BOMBAY BENCH (A2/9)

OPEN COURT / PRE DELIVERY JUDGMENT IN OA

Hon'ble Vice Chairman / Member (J) / Member (A) may kindly see the above Judgment for approval / signature.

V.C. / Member (J) / Member (A) (K/S)

Hon'ble Vice Chairman

Hon'ble Member (J)

Hon'ble Member (A) (K/S)

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BEFORE THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL MUMBAI BENCH

CONTEMPT PETITION NO.02/97 IN O.A.385/94

From this the 27 day of August-1997

CORAM:

HON'BLE SHRI B.S.HEGDE, MEMBER(J)
HON'BLE SHRI M.R.KOLHATKAR, MEMBER(A)

S.V.Ramteke, 6/218, Harvest, Shailesh Nagar, Dahisar(East) Mumbai - 400 068. By Advocate Shri H.A.Sawant

.. Contempt Petitioner

-versus-

- 1. Shri N.Krithivasan General Manager, Western Railway, HQ Office, Churchgate, Mumbai - 400 020.
- Shri R.K.Sareen,
 Divisional Railway Manager,
 Mumbai Central Division,
 Western Railway,
 Mumbai 400 008.
- 3. Shri Sudhir Mittal,
 Additional Divisional
 Railway Manager,
 Mumbai Central Division,
 Western Railway,
 Mumbai 400 008.
 By Counsel Shri V.S. Masurkar

.. Contemners

: ORDER : (Per B.S.Hegde, Member(J))

Heard Mr.H.A. Sawant for the applicant and Mr.V.S. Masurkar for the respondents.

2. Applicant has filed CP 2/97 in O.A. 385/94. The Tribunal vide its order dt. 7-9-94 after hearing both the parties held the action of the Railways in withholding the entire amount of DCRG amounting to Rs.45,200/- payable to the applicant is illegal and that the same is required to be released. Accordingly CA was allowed and

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respondents were directed to make payment of the Gratuity to the applicant in full along with interest @ 12% counting from two months from the date of superannuation i.e. on 1-3-91 and the payments were directed to be made to the applicant within two months from the communication of the order.

3. Against the order of the Tribunal dt.
7-9-94 the respondent department filed an SLP
before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court
vide its order dt. 12-7-1995 stayed the
operation of the Tribunal's order in respect of
the amount deducted by way of occupation charges
from the gratuity and interest thereon. Ultimately
the apex court by its order dt. 4-12-1995
passed the following order:

"We are not called upon to interfere with the order for direction regarding grant of gratuity but we think that in the facts and corcumstances of the case the Tribunal ought not to have granted interest for delayed payment till the date the respondent vacated the quarter. After he vacated the quarter he was entitled to the payment of gratuity and, therefore, if there was delay he would be entitled to interest. We, therefore, modify the order of the Tribunal and State that the interest will not be payable till one month after he vacated the quarter. The appeal is allowed to that extent only."

4. It is an admitted fact that though the applicant was superannuated from service on 31-12-1991

he occupied the quarter and vacated the same on 31-1-94. The contention of the applicant is that though there is a specific direction by the Tribunal, the respondents did not release the gratuity amount and committed contempt of this Tribunal's order. The order of the Supreme Court passed on 4-12-95 was received by the applicant in the month of January'96, applicant has filed the CP in January,1997 which is apparently within the time limit.

- stated that the petitioner has been agitating payment of gratuity but forgot his duty to pay the licence fees including arrears of rent consequent upon the revision of rent from 31-12-91 till the date of vacation of quarters on 31-1-94 i.e. for 25 months and also electricity charges totalling of Rs.69,445/- for the period 1-7-90 to 31-1-94. It is also stated that the normal licence fee from January 92 to April,1992 i.e. 4 months @ Rs.66/- p.m. comes to Rs.264/- The penal rent from May 92 to January 94 i.e. 21 months comes to Rs.64,176.50. Hence no DCRG is payable.
- 6. However, the Tribunal's judgment concerning payment of gratuity has become final and that order is required to be implemented.

 Therefore the action of the respondents in deducting/adjusting the rent etc. from the DCRG although permissible under the rules cannot be done in this case. Therefore it is incumbent that the administration

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should pay the DCRG and the modified interest as per the Supreme Court order without making any adjustment of rent etc. Needless to say the respondent administration would be entitled to separately to make recovery of rent etc. as per law. The payment of DCRG and interest should be made within two months from the date of receipt of this order.

7. In the circumstance we are not discharging the C.P. Place the matter for orders in the First week of November, 1997.

on 10.11.87/10.

M.R. KOLHATKAR)

(M.R.KOLHATKAR) MEMBER(A) (B.S. HEGDE)
MEMBER(J)

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erder/Judement despatched to Applicant/Respondent (8)