

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
HYDERABAD BENCH**

OA/020/01061/2019

HYDERABAD, this the 3rd day of November, 2020.

**Hon'ble Mr. AshishKalia, Judl. Member
Hon'ble Mr. B.V. Sudhakar, Admn. Member**



1. Paluri Venkata Narayana Rao S/o Suryanarayana,
Aged about 69 years, Occ : Retired FGM (MCM),
PPO No.C/ENG/17122/2010, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o.D.No.58-9-112/7,
Ramunaidu Apartments, New Karasa,
Visakhapatnam-530 009.
2. Kedarisetty Kameswara Rao S/o Gangaraju,
Aged about 68 years, Occ : Retired REF MECH HSG,
PPO No.C/ENG/17335/2011, CWE, Visakhapatnam,
R/o D.No.39-10-11/3, Sector-10, Muralinagar,
Visakhapatnam-530 007.
3. Sankabattula Narayana Rao S/o Seethanna,
Aged about 67 years, Occ : Retired FGM HSG,
PPO No.C/ENG/16488/2012, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.58-32-10/3/7, Asivanipalem,
Marripalem, Visakhapatnam-530 018.
4. Varahalu Yelleti, S/o Nagaraju,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired REF MCH HS-II,
PPO No.C/ENG/20223/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.2-153/2, Ganeshnagar,
Yellapuvanipalem, Gopalapatnam, Visakhapatnam-530 0027.
5. Dasari Surya Rao S/o Narasimhulu,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired FGM HS-I,
PPO No.C/ENG/20936/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.38-31-95, Sree
Rama Residency, SreeHarsha Nagar, Marripalem,
Visakhapatnam-530 018.
6. Bhimarasatty Demudu S/o Mangayya,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired Ref Mech SK,
PPO No.C/ENG/16789/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.3-58/1, Old Pendurthi,
Visakhapatnam-531173.
7. Esarapu Kondala Rao S/o Surayya,
Aged about 67 years, Occ : Retired FGM SK,
PPO No.C/ENG/16566/2012, Garrison Engineer (NS),

CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.38-36-33,
Sivanagar, Marripalem, Visakhapatnam-530 018.

8. Ravada Rama Murthy S/o demudu,
Aged about 65 years, Occ : Retired REF MECH HS-I,
PPO No.C/ENG/16821/2014, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o 9-27/1, Narasimhanagar
Gopalapatnam, Visakhapatnam-530 027.



9. Gabu Narayana Reddy S/o Thammayya Reddy,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired FGM HSG,
PPO No.C/ENG/20741/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.14-1-3, Bhanojithota,
Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam-530 026.

10. Singampalli Simhahalam S/o Somulu,
Aged about 69 years, Occ : Retired Mazdoor,
PPO No.C/ENG/18906/2010, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No. 1-217,
Amrutanram, Sabbavaram Mandalam, Visakhapatnam-531 035.

11. Reesu Appa Rao S/o Appanna,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired Mate (Mason),
PPO No.C/ENG/20039/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.40-1-24/280,
Kasturi Nagar, Kailasapuram, Visakhapatnam-530 024.

12. Ruthala Narayana Murthy S/o Pakiru,
Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired Mate Pipe Fitter,
PPO No.C/ENG/20600/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS)
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.58-1-1/A, Main Road,
Marripalem, Visakhapatnam-530 018.

13. Boddeda Govinda Rajulu S/o Appalanaidu,
Aged about 61 years, Occ : Retired FGM, MCM,
PPO No.403201800839, Garrison Engineer,
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.44-36-13/5,
Srinivasanagar, Akkayyapalem, Visakhapatnam-530 016.

14. Thandra Rama Rao S/o Pullayya, Aged about 68 years,
Aged about 68 years, Occ : Retired REF MECH MCM,
PPO No. C/ENG/16330/2011, Garrison Engineer (NS), CWE,
Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.54-12-20, Satya Residency,
Krishna College, Visakhapatnam-530 022.

15. Pathivada Ramu Naidu S/o Chinnayya,
Aged about 67 years, Occ : Retired FG MSG,
PPO No. C/ENG/16164/2012, Garrison Engineer (NS),
CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.0-0,
Chittiyyavalasa Village, Gajapathinagaram Mandalam,
Visakhapatnam-535 270.



16. Srirangam Satyanarayana S/o PothuRaju,
 Aged about 71 years, Occ : Retired JE EM,
 PPO No.C/ENG/27286/2007, DGNP NE,
 Chief Engineer, South Command, Visakhapatnam,
 R/o D.No.9-31, Santhosh Nagar, Vepagunta,
 Visakhapatnam-530 047.

