

17.09.2024

Sl. No. 23

Ct. No. 23

Srimanta

WPA/7383/2024

Samir Pahari

-Vs.-

State of West Bengal & Ors.

Ms. Shikha P. Chowdhury,

Mr. Arun Kumar Paul

...for the petitioner.

Mr. Niladri Bhattacharjee,

Ms. Deblina Chattaraj,

Ms. Priyanka Kundu

...for the W.B.T.C.

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

The petitioner is in service of the West Bengal Transport Corporation (in short, WBTC). The petitioner says that the petitioner was entitled to the benefits of the West Bengal Services Revision of Pay and Allowance, 1998 (in short, ROPA, 1998). The principal amount of such benefit which fell due for the period between 1st April, 1997 to 31st March, 2000 had been paid to the petitioner between 1st April, 2000 and 31st January, 2008 but was beyond the assured dates as provided in the Notification dated 23rd June, 2000. The petitioner has claimed for the interest for the delay in paying the principal amount beyond the promised dates. The writ petition has been filed on 8th March, 2024. During the pendency

of the writ petition on 10th July, 2024 W.B.T.C. has published a circular through its Managing Director that interest will be paid at the rate of 7.1 per cent per annum on the principal amount for the period from 1st April, 2000 to 31st January, 2008 on pro rata basis. The said circular also provides for ex-employees of W.B.T.C. to furnish their Bank details through cancelled cheque to the office of the Chief Accounts Officer (In-charge) within 30 days from the publication of this notice.

Since the writ petition was pending and the petitioner being in service, the petitioner did not apply within the 30 days' period. The writ petition is disposed of by granting liberty to the petitioner to file his particulars in terms of the circular dated 10th July, 2024 by 30th September, 2024. In the event, such particulars are filed by the time period provided herein, W.B.T.C. formerly known as CTC shall process the petitioner's claim for interest in terms of the circular dated 10th July, 2024 and pay the same within 29th November, 2024, if found due. In case of rejection of petitioner's claim W.B.T.C. shall give reasons for the same and communicate such reasons to the petitioner forthwith.

Nothing further remains to be adjudicated in this writ petition. The writ petition is thus disposed of.

Since I have not called for affidavit, the allegations contained in the writ petition are deemed to have not been admitted by the respondents.

(Arindam Mukherjee, J.)