

WPA 22326 of 2025

Mukul Chandra Das
Vs.
The State of W.B. & Ors.

Mr. Pinaki Dhole
Mr. Rabindra Kr. Pathak ...for the petitioner.

Mr. Debnarayan Patra
Ms. Tanuja Basak ...for the State.

Affidavit of service filed by the petitioner is taken on record.

None appears for the Panchayat despite service.

The petitioner was engaged as a casual worker in January, 2001 in Habibpur Panchayat Samiti and has been performing his duty since then.

A memorandum was issued by the Finance Department of the Government of West Bengal on 16th September, 2011 which says that casual/daily rated/contractual workers who have remained engaged in various government establishments for a considerable period of more than 10 years in connection with implementation of various schemes/projects shall be considered for certain benefits. In terms of a subsequent memorandum dated 1st March, 2024, such workers were entitled to remuneration of Rs.37,000/- per month on completion of 20 years from initial engagement with annual enhancement of Rs.1,100/-.

The petitioner sought such benefit before the authority which was recommended by the Block Development Officer, Habibpur, Malda before the District Magistrate, Malda. No steps have been taken by the authority since then. The petitioner submitted a representation in this regard on 8th August, 2025 and seeks consideration of the same.

In view of the fact that the application filed by the petitioner is pending since long and the concerned authority has recommended the petitioner for the said benefit, the District Panchayat and Rural Development Officer, Malda, being the 4th respondent herein, is directed to consider and dispose of the same within six weeks from the date of communication of this order upon affording reasonable opportunity of hearing to all concerned including the petitioner, in accordance with law.

The decision taken by the authority shall be communicated to the petitioner within a week thereof.

In the event the 4th respondent arrives at a conclusion in favour of the petitioner, necessary consequential steps be taken at the earliest.

The writ petition is disposed of accordingly.

There shall, however, be no order as to costs.

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

Urgent certified website copy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties upon compliance with all requisite formalities.

(Suvra Ghosh, J.)