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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED: 07.08.2025

CORAM:

THE HONOURABLE MRS.JUSTICE T.V.THAMILSELVI

C.M.A.No.2122 of 2025

1. Sreejabalan
- 2.Saranjith
3. Minor Sreya

... Appellants

Vs.

1. Rapid Fleet Management Services Private Limited
Unicorn House,
No.24, Old No.322, Thambu Chetty Street,
Chennai District.

2. TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited,
No.225/2, Sri Vedaths Complex, first floor,
Itteri Road, Meyanur, Salem District

... Respondents

PRAYER: Civil Miscellaneous Appeal filed under Section 173 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988, to allow the appeal and enhance the award dated 02.01.2024 in MCOP No.470 of 2023 on the file of Special District Judge, MCOP Tribunal, Salem and pass orders.

For Appellants : Mrs. R. Navaneetha Krishnan
For Respondent-2 : Mr.K. Vinod



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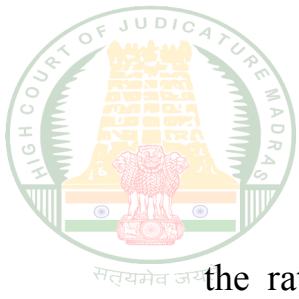
JUDGMENT

The appellants have filed this appeal to allow the appeal and enhance the award dated 02.01.2024 in MCOP No.470 of 2023 on the file of Special District Judge, MCOP Tribunal, Salem.

2. The brief facts of the case of the appellants/claimants are as follows:

On 24.09.2020 at about 7.50 p.m when the deceased Sureshkumar was riding a two wheeler bearing Registration No.T.N.52-R-0762 on his extreme left in Salem-Bhavani Road a lorry bearing Registration No.TN-04-Av5350 came behind the two wheeler and dashed against the said Suresh kumar. As a result of which the deceased sustained fatal injuries and succumbed to the injuries. Hence, the legal heirs of the deceased has filed a claim petition before the Tribunal seeking compensation for a sum of Rs.50,00,000/-.

3. Upon considering the oral and documentary evidence, the Tribunal partly allowed the claim petition and awarded a sum of Rs.10,05,000/- as compensation, directed the first and second respondents to pay the said amount to the appellant along with interest at



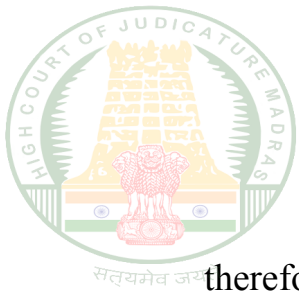
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the rate of 7.5% per annum from the date of petition till the date of realisation.

4. Aggrieved by the quantum of compensation awarded by the Tribunal, the appellants (claimants) have filed the present appeal under Section 173 of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988.

5. The learned counsel for the appellants submitted that the Tribunal has not considered the age, occupation and income of the deceased and awarded the compensation. At the time of the accident the deceased was working as a appraiser in a Bank and earning a sum of Rs.40,000/- per month, but the Tribunal has taken only a sum of Rs.10,000/- as monthly income for awarding compensation under the head Loss of Income. Further the amount awarded under other heads is also very low. Hence prays to enhance the compensation by allowing this petition.

6. On the other hand, the learned counsel appearing for the second respondent contended that the award passed by the Tribunal is based on well-settled principles of law applicable at the time of the order, and



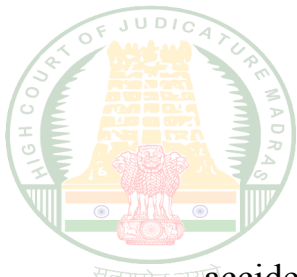
therefore, it need not be interfered.

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7. Heard both sides and perused the materials on record.

8. On an analysis of the award of the Tribunal would go to show that the Tribunal has awarded Rs.8,80,000/- under the head loss of Income; Rs. 60,000/- under the head loss of love and affection; Rs.40,000/- each under the head loss of consortium' Rs. 25,000/- under the head funeral expenses. Thus the total compensation is arrived at Rs.10,05,000/-

9. Considering the occupation of the deceased this Court is of the view that the deceased would be earning Rs.18,000/- per month. As per the decision rendered in the case of *National Insurance Co. vs Pranay sethi and others*, reported in **2017 (2) TNMAC 601** 10% is to be added towards future prospects of the deceased. The deceased died, leaving behind the respondents, who are her legal heirs. Considering the age of the deceased $\frac{1}{3}$ of the income is to be deducted towards the deceased's personal expenses. The deceased was aged 52 years at the time of the



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accident, and as per the decision rendered in *Sarla Verma and others vs. Delhi Transport Corporation and another*, reported in (2009) 6 SCC 121, the proper multiplier to be adopted in the instance case is 11.

