

W.P.A. 7141 OF 2025

**MEHERUNNISHA BIBI
VS.
THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & OTHERS**

Ms. Jonaki Saha, Adv.

...for the Petitioner

Ms. Sreemoyee Mitra, Adv.

...for the State

1. Affidavit-of-service filed on behalf of the petitioner is taken on record.
2. Husband of the writ petitioner was as Assistant Teacher, who *died-in-harness* on 3rd March, 2020. After death of husband of the petitioner, pension payment order was issued on 18th February, 2022 thereby releasing terminal benefits including death gratuity in favour of the petitioner. Petitioner prays for release of interest due to delayed payment.
3. State respondents are represented by learned advocate today.
4. Accordingly, the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance and the concerned Treasury Officer are directed to release interest at the rate of 8% *per annum* to the writ petitioner on gratuity from the date following the date of death of husband of the petitioner till the date of release of gratuity, within a period of eight (8) weeks from the date of communication of this order.

5. Since no affidavit is called for, the allegations contained in the writ petition are deemed not to have been admitted.
6. With the above observation, the writ petition stands disposed of.
7. There shall be no order as to costs.
8. Urgent photostat certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties, upon usual undertakings.

(Saugata Bhattacharyya, J.)