



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

Dated:19.03.2024

Coram:

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE BATTU DEVANAND

Writ Petition No.18999 of 2018

E.Singaravelu

.. Petitioner

/versus/

1.Tamil Nadu Generation and Distribution Corporation Limited,
(TANGEDCO),
Rep by its Chairman/Director,
144,Anna Salai,
Chennai 600 002.

2.The Chief Engineer(Personnel),
Tamil Nadu Generation &
Distribution Corporation Limited,
(TANGEDCO),
144, Anna Salai, Chennai 600 002.

3.The Chief Engineer,
Tamil Nadu Generation &
Distribution Corporation Limited,
(TANGEDCO),
North Chennai Thermal Power Station,
Athipattu Pudunagar,
Chennai 600 120.



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

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4.The Superintending Engineer,
Tami Nadu Generation and Distribution
Corporation Ltd.,
(TANGEDCO), Perambalur Electricity
Distribution Circle,
Four Roads, Perambalur 621 212,
Perambalur District.

.. Respondents

Prayer: Writ Petition has been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue a Writ of Mandamus to direct the respondent No.4 to re-fix the pension of the petitioner by granting the benefit of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board Scales of Pay(Workmen) Regulations, 2009 and provide all the consequential benefits to the petitioner within the time period stipulated by this Hon'ble Court.

For Petitioner :Mr.M.Kavin Castro

For Respondents :Mr.K.Purushothaman
Standing Counsel for
(TANGEDCO)

ORDER

This Writ Petition is filed seeking a Writ of Mandamus to direct the 4th respondent to re-fix the pension of the petitioner by granting the benefit of Tamil Nadu Electricity Board Scales of Pay (Workmen) Regulation, 2009 and provide all the consequential benefits to the petitioner within the time period stipulated by this Court.



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

WEB COPY

2.The case of the petitioner is that, he was employed as Chief Head Draughtsman in the 4th respondent Corporation. He was retired on 30.11.2007 AN. His pension was fixed based on the last pay drawn as on 30.11.2007. A new wage revision came into effect with effect from 01.12.2007 (i.e) immediately on the next date of his retirement. Though he was also deemed to be retired from the service from 01.12.2007, he was not provided the benefit of the wage revision/Tamil Nadu Electricity Revised Scales of Pay (Workmen) Regulations, 2009. Furthermore, several similarly placed employees were given the benefit to the wage revision with effect from 01.12.2007.

3. The learned counsel appearing for the petitioner would submit that the object of the wage revision vide Tamil Nadu Electricity Board Revised Scales of Pay (Workmen) Regulations, 2009 is that the wage of the employees, who have rendered a considerable service of five years, are entitled for revision and on that basis, all those employees, who have completed five years of service are provided with the benefit of the wage revision as per the existing policy. Though the petitioner has rendered requisite service, he was deprived of wage revision as per Tamil Nadu



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

WEB COPY

Electricity Board Revised Scales of Pay (Workmen) Regulations, 2009 for the reason that he had retired on 30.11.2007 (i.e.) one day prior to the date of implementation of wage revision (i.e) 01.12.2007 and hence, he sought to allow the writ petition by extending the benefit of wage revision to the petitioner with all consequential benefits.

4. On behalf of the respondents, a counter-affidavit has been filed. In the said counter-affidavit, it is stated that the petitioner was retired from service on 30.11.2007. The respondent Board has constituted a Wage Revision Committee consisting of certain Members and Officers of the Board to hold negotiations with the officer's Association for revision of scales of pay, special pays and allowances for the officers with effect from 01.12.2007. After holding several discussions with the TNEB Engineers' Association and TNEB Finance and Accounts Officers Association, the Board passed the orders for the revision of wages of the officers with effect from 01.12.2007 as per Board Proceedings (Per) BP(Ch) No.223,(Secretariat Branch), dated 21.11.2009. As the wage revision to the officers of the Board deemed to have come into force on 01.12.2007, the officers, who were on service on 01.12.2007 alone are



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

WEB COPY

eligible for the benefit of revision of wages. Since the petitioner had retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.11.2007, the petitioner is not entitled for wage revision.

5. It is further averred in the counter-affidavit that the representation of the petitioner dated 13.06.2018 was rejected as his request for revision of pay is against the TNEB Revised Scale of Pay Regulation, 2009. The petitioner had approached this Court, after a lapse of 10 years without genuine reason. As per the Pension Rules of Tamil Nadu Government/TANGEDCO, the retired employees of the Board ceased to be an employee of the Board from the date of their superannuation. As such, they are not entitled for the benefit or charge subsequent to their date of retirement.

6. The learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondents submits that the Writ Petition was filed after a lapse of 10 years without any plausible explanation or justification and inordinate delay of 10 years in filing this writ petition has not been explained properly and on this ground alone, the writ petition deserves to be dismissed.



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

WEB COPY

7. Having heard the submissions of the learned respective counsels and on a careful perusal of the materials available on record, it is an undisputed fact that the petitioner retired from service on 30.11.2007 on attaining superannuation. The respondents Board passed the orders for the Revision of Wages with effect from 01.12.2007. As rightly contended by the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondents, since the petitioner retired from service on attaining the age of superannuation on 30.11.2007 (i.e.) prior to the giving effect to the Revision of Wages of the Officers (i.e.) on 01.12.2007, the petitioner is not entitled for the benefit under Wage Revision.

8. Besides this, though the petitioner retired on 30.11.2007 and the respondents Board passed order for the Revision of Wages of the Officers with effect from 01.12.2007, the petitioner did not choose to represent before the respondents Board till 13.06.2018. He has submitted the representation only on 13.06.2018. He filed the writ petition only after lapse of 10 years. The petitioner failed to show any sufficient cause for the delay of 10 years in filing the writ petition. As such, this Writ Petition is liable to be dismissed on the ground of delay and laches also.



W.P.No.18999 of 2018

WEB COPY

9. For the reasons stated above, in view of the fact that the petitioner had retired from service prior to giving effect to the revision of wages, the petitioner is not entitled for the benefit under the said representation. As such, he is not entitled for the relief sought for in this Writ Petition. The petitioner failed to make out any case on facts or law for interference of this Court under Article 226 of the Constitution of India. As such, this Writ Petition is liable to be dismissed.

10. Accordingly, this Writ Petition is dismissed.

11. There shall be no order as to costs.

19.03.2024

Index:yes/no
Speaking order/non speaking order
Neutral citation:yes/no
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W.P.No.18999 of 2018

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W.P.No.18999 of 2018

BATTU DEVANAND,J.

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