

17.05.2024.
Court No. 13
Item no. 245.
Bd.

W.P.A. No. 13551 of 2024

Sohidul Islam & Ors.
Versus
The State of West Bengal & Ors.

Mr. Banshi Badan Maity
..for the petitioner.

Mr. Sudip Sarkar
Mr. Atarul Hoque Molla
..for the State

Affidavit of service filed in Court today is
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 father of petitioners retired from
service on attaining the age of superannuation
on 30.09.1995 and died on 03.09.2019.

In response to the notification published
by the School Education Department, on 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 17.09.2014.

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 concerned Treasury Officer shall verify as to whether the petitioner is present in person along with the documents of identity before making any disbursement as directed hereinabove. In the event the petitioner is not present, the matter shall be reported to the Registrar General of this Court for appropriate action.

With these observations, the writ petition is disposed of.

There will be no order as to costs.

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

(Rajasekhar Mantha, J.)