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14.01.2025
Ct. No. 18
(ARPAN)

W.P.A. 29132 of 2024

**Chhandasri Barman
Vs.
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

Ms. Arpita Saha

...for the Petitioner

Affidavit-of-service filed on behalf of the petitioner is taken on record. In addition thereto, in terms of the order dated 11th December, 2024 notice was served upon the learned advocate representing the State respondents on 7th January, 2025 and same is taken on record. In spite of notice upon the learned advocate representing the State respondents, State respondents are not represented.

Husband of the petitioner was an Assistant Teacher who died-in-harness on 12th July, 2022. After death of husband of the petitioner pension payment order was issued on 13th March, 2023 thereby releasing terminal benefits including death gratuity in favour of the petitioner. Petitioner prays for release of interest due to delayed payment.

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 weeks from the date of communication of this order.

Since no affidavit is called for, the allegations contained in the writ petition are deemed not to have been admitted.

With the above observation, the writ petition stands disposed of.

There shall be no order as to costs.

Urgent photostat certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties, upon usual undertakings.

(Saugata Bhattacharyya, J.)