Calculation

Monthly Income = Rs.18,000/-

10% Future Prospects = 18,000 + 1,800 = 19,800/-

After 1/3 deduction = 19,800 – 6,600 = Rs.13,200/-

Loss of Income

= Rs.13,200 x 12 x 11

= Rs.17,42,400/-. With regard to loss of love and affection

expenses the same is enhanced to Rs.80,000/-. No amount was awarded under the head Loss of estate, hence Rs.16,500/- was awarded under the said head and with regard to funeral expenses the same is reduced to Rs.16,500/-. The compensation awarded under the head loss of consortium remains the same.



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10. The following tabular column sets out the amounts awarded by the Tribunal and the enhanced amounts awarded by this Court under various heads:

Sl. No	Heads	Amount (in Rs.) awarded by the Tribunal	Amount (in Rs.) awarded by the High Court
1.	Loss of Income	Rs.8,80,000/-	Rs. 17,42,400/-
2.	Loss of Love and affection	Rs.60,000/-	Rs.80,000/-
3.	Loss of consortium	Rs.40,000/-	Rs.40,000/-
4.	Funeral Expenses	Rs.25,000/-	Rs.16,500/-
5	Loss of estate	-Nil	Rs.16,500/-
	Total	Rs.10,05,000/-	Rs.18,95,400/-

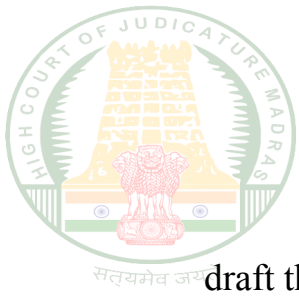
Thus, the compensation awarded by the Tribunal is enhanced from **Rs.10,05,000/- to Rs. 18,95,400/-**, which shall carry interest at the rate of 7.5% per annum.

11. In the result:

i. The Civil Miscellaneous Appeal is partly allowed. There shall be no order as to costs.

ii. The compensation awarded by the Tribunal is enhanced from **Rs.10,05,000/- to Rs. 18,95,400/-**.

iii. The appellants/claimants are directed to pay the Court fee for the enhanced compensation amount, if any. The Registry is directed to



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draft the decree only after the receipt of the Court fee.

iv. The first and second respondents are jointly directed to deposit the enhanced compensation amount, i.e., **Rs. 18,95,400/-**, (after deducting the amount already deposited), together with interest at the rate of 7.5% per annum from the date of the claim petition till the date of deposit, to the credit of **MCOP No.470 of 2023 on the file of Special District Judge, MCOP Tribunal, Salem** within a period of eight weeks from the date of receipt or uploading of a copy of this order.

v. On such deposit being made, the appellants/claimants is at liberty to withdraw the same as per the ratio of apportionment fixed by the Tribunal, after following due process of law.

vi. The third appellant being minor is directed to have her respective shares of the award amount invested in any one of the Nationalized Banks under a Fixed Deposit Scheme initially **for a period of three years** which shall be renewed periodically until they attain majority. The 1st appellant/1st claimant, being the natural guardian of the



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minor claimant, is permitted to withdraw the interest accrued thereon **once in three months**, and the same shall be utilized for the welfare of the minor claimants.

vii. The appellants/claimants shall not be entitled to claim interest for the period of delay, if any, in filing this appeal.

07.08.2025

Index: Yes/No
Speaking/non Speaking order
Neutral Case citation: yes/no
smn
To

1. The Special District Judge, MCOP Tribunal, Salem.

Rapid Fleet Management Services Private Limited
Unicorn House,
No.24, Old No.322, Thambu Chetty Street,
Chennai District.

3. TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited,
No.225/2, Sri Vedaths Complex, first floor,
Itteri Road, Meyanur, Salem District

4. The Section Officer, V.R. Section, High Court of Madras.

T.V.THAMILSELVI, J.



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