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HIGH COURT OF CHHATTISGARH AT BILASPUR

RAHUL JHA
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WPS No. 7172 of 2026

Ratna Singh Maravi W/o Late Indreshwar Singh Aged About 62 Years R/o H. No. 24, Ward No. 12, Budhadev Nagar, Sirgitti, District - Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

Petitioner(s)

versus

1 - State Of Chhattisgarh Through The Secretary Department Of Urban Administration And Development Mantralaya, Mahanadi Bhawan, Atal Nagar Raipur District Raipur Chhattisgarh

2 - Director Department Of Urban Administration And Development Indrawati Bhawan, D Block, 4th Floor Nawa Raipur, Atal Nagar, District Raipur Chhattisgarh

3 - Joint Director Department Of Urban Administration And Development Ambikapur, District Surguja Chhattisgarh

4 - Joint Director Department Of Urban Administration And Development Bilaspur, District Bilaspur Chhattisgarh

Respondent(s)

(Cause-title taken from CIS)

For Petitioner(s)	**:**	Mr. Ashutosh Misrha, Advocate
For Respondent(s)	**:**	Mr. Suyashdhar Badgaiya, GA

(HON'BLE SHRI JUSTICE BIBHU DATTA GURU)

Order on Board

28.10.2026

1. By way of the present writ petition, the petitioner has sought a direction to the respondents-authorities for release of the retiral dues and other admissible service benefits payable in respect of her deceased husband, who retired from the post of Chief Municipal Officer in the year 2020 and subsequently died on 09.06.2022.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that, despite the retirement of the petitioner's husband in the year 2020 and his subsequent death in the year 2022, the retiral dues have not been released till date. He would submit that despite repeated applications, representations and inter-departmental communications, including the communications exchanged in the years 2023, 2025 and 2026, the claim of the petitioner has not been brought to its logical conclusion, compelling her to approach this Court.

3. On the previous date of hearing, i.e., 29.09.2026, learned State counsel was directed to obtain instructions as to why the retiral dues payable to the petitioner had not been released, particularly when her husband had retired from service in the year 2020 and died in the year 2022. Today, on instructions, learned State counsel submits that the service book of the petitioner's husband could not be traced during his lifetime. However, after his death, the Department has issued a duplicate service book and has thereafter processed the petitioner's claim for release of retiral dues. He further submits that the retiral dues admissible to the petitioner shall be released in accordance with the applicable rules within a period of two months.

4. Having considered the submissions made on behalf of the parties and the facts pleaded in the writ petition, this Court finds that the petitioner's claim has

remained pending for a considerable period, notwithstanding the fact that her husband retired in the year 2020 and died in the year 2022. The non-availability of the service book, being an official record required to be maintained by the Department, cannot justify keeping the claim for retiral benefits pending indefinitely, particularly when steps have already been initiated for preparation of a duplicate service book and processing of the claim.

5. In view of the statement made by learned State counsel, the writ petition is disposed of with a direction to the respondents-authorities to complete all necessary formalities, determine the retiral dues and other admissible consequential benefits payable to the petitioner, and ensure their release within a period of two months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order, in accordance with the applicable rules.

6. Accordingly, the writ petition stands disposed of with the aforesaid direction.

Sd/-

(BIBHU DATTA GURU)
JUDGE

Rahul