

17.06.2026
Sl. No.27
Ct. No.6
ss

**IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CIRCUIT BENCH AT JALPAIGURI
CONSTITUTIONAL WRIT JURISDICTION
APPELLATE SIDE**

W.P.A. No. 896 of 2026

**Sushil Lepcha
Versus
The State of West Bengal & Ors.**

Ms. Taniya Bhowmik
...for the Petitioner.

Mr. Arijit Ghosh
Ms. Radhika Agarwal
...for the State.

1. Affidavit of service filed on behalf of the petitioner is taken on record.
2. By the present writ petition the petitioner seeks direction upon the respondent authorities for disbursement of interest on delayed payment of gratuity and arrear pension amount from the date following the date of his retirement till the date of actual payment at the rate of 18% per annum.
3. The petitioner contends that he was an Executive Assistant of Rangli Ranglipt Gram Panchayet, P.O. Takdah, District Darjeeling. The petitioner retired from service on superannuation on 29th February, 2024. The pension payment order was issued in favour of the petitioner on 14th November, 2024. The gratuity and arrear pension was disbursed in

favour of the petitioner on 27th December, 2024. However, no interest on the aforesaid amount has been paid in favour of the petitioner. Hence this writ petition.

4. Ms. Taniya Bhowmik, learned advocate for the petitioner submits that there is a delay in disbursement of the gratuity and arrear pension amount and as such the petitioner is entitled to receive interest on the delayed payment of gratuity and arrear pension amount. She seeks for appropriate orders.
5. Mr. Arijit Ghosh, learned Advocate for the State leaves the matter to the discretion of the Court.
6. From the aforesaid contentions made in the writ petition, it is found that there is considerable delay in disbursement of the gratuity and arrear pension amount. It is the bounden duty of the State to disburse all the pensionary benefits to the employee forthwith, failing which the employee is entitled to interest on the aforesaid amount.
7. Accordingly, respondent no. 3, the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance, Government of West Bengal and respondent no. 4, the Treasury Officer, Darjeeling are directed to disburse the interest at the rate of @ 8% per annum on

the gratuity and arrear of pension amount in favour of the petitioner by way of pensionary benefits from the date following the date of his retirement till the date of actual payment. Such payment is to be made within a period of six weeks from the date of communication of this order.

8. Learned advocate appearing for the petitioner is directed to communicate this order to respondent no. 3, the Director of Pension, Provident Fund and Group Insurance, Government of West Bengal and respondent no. 4, the Treasury Officer, Darjeeling, for necessary compliance.
9. With the aforesaid directions, the writ petition being **WPA 896 of 2026** is disposed of.
10. Since no affidavit is called for, the allegations made in the writ petition are deemed to have been denied.
11. Consequently, connected applications, if any, stand disposed of.
12. Interim orders, if any, stand vacated.
13. There shall be no order as to costs.
14. Urgent photostat certified copy of the order, if applied for, be given to the parties on compliance of all necessary legal formalities.

(Bivas Pattanayak, J.)