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IN THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL :NEW BOMBAY BENCH  
NEW BOMBAY:

O.A. 187/87, 224/87 and 275/87.

Shri Periaswamy Achan .... Applicant in OA 187/87.

Shri Ponnuswamy Karuppan .... Applicant in OA 224/87.

Shri M. Murugesan .... Applicant in OA 275/87.

versus

Permanent Way Inspector, Favel,  
District-Raigad and others ... Respondents.

P R E S E N T :

The Hon'ble Shri G. Sreedharan Nair, Vice Chairman.

The Hon'ble Shri M.Y. Friolkar, Member(Admn).

For the applicants- Mr M.S. Ramamurthy, Advocate

For the respondents- Mr J.G. Sawant, Advocate.

Date of hearing - 22.8.90.

Date of Judgment & Order - 28.8.90.

JUDGMENT & ORDER :

G. Sreedharan Nair, Vice Chairman :-

These applications were heard together as the issues involved are the same and are being disposed of by a common order.

2. The applicants were employed as Mates under the first respondent. Their grievance is against the termination of their services.

3. The applicant in OA 187/87 alleges that he was employed from about 31.12.1981 upto 6.9.1985, was sent for medical examination by the end of August, 1985 for being tested in B-1 category and he was found not fit; he requested examination for B-2 category or other permissible categories, but the first respondent refused to do so and orally told him that he will not be engaged with effect from 6.9.1985.

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 4. The respondents stated in their reply that the medical examination was conducted for engaging the applicants on temporary basis, but the applicant was found unfit for B-1 category and thereafter he voluntarily abandoned his services and did not report for work <sup>from</sup> 21.9.1985.

5. The applicant in OA 224/87 alleges that he was under the employment of the first respondent from the end of August, 1981 to the end of December, 1983 and that he was sent for medical examination by the end of December, 1983 for C-1 category and after a few days he was informed that he was found unfit and hence he could not be continued in service.

6. In the reply filed by the respondents, it is stated that after the medical examination, the applicant did not report back for duty but remained absent and abandoned service with effect from 30.11.1983.

7. In OA 275/87, it is stated by the applicant that he was engaged from 1977 and was sent for medical examination in December, 1982 in B-1 category and was reported failed. It is alleged that despite repeated representations, alternative employment has not been given.

8. In the reply, the respondents have taken up the specific plea of bar of limitation as the services of the applicant were dispensed with from February, 1983. It is stated that as the applicant was found unfit on medical examination for B-1 category, his services were terminated and that in accordance with the Rules there is no scope for re-medical examination.

9. When these applications were heard, counsel of the

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respondents took the preliminary objection that they are barred by limitation. It was submitted by the counsel of the respondents that as these applications have been admitted by the Tribunal, it has to be presumed that the delay, if any, in filing the application has been condoned, and hence, it is not open to the respondents to raise this plea. On a perusal of the proceedings, it is seen that the question of limitation really did arise at the time when the applications were taken up for hearing on admission, but without deciding the same, these applications were admitted " subject to the question of limitation". As such, the respondents cannot be precluded from raising the plea.

10. The main relief claimed in all these applications is to hold that the termination of the services of the applicants is illegal and for reinstatement. In OA 187/87, the alleged termination of service took place in September, 1985, while according to the applicant in OA 224/87, he was not engaged from December, 1983. The plea of the applicant in OA 275/87 is that his services were terminated in the beginning of the year 1983.

11. Thus, it is clear that these applications have been filed long after the expiry of the period of one year from the date of alleged termination of service. It cannot be disputed that the cause of action arose from the respective dates on which the alleged termination of service took place. It has also to be pointed out that so far as the applicant in OA 275/87 is concerned, the cause of action arose more than three years prior to the establishment of this Tribunal. No doubt, the applicant has referred to some representations having been made against the termination of service. But those representations

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cannot be relied upon for extension of the period of limitation.

12. We uphold the preliminary objection raised by the counsel of the respondents that these applications are barred by limitation.

13. These applications are dismissed.

True Copy

  
D. M. Patel  
Section Officer,  
Central Administrative Tribunal,  
New Bombay - 400 014.  
P. O. Box No. 1000, C.O.B.  
New Bombay - 400 614.