17. Bobbari Ramu Naidu S/o Sanyasi,
 Aged about 66 years, Occ : Retired FGM HSG,
 PPO No.C/ENG/21119/2013, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.14-1A,
 Jeriputhulapalem, Chintagatla,
 Visakhapatnam-5310 35.

18. Kandregula Adinarayana S/o Thalupulamma,
 Aged about 68 years, Occ : Retired ELECT MECH,
 PPO No.C/ENG/16643/2011, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.58-9-37, Shirdipuram,
 New Karasa, Visakhapatnam-530 009.

19. Ganguluri Esuratnam S/o Venkataratnam,
 Aged about 61 years, Occ : Retired Electrician MCM,
 PPO No.403201801342, Garrison Engineer ND, CWE,
 Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.14-157, Vidhyanagar,
 Vidhyanagar, Chinamushidivada, Visakhapatnam-531173.

20. Boddeti Joginaidu S/o Sanyasi,
 Aged about 68 years, Occ : Retired FGM SK,
 PPO No.C/ENG/16922/2011, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.5-7, Yellapuvanipalem,
 Gopalapatnam, Visakhapatnam-530 027.

21. Cheepurupalli SreeRamulu S/o Musalayya,
 Aged about 70 years, Occ : Retired GFM HSG,
 PPO No.C/ENG/17194/2010, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.58-30-86/1,
 Saketapuram, NAD Post, Visakhapatnam-530 009.

22. Mondi Sivaprasad S/o Simhachalam,
 Aged about 62 years, Occ : Retired REF MECH MCM,
 PPO No.C/ENG/12202/2017, Chief Works Engineer,
 Station Road, Visakhapatnam,
 R/o D.No.3-129/20, Flat No.205, MK Arena, Sirugudinagar,
 Yendada, Visakhapatnam-530 045.

23. Gudey Naga Raju S/o Ganganna,
 Aged about 65 years, Occ : Retired B SMITH MCM,
 PPO No.C/ENG/16813/2014, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam,
 R/o D.No.44-40-15, Nandagiri Nagar, Akkayyapalem,
 Visakhapatnam-530 016.

24. Salapu Bangarayya S/o Chinappili,
 Aged about 67 years, Occ : Retired ELECT HSG,
 PPO No.C/ENG/18840/2011, Garrison Engineer (ND),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.5-72, Padmanabhanagar,
 Venkatapuram Post, Visakhapatnam-530 027.

25. Kuppili Chandra Mohan Patnaik S/o Apparao Patnaik,
 Aged about 60 years, Occ : Retired SAA,
 PPO No.403201902905, Garrison Engineer (NB), CWE,
 Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.14-12-2, Bhanojithota,
 New Gajuwaka, Visakhapatnam-530 026.

26. Neelapu Divanna S/o Ramayya,
 Aged about 71 years, Occ : Retired ELECT HSG,
 PPO No.C/ENG/10462/2008, Garrison Engineer (NS),
 CWE, Visakhapatnam, R/o D.No.38-30-95,
 Sainagar, Marripalem, Visakhapatnam-530 018.Applicants

(By Advocate : Mr.K.R.K.V. Prasad)

Vs.

1. Union of India represented by
 The Secretary, Ministry of Defence,
 Government of India, South Block,
 New Delhi-110 011.

2. The Engineer-in-Chief,
 Integrated Headquarters, MoD (Army),
 New Delhi-110 011.

3. The Commander Works Engineer,
 Military Engineer Service, Station Road,
 Visakhapatnam-530 004.

4. The Secretary, Government of India,
 Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions,
 Department of Personnel & Training, North Block,
 New Delhi-110 011.

5. The Ministry of Finance Rep. by
 The Secretary, Government of India,
 Department of Expenditure,
 North Block, New Delhi-110 011.....Respondents

(By Advocate: Mrs.D.Shoba Rani, Addl.CGSC)

ORAL ORDER
(As per Hon'ble Mr.B.V.Sudhakar, Administrative Member)

Through Video Conferencing:

2. This OA is filed for grant of notional increment due on the 1st of July of the year of retirement after having retired from service on the 30th of June of the relevant year, consequential benefits.

3. The applicants retired from the respondents organization on 30th June of the respective years. Their grievance is that they were supposed to be granted increment due on 1st of July of the year of retirement for having completed one year service prior to retirement. They relied upon the order of the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in WP No.15732/2017 dt.15.09.2017, which has attained finality. They also cited orders of various courts in support of their claim. The applicants contend that despite making several representations to the authorities, benefits due have not been granted to them. Aggrieved, the OA has been filed.

4. The respondents filed a short reply wherein they have contended that the judgment of the Hon'ble Madras High Court in P. Ayyamperumal case is in personam and the same is not applicable to the applicants.

