned counsel, who accepts notice on behalf of the fourth respondent.

5.It is settled law that as laid down in various decisions of this Court that in case of belated payments of retirement benefits, the employer is liable to pay interest at the rate of 4% per annum. The petitioner has given a



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representation on 01.03.2022 seeking for payment of interest on account of the belated payment towards his retirement benefits.

6.No prejudice would be caused to the respondents if the petitioner's representation is considered, on merits and in accordance with law in the light of the aforementioned observation that in case the retirement benefits are paid belatedly, the employer is liable to pay interest at the rate of 4% per annum.

7.For the foregoing reasons, this Court directs the respondents to pass final orders, on merits and in accordance with law on the petitioner's representation dated 01.03.2022 seeking for payment of interest on account of the belated payment of his terminal benefits, within a period of twelve weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

8.With the aforesaid direction, this writ petition is disposed of. No



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costs.

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Index:Yes/No

To

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ABDUL QUDDHOSE, J

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