

## BEFORE THE MADURAI BENCH OF MADRAS HIGH COURT

WEB COPY

DATED: 27.03.2025

#### **CORAM**

#### THE HONOURABLE MR.JUSTICE BATTU DEVANAND

## W.P.(MD)No.8458 of 2025

S.Arul Benjamin ... Petitioner

Vs.

- 1.The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd., Represented by its Managing Director, Tirunelveli Division, Kattapomman Nagar, V.M.Chathiram, Tirunelveli.
- 2. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd., Represented by its General Manager, Nagercoil Region, Ranithottam, Nagercoil.
- 3. The Administrator,
  The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation
  Employees Pension Fund Trust,
  Thiruvalluvar Illam,
  Anna Salai,
  Chennai 2.

... Respondents

**PRAYER:** Writ Petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India for issuance of Writ of Mandamus, directing the respondents to pay interest at the rate of 12% per annum for the period of delay from the petitioner's date of



retirement i.e.,31.05.2023 to till the date of reimbursement i.e., on 10.03.2025 of amount paid towards the petitioner's terminal and pension benefits namely EPF Employees Contribution, Gratuity, Encashment of Earned/Sick Leaves and other monetary benefits etc., within a time frame as may be fixed by this Court without affecting the petitioners right to claim balance amounts towards those benefits.

For Petitioner : Mr.R.Murugan

For R1 & R2 : Mr.K.Ramaiah

**Standing Counsel** 

For R3 : Mr.S.C.Herold Singh

Standing Counsel

### ORDER

This Writ Petition has been filed seeking a writ of mandamus directing the respondents to pay interest at the rate of 12% per annum for the period of delay from the petitioner's date of retirement i.e.,31.05.2023 to till the date of reimbursement i.e., on 10.03.2025 of amount paid towards the petitioner's terminal and pension benefits namely EPF Employees Contribution, Gratuity, Encashment of Earned/Sick Leaves and other monetary benefits etc., within a time frame as may be fixed by this Court.



- 2. The petitioner was appointed as Junior Assistant in the respondent VEB Corporation on 24.12.1986 and he retired from service on 31.05.2023. The learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner's terminal benefits was not settled immediately and there is an abnormal delay.
  - 3. In view of the same, the only issue to be considered in this Writ Petition is with regard to interest payable on the belated settlement. This issue was dealt with by this Court on various occasions and this Court passed orders in several Writ Petitions. In fact, the issue involved in this writ petition is no longer *res-integra*.
  - 4. This Court in W.P(MD)No.4866 of 2023 (C.MuruganVs. the Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd., and Another) by order dated 07.03.2023 has decided this issue.
  - 5. Accordingly, by following the order stated supra, this Writ Petition is allowed with the following direction:

The respondents shall pay interest to the petitioner at the rate of 6% per annum on the belated payment of the retirement benefits commencing from the date of retirement, till the date of actual



disbursement, within a period of three months from the date of

WEB Coreceipt of a copy of this order.

6. No costs.

27.03.2025

NCC:yes/no Index:yes/no Internet:yes/no Sn

# <u>To:</u>

1.The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd.,
Tirunelveli Division,
Kattapomman Nagar,
V.M.Chathiram,
Tirunelveli.

- 2. The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation (Tirunelveli) Ltd., Represented by its General Manager, Nagercoil Region, Ranithottam, Nagercoil.
- 3. The Administrator,
  The Tamil Nadu State Transport Corporation
  Employees Pension Fund Trust,
  Thiruvalluvar Illam,
  Anna Salai,
  Chennai 2.

4/5



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# BATTU DEVANAND, J.

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