CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ALLAHABAD BENCH ALLAHABAD.

Allahabad this the 4 day of November 1996.

Original application No. 1282 of 1994.

Hon'ble Dr. R.K. Saxena, JM Hon'ble Mr. D.S. Baweja, AM

The General Manacer, Eastern Railway, 17 Netaji Subhash Road, Calcutta.

- The Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Mughalsarai, Dist. Varanasi.
- The Senior Divisional Personnel Officer, Eastern Railway, Mughalsarai, Dist. Varanasi.
- 4. The Divisional Accounts Officer, Eastern Railway, Mughalsarai, Dist. Varanasi.

.... Applicants.

C/A Sri A. Sthalkar

Versus

- Syed Ali Imam, S/o Late Sri S.A. Raseed, Station Master, Eastern Railway, Gaya, C/o Divisional Railway Manager, Eastern Railway, Mughalsarai, Varanasi.
- Prescribed Authority, under the payment of Wages Act/Assistant Labour Commissioner, Varanasi.

.... Respondents.

C/A Sri U.S. Dwivedi Sri S.S. Sharma

ORDER (CRAL)

Hon'ble Dr. R.K. Saxena, JM

This O.A. has been filed challenging the award dated 27.10.93. Briefly stated the facts of the case are that respondent No. 1 was working as Assistant Station Master (Platform) and he was denied the grade

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which was given to his juniors who were made Assistant Station Master (Cabin). It is contended that the pay scale of Assistant Station Master (Cabin) was higher than that of Assistnat Station Master (platform). He therefore approached the prescribed Authority under the payment of Wages Act with the prayer that his salary should have been fixed in the grade which was given to his juniors but because the salary has not been fixed nor the payment made but did amount deduction of salary. Hence the amount of Rs. 34223.75 was claimed as salary which was deducted and 10 times of compensation was also prayed. The Prescribed Authority upheld the contention of the applicant as regards the deduction of salary and directed the present applicant to make payment of Rs. 34223.75 as salary equal amount of Rs. 34223.75 was further directed to be paid as compensation. Besides, the amount of Rs. 100/- was ordered to be paid as expenses of the case. Feeling aggreived of this order, this O.A. has been filed.

- The notices were issued to the respondents for which respondent No. 1 filed counter-reply and also moved a application that stay be wacated. The RA has not been filed.
- 3. Sh. A. Sthalkar appears on behalf of applicant but none is present for the respondents. We have heard Sh. A. Sthalkar and have perused the record.
- The main question in this case is if the applicant can directly approach the Tribunal without filing an appeal under Section 17 of Payment of Wages Act.

 To file an appeal is to avail the remedy available to the

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aggreived party. It appears that the applicant was under the impression that the right of filing of appeal under Section 17 was taken away by Section 28 of Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985. This apprehension or impression has now be negated by their lordship of Supreme Court in the case K.P. Gupta Vs. Controller of Printing and Stationery AIR 1996 S6 608. In view of these facts and the legal position, the applicant should have filed an appeal under Section 17 of the said Act. Because the remedy of appeal has not been availed of, the O.A. does not remain maintainable. In case the applicant is so advised, at may still file appeal before the competent authority.

The O.A. is therefore dismissed. The stay order which was granted on 1.9.94 stands vacated. The amount which was deposited by the applicant in compliance of stay may be withdrawn by him.

Member - A

Member - J

Arvind.