5. Heard both the counsel and perused the pleadings on record.

6. Learned counsel for the applicants pleaded that in similar cases, this Tribunal passed several orders granting relief and therefore, these applicants are also entitled for similar relief. He further pleaded that most of the applicants in this OA are aged about 70 years and some are more than that and they may be granted expeditious relief in the evening of their lives.

7. This Tribunal granted similar relief in several OAs. In OA Nos. 325/2020 & Batch, this Tribunal passed a detailed order while adverting to the averments and contentions of the respondents therein. Some of the observations, and the conclusions made in OA No. 325/2020 & batch, are as under:



"XVII. Continuing their defence, respondents have stated that the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in W.P (C) No. 9062/2018 & C.M No 34892/2018 has rejected similar relief in regard to increment and enhanced DA on 23.10.2018 even by referring to P. Ayyamperumal Judgment. However, the Hon'ble Delhi High Court in its later judgment in W.P (C) 10509/2019 in Gopal Singh v U.O.I did grant a similar relief on 23.01.2020, as under:

*"8. More recently, this Court in its decision dated 13th January, 2020 in W.P.(C) 5539/2019 (ArunChhibber v. Union of India) has discussed the judgment in P. Ayyamperumal at some length in the context of the prayer of an officer of the Central Reserve Police Force ('CRPF') who had retired on 30th June, 2007 for notional increment. The Court rejected the contention of the Respondents therein that the judgment in P. Ayyamperuamal had to be treated as one that was *in personam* and not *in rem*. In relation to the Respondent's attempt to distinguish the applicability of the judgment in P. Ayyamperumal to CRPF personnel, the Court observed as under:-*

*"5. The Court finds that the only difference, if any, between P. Ayyamperumal (*supra*) and this case is that the former was an employee of the Central Government, whereas here the Petitioner superannuated from the CRPF. The Court, therefore, finds no reasons to deny the Petitioner same relief granted to Mr. P. Ayyamperumal by the Madras High Court. The similarity in the two cases is that here too, the Petitioner has completed one year of service, just one day prior to 1st July, 2007."*

9. The position here as regards CISF personnel can be no different and it was not, therefore, open to the Respondents to refuse to grant to the Petitioner notional increment merely because he superannuated a day earlier than the day fixed by the CPC for such benefit to accrue.

10. Accordingly, the impugned order dated 3rd May, 2019 is set aside. A direction is issued to the Respondents to grant notional

increment to the Petitioner with effect from 1st July, 2019. The Petitioner's pension will consequentially be re-fixed. The appropriate orders will be issued and arrears of pension will be paid to the Petitioner within a period of 6 weeks, failing which the Respondents would be liable to simple interest at 6% per annum on the arrears of period of delay."



It requires no reiteration that the later judgment of Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 13.1.2020 on the same issue holds the ground. It must be noted that the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi has rejected the contention that P.Ayyamperumal Judgment is in personam on which the respondents harped by stating that the nodal Ministry i.e DOPT has taken such a stand. Moreover, the judgment of the Hon'ble High Court of A.P. in Principal Accountant General, AP & others v C. SubbaRao & others in 2005(2) ALD 1 = 2005 (2) ALT 25 cited by the respondents to back their defence would not be relevant in view of the latest Judgment of the Hon'ble Delhi court on 23.1.2020 referred to above and the dismissal of both the SLP (C) No.22008/2018 plus the Review Petition vide RP (C) No.1731/2019 filed thereupon against Ayyamperumal judgment in WP No.15732/2017 dt.15.9.2017, by the Hon'ble Apex Court on 23.7.2018 and 8.8.2019 respectively, for reasons expounded in para XVI. It is also pertinent to point out that when the C. SubbaRao judgment was delivered in 2005 by the Hon'ble High Court of A.P. the rule for granting increment was the date of joining of the service/ date of promotion. The rule has been changed after the 6th CPC with the date of increment being taken as a uniform date of 1st July and as per CCS revised pay rules of 2008 after completion of 6 months of service in the grade/pay scale, one would become eligible for grant of an increment. Moreover, the concept of taking 50% of last pay drawn for granting of pension has been brought into vogue from 2006 onwards. The change in the rules subsequent to C. SubbaRao judgment have made it irrelevant.

XVIII) Further, the Hon'ble Ernakulam Bench of this Tribunal in OA No.180/1055/2018 and batch, vide order dt.03.12.2019, extended the same relief as sought by the applicants by opining as under:

"9. We find that the Hon'ble Madras High Court had already considered the issue raised by the applicants in the present OAs, we are in full agreement with the judgment passed by the Hon'ble Madras High Court in P. Ayyamperumal's case (*supra*) upheld by the Hon'ble apex court.

