

Court No.
18.4.2024
(Item No. 31)
(AB)

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
Constitutional Writ Jurisdiction
Appellate Side
W.P.A. 10671 of 2024

Pradip Debnath & Ors.
VS
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Bidhan Biswas
.... For the petitioners
Mr. Gourav Das
Ms. Kakali Naskar
.... For the State
Md. Sarwar Jahan
Ms. Tapati Sarkar
..... for respondent No. 4

Affidavit of service filed in Court today, is taken on record.

There are thirty (30) individual writ petitioners. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that each of the writ petitioners has paid the necessary court fees in accordance with law. The receipt showing such payment handed over to this Court, is taken on record.

Md. Sarwar Jahan, learned counsel appearing for the ***Paschim Banga Rajya Shishu Shiksha Mission***, submits that, a recent development has taken place in view of the judgment and order dated ***December 7, 2023*** passed by a coordinate Bench ***In the matter of : Arup Kumar Mukherjee & Ors. -vs.- Union of India & Ors.***, rendered in ***WPA 7766 of 2023***. The relevant observation of the coordinate Bench is quoted below:

“23. The benefits of the aforesaid order shall be available only to those Samprasarak & Samprasatika and Sahayak & Sahayika, who have exercised the option to retire at the age of 60 and wish to continue with such option.”

Mr. Bidhan Biswas, learned advocate appearing for the petitioners, on instruction from his clients submits that, all the writ petitioners herein wish to revert back their status as Samprasaraks/Samprasarikas and not at par with para-teachers and they further wish to continue their employment till their age of 65 years. Subject to this undertaking given by the writ petitioners before this Court, this order is being passed.

The petitioners were engaged as ***Samprasaraks/ Samprasarikas in different Madhyamik Siksha Kendras (MSKs)*** for a period of one year and in that regard agreements were executed with them. The engagements were renewed from time to time on contractual basis.

The petitioners, in terms of the notification dated May 2, 2008 issued by the Department of Panchayats and Rural Development, Government of West Bengal, claimed the benefit for being age of superannuation up to 65 years.

In an identical writ petition, a Coordinate Bench of this Court by its ***judgment and order dated May 19, 2023 delivered in WPA 12057 of 2023 (Susampad Das & Ors. v. The State of West***

Bengal & Ors.) allowed the benefit in favour of the writ petitioners.

Mr. Gourav Das, learned counsel appears for the respondent Nos. 1 to 3.

Md. Sarwar Jahan, learned counsel appears for the respondent No. 4.

Both the learned advocates appearing for the respondents had submitted that no appeal was carried out from the said order dated May 19, 2023 and the State authorities had carried out the said decision of the Coordinate Bench and allowed the claim of the petitioners.

On reading of the said judgment and order dated May 19, 2023, I am also in respectful agreement with the same.

In view of the above, in the light of the said judgment dated May 19, 2023 delivered ***in the matter of Susampad Das (supra)***, this writ petition stands allowed to the extent the right of the petitioners was decided in the said judgment.

With the above observation, this writ petition, **WPA 10671 of 2024**, stands **disposed of**, without any order as to costs.

Photostat certified copy of this order, if applied for, be furnished expeditiously.

(Aniruddha Roy, J.)