

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CONSTITUTIONAL WRIT JURISDICTION

Present:

THE HON'BLE JUSTICE JAY SENGUPTA

WPA 13019 of 2025

Madhabi Mondal
versus
The State of West Bengal and others

For the petitioner	Mr. Sudip Ghosh Chowdhury
For the State	Mr. Gaurav Das
Last Heard on	30.07.2025
Judgment on	30.07.2025

JAY SENGUPTA, J:

This is an application, inter alia, praying for release of House Rent Allowance, current and arrears, in favour of the petitioner.

Affidavit of service filed in Court is taken on record.

No one appears on behalf of the State.

Mr. Gaurav Das, learned counsel, who is present in Court and who ordinarily appears on behalf of the State, is requested to represent the State in this matter. Copy of the writ petition is served upon Mr. Das. His engagement may be regularised by the concerned authority.

Learned counsel appearing on behalf of the petitioner submits as follows. The petitioner is an approved Assistant Teacher at Bagnan Ananda Niketan Vidyamandir (Higher Secondary), Bagnan, Howrah. The spouse of the petitioner being an employee of a private company is receiving House Rent Allowance (HRA) as a separate engagement. The District Inspector of Schools (S.E.), Howrah relying on the Memorandum of the Finance Department (Audit Branch), Government of West Bengal bearing No.5839-F(P) dated July, 09, 2012 and the Corrigendum Memorandum thereto bearing No.8012-F(p2)/FA/O/2m/206/17(N.B.) dated December 27, 2018, stopped the payment of HRA to the petitioner. A Coordinate Bench of this Court by the judgment dated March 16, 2021 passed in **WPA 1389 of 2018** (*Mousumi Biswas & Ors. State of West Bengal & Ors.*) has quashed the aforementioned Memorandum of 2018. An appeal being **MAT 1023 of 2021** (*The State of West Bengal & Ors. vs. Mita Majumder & Ors.*) against the said judgment and order of the said Coordinate

Bench is pending. But, no order of stay has been passed in the said appeal. Relying on this judgment, relief has been granted to a similarly circumstanced individual by an order dated 21.05.2024 passed in *WPA 14006 of 2024*. In view of the same, the petitioner would be entitled to full HRA along with interest on the arrears.

It appears that the above-referred memorandum of 2018 was quashed by a Coordinate Bench of this Court. However, an appeal is pending over the issue. But, no stay has been granted in the said appeal.

Relying on the said decision, another Coordinate Bench of this Court has granted appropriate relief in favour of similarly circumstanced individual.

In the present facts which are quite similar, I find no reason to take a different view.

Therefore, the concerned respondent authorities are directed to release the HRA, arrear in favour of the petitioner from January, 2018 to March, 2024, the arrear thereof be paid to the petitioner with interest @ 6% per annum from the date on which it became payable till the date of payment. Such payment shall be made within a period of six weeks from the date of communication of this order.

Memo No.713/ADAC/BKpore/Arrear dated 20.09.2024 is, also accordingly, set aside.

It is, however, made clear that the payment of HRA in terms of this order is subject to the result of the above referred pending appeal.

Accordingly, the writ petition is disposed of.

As affidavits were not called for, allegations contained in the writ petition are deemed not to have been admitted.

Urgent photostat certified copy of this order be supplied to the parties expeditiously, if applied for.

(Jay Sengupta, J.)