10. Therefore, the impugned orders of rejection Annexure A4 in OA No. 180/654/2019 and Annexures A5 in OAs Nos. 180/1055/2018 and 180/61/2019 are quashed and set aside. The applicant in OA No. 180/109/2019 had sought relief to quash Annexure A6 which is only a reply to the question posed by a Member of Parliament in Lok Sabha. The applicants shall be given one notional increment for the purpose of calculating the pensionary benefits and not for any other purpose as held by the Hon'ble Madras High Court in P. Ayyamperumal's case (*supra*) upheld by the Hon'ble apex court. The respondents shall implement the order of this Tribunal within three months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. There shall be no order as to costs."

*It is the cardinal principle of judicial discipline, as held by the Apex Court in the case of **S.I.Rooplal vs Lt. Governor of Delhi**¹ that precedents are to be strictly adhered to.*

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XIX. Respondents banking on the fact that the Hon'ble Madras Bench of this Tribunal has dismissed OAs 1710 to 1714/2018, 309/2019, 312/2019, 26/2019, 498/2019 and MA 226/2019 filed seeking similar relief in March and April 2019, urged that the instant OAs be dismissed. However, in the context of the Hon'ble Supreme Court dismissing the relevant SLP and Review Petition cited *supra* and in the context of the observation at para XVI above in regard to review of P. Ayyamperumal judgment, as well as the later judgments of the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi on 23.01.2020 plus that of the Hon'ble Ernakulam Bench of this Tribunal on 3.12.2019, which are later to the Hon'ble Madras Tribunal Bench orders, it is incumbent on the respondents to grant the increment on 1st July. Respondents did point out that even this Tribunal has also dismissed OA 1275/2013 on 20.6.2019 seeking the relief sought. However, it is to be observed that as on 20.6.2019, the dismissal decision of Hon'ble Apex Court in the Review Petition delivered on 8.8.2019 filed against P. Ayyamperumal verdict was obviously not available and therefore, the dismissal. Subsequently, this Tribunal, in the light of the dismissal of the review petition referred to, disposed of OA Nos. 1263/2018, 1155/2018 & 229/2020 on 13.03.2020; OA No. 430/2020 on 26.06.2020 & OA Nos. 431/2020 & 432/2020 on 08.07.2020. In addition, keeping in view of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Apex Court in **RoopLal**, to abide by the precedent, the respondents cannot afford to take any other view but are bound by the latest judgments of the superior judicial forums referred to above.

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XXIII) Now coming to the aspect of DA on 1st July consequent to retirement of an employee, the matter is under adjudication by the Hon'ble Apex Court in SLP No. 5646 of 2018 and 5647 of 2018 and therefore, applicants can pursue for appropriate remedies from the respondents based on the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court on the issue.

XXIV. In view of the aforesaid, it is evident that the respondents have transgressed the rules and laws related to the issue adjudicated upon. Therefore, the OAs fully succeed. Hence, there can be no better conclusion other than to direct the respondents to consider as under:

- i) Re-fix the pension of applicants by allowing the eligible increment for rendering an year of service due on 1st July.
- ii) Release pension and pensionary benefits with all consequential benefits thereof, based on (i) above.
- iii) While releasing benefits as at (ii) above, in regard to the quantum of arrears to be released, the judgment of Hon'ble Apex Court in *Union of India & Ors Vs. Tarsem Singh* in Civil Appeal Nos. 5151-5152 of 2008 vide para 5, has to be borne in mind and followed.
- iv) Time calendared to implement the judgment is 3 months from the date of receipt of this order.

¹ (2000) 1 SCC 644

XXV. With the above directions, the OAs are allowed to the extent stated above. “



7. As seen from the material papers, the applicant submitted representations to the respondents seeking for the relief sought in this OA. Respondents have replied to some of the representations in July & August 2019, which are enclosed to the reply statement. On a perusal of the same, it can be seen that the representations of the applicants were returned on the ground that the benefit sought cannot be extended to Non-Petitioner being a court case. The said orders are not speaking orders and the stand taken therein by the respondents is not tenable.

In view of the court orders cited supra, we are of the view that this Tribunal cannot take a different view and as such, these applicants are also entitled for the same relief. Hence, the respondents are directed to consider the cases of the applicants for grant of eligible relief with consequential benefits, keeping in view the orders cited supra, by passing a speaking and reasoned orders, within a period of 3 months from the date of receipt of this order.

With the above directions, the OA is allowed. No order as to costs.

(B.V.SUDHAKAR)
ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBER

(ASHISH KALIA)
JUDICIAL MEMBER

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