

IN THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL : HYDERABAD BENCH

AT HYDERABAD

O.A.No.511/91

Date of Order: 9.2.1994

BETWEEN :

- |                            |                          |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. K.Pandiyan              | 35. K.N.Chetty           |
| 2. V.Gunasekhar            | 36. B.Kesavulu           |
| 3. P.Rajagopal             | 37. N.Raveendra          |
| 4. R.Bhanuprakash          | 38. A.Subbarami Reddy    |
| 5. S.Gopala Krishna        | 39. S.Chengalrailu       |
| 6. E.Ganapathi             | 40. B.Shankaraiah        |
| 7. R.Karunakar             | 41. B.Niranjan           |
| 8. A.Devasundari           | 42. K.Venkatarathnam     |
| 9. V.Subramanyam           | 43. G.Siddhalingam Naidu |
| 10. M.Nagabhushanam        | 44. B.K.R. Swamy         |
| 11. Sk. Abdul Salam Bhasha | 45. T.Kanthamma          |
| 12. K.Prabhakara Rao       | 46. E.Jayalakshmi        |
| 13. G.Ramachandraiah       | 47. A.Siva Kumar         |
| 14. V.Kotaiah              | 48. P.Sampath            |
| 15. C.Amarnath             | 49. J.J.Narayana         |
| 16. K.S. Nagaraja          | 50. K.Govindaswamy       |
| 17. N.Adinarayana          | 51. S.Chenna Kesavulu    |
| 18. N.Tirupaiah            | 52. C.Shankarprasad      |
| 19. S.Christopher          | 53. O.Kodandaiah         |
| 20. N. Lakshmaiah          | 54. B.K.Siddaiah         |
| 21. P.Sesha Reddy          | 55. M.Mallikarjuna       |
| 22. K.Rama Chandraiah      | 56. M.Gajendra           |
| 23. S.Mohana               | 57. P.Chengaiiah         |
| 24. Y.Yashodamma           | 58. B.V.Raghu            |
| 25. S.Jalal Bhasha         | 59. A.Rukmini            |
| 26. M.Kodandaramaiah       | 60. V.Nageswara Rao      |
| 27. T.G.Kumari             | 61. D.Anandachari        |
| 28. T.G.Devasena           | 62. G.Tarachandra        |
| 29. M.Chinnamma            | 63. N.Rama Krishnaiah    |
| 30. D.Umamaheswara Rao     | 64. M.Vasudevaraju       |
| 31. S.Bhaskara Rao         | 65. P.Jayachandra        |
| 32. K.Jyothi               | 66. K.Suryanarayana      |
| 33. S.A. Azeez             | 67. V.Sudhakar           |
| 34. M.Venkatamuni          |                          |

.. Applicants.

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1. Union of India, rep. by  
the Secretary, M/o Finance,  
Department of Expenditure,  
New Delhi - 110 001.
  2. The Director-General, Telecom,  
Sanchar Bhawan, New Delhi - 110 001.
  3. The Chief General Manager, Telecom.  
AP, Hyderabad - 500 001.
  4. The Telecom District Manager,  
Tirupathi.

.. Respondents.

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Counsel for the Applicant

.. (Mr. C. Suryanarayana

Counsel for the Respondents

.. Mr. N. V. Ramana, Addl. Counsel.

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CORAM:

HON'BLE SHRI A.B. GORTHI : MEMBER (ADMN.)

HON'BLE SHRI T. CHANDRASEKHARA REDDY : MEMBER (JUDL.)

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Order of the Division Bench delivered by  
Hon'ble Shri A.B.Gorthi, Member (Admn.).

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The applicants herein are the [redacted] employees of the Department of Telecommunications and the relief which they are <sup>claiming</sup> ~~prays~~ in this application is for a direction to the Union of India to grant them Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance (P.C.A.) as is being given to the employees of the A.P. State Government and to those working in Tirumala Tirupathi Devasthanam (T.T.D.).

2. The applicants have annexed certain documents to the original application which indicates that the employees of the T.T.D. are being paid Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance at the rate of 10% of the basic pay subject to the minimum of Rs.30/- and maximum of Rs.150/-. As regards the payments of the said Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance to the employees of the A.P. State Government a copy of the interim order passed by the A.P. Administrative Tribunal, Hyderabad on 22.2.1990 in a batch <sup>of</sup> cases (R.P. 258842 and 25930/89) has been relied upon. The interim order contains a direction to the respondents (Secretary to Government of A.P. and others) to pay the applicants the Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance.

3. The respondents in their reply affidavit have stated that no orders have yet been issued by the State Government of A.P. in regard to the payment of Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance to its employees. They also took <sup>stand</sup> ~~the~~ that the Central Government has its

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own policy for granting various allowances and that it does not follow the policy of the State Government as regards payments of salaries and allowances to its employees. It is further stated in the reply affidavit that the 4th Central Pay Commission has not recommended the grant of Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance.

4. We have heard learned counsel for both the parties. The applicant's counsel urged that the P.C.A. was introduced on account of the fact that due to the heavy influx of pilgrims, the cost of living in the area in and around Tirupathi/Tirumala has become exorbitantly high. The problem of cost of living is the same for the Central Government employees, as it is for the State Government employees and the employees of T.T.D. It is therefore, urged on behalf of the applicants that there is sufficient justification for the Central Government to consider and grant payment of Pilgrimage Compensatory Allowance to its employees working in Tirumala/Tirupathi.

5. Admittedly, the pay and allowances of the employees of the Central Government are not on par with those of the State Government employees. What is granted to the State Government employees cannot be automatically given to the Central Government employees nor can we pass a direction to effect parity between the State Government employees and the Central Government employees. As regards the problem of high cost of living in the various pilgrim centres in the country

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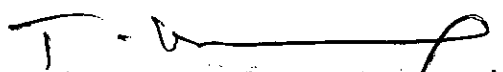
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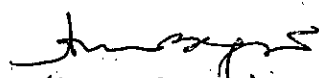
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a positive and pragmatic decision <sup>has to be</sup> taken by the Executive after considering all the relevant factors and if necessary with the help of an expert committee constituted for the purpose. In these circumstances we deem it neither just nor proper for us to grant the relief sought in this application.


6. It is likely that the 5th Central Pay Commission may be constituted in the near future. It will therefore be proper for the applicants or <sup>their</sup> other Unions or even the departments concerned to take up this matter with the Union of India for the purpose of having it examined at a proper level.

7- Subject to the above observations this O.A. is dismissed. There shall be no order as to costs.

  
(T. CHANDRASEKHARA REDDY)  
Member (Judl.)

  
(A.B. GORTHI)  
Member (Admn.)

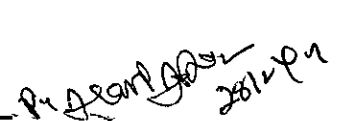
Dated: 9th February, 1994  
(Dictated in Open Court)

  
Deputy Registrar (Judl.)

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Copy to:-

1. Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure, Union of India, New Delhi-001.
2. The Director General, Telecom, Sanchar Bhavan, New Delhi-001
3. The Chief General Manager, Telecom, A.P. Hyderabad-001.
4. The Telecom District Manager, Tirupathi,
5. One copy to Sri. C. Suryanarayana, advocate, CAT, Hyd.
6. One copy to Sri. N.V. Ramana, Addl. CGSC, CAT, Hyd.
7. One copy to Library, CAT, Hyd.
8. One spare copy.

Rsm/-

  
28/2/94