

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
BANGALORE BENCH**

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO.170/00751/2017

DATED THIS THE 03rd DAY OF JUNE, 2019

HON'BLE DR.K.B.SURESH, JUDICIAL MEMBER

HON'BLE SHRI C.V.SANKAR, ADMINISTRATIVE MEMBER

P.Vittalamurthy
Technical Assistant (S) (Retd)
82, 1st Cross, 4th Main
Paddmanabhanagar
Bangalore-560070.

...Applicant

(By Advocate Sri N.Obalappa)

Vs.

1. The Union of India
Represented by its Secretary
Ministry of Information
and Broadcasting
'A' Wing, Shastry Bhavan
New Delhi-110 001.
2. The Director General
Directorate of Field Publicity
Ministry of I & B
5th Floor, Soochna Bhawan
Lodhi Road
New Delhi-110 003.
3. The Director
Directorate of Field Publicity
Kendriya Sadan
Koramangala
Bangalore-560 034.

...Respondents

(By Advocate Sri Vshnu Bhat)

ORDER

(PER HON'BLE SHRI C.V.SANKAR, MEMBER (ADMN.))

The case of the applicant in a nutshell is that he was appointed as Field Publicity

Assistant and got promotion as Technical Assistant(S). As per the communication dtd.5.1.2000(Annexure-A2) the posts of Field Publicity Assistants, Technical Assistants and Technical Assistants(S) were upgraded to the pay scales of Rs.4500-7000, Rs.5000-8000 & Rs.5500-9000 respectively w.e.f. 1.1.1996. As such the 2nd respondent upgraded the pay scales of Field Publicity Assistants and Technical Assistant(S) vide communication dtd.4.2.2000(Annexure-A3). A similarly placed employee Shri J.S.Bhullar, Technical Assistant(S) has filed OA.469/CH/2002 before Chandigarh Bench of this Tribunal which is allowed and as per which the 2nd respondent decided to extend similar benefits to the similarly placed employees vide communication dtd.8.2.2006(Annexure-A4) granting the upgraded pay scale of Rs.5500-9000 to the applicant. The applicant retired from service w.e.f. 31.01.2006 after attaining the age of superannuation(Annexure-A5).

2. The applicant submits that as the pay scales of Rs.5000-8000, 5500-9000 & 6500 10500 have been merged in the pay scale of Rs.7450-11500 with GP Rs.4600 w.e.f. 1.1.2006 vide circular dtd.13.11.2009(Annexure-A6), the 2nd respondent issued circular dtd.23.11.2009(Annexure-A7) to re-fix the pay of the employees. Based on which, the 3rd respondent re-fixed the pay of the applicant granting the GP Rs.4600 w.e.f. 1.1.2006 with pay fixation statement dtd.29.12.2009(Annexure-A8). He submits that as per DOPT clarification dtd.9.9.2010(Annexure-A9) towards the admissibility of GP for the 1st and 2nd ACP for the merged pay scales of Rs.5000-8000, 5500-9000 & 6500-10500, the applicant who has completed 24 years of service and drawing the pay scale of Rs.6500-10500 as on 9.8.1999, is entitled for the GP of Rs.4600 for the 1st ACP and GP Rs.4800 for the 2nd ACP as on 1.1.2006. The applicant further submits that the Director General of All India Radio, New Delhi vide circular dtd.17.1.2013 &

4.9.2013(Annexure-A10) issued instructions to sub ordinate offices to refix the GP of Rs.4600 for 1st ACP and for 2nd ACP in the next hierarchical pay of Rs.6600. As the applicant is covered by the same instructions, he submitted a representation dtd.26.12.2013(Annexure-A11) requesting for revision of GP as admissible under the rules. But the respondents have not replied so far. Consequent on the 7th CPC recommendations, the DOPT vide OM dtd.12.5.2017(Annexure-A12) directed the concerned authorities to revise the pension by notional fixation from 1.1.1986 to 1.1.2016. When the applicant submitted a grievance petition to the 2nd respondent, the same was rejected vide order dtd.26.10.2017(Annexure-A13). The applicant contended that the respondents have not implemented the revised pay fixation and hence aggrieved by the same he filed the present OA seeking the following relief:

- i. To quash Annexure-A8 dtd.29.12.2009(impugned orders) refixation statement of pay issued by 3rd respondent and Annexure-A13 dtd.26.10.2017 (impugned order) passed by the 2nd respondent which are illegal and contrary to the clarification of the DOPT at Annexure-A9 dtd.9.9.2010.*
- ii. Call for records from the respondents for not granting the Grade Pay of Rs.4800 w.e.f. 1.1.2006 for 2nd ACP.*
- iii. To direct the respondents to fix the Grade Pay of Rs.4800/- w.e.f. 1.1.2006 with all other consequential benefits of pay and allowances & arrears payments and retirement benefits and revision of pension admissible to the applicant.*

3. The respondents, on the other hand, have submitted in the reply statement that the applicant was appointed as LDC on 24.10.1966 and was promoted as Field Publicity Assistant w.e.f. 14.8.1974. As on 1.1.1996, he was in the pay scale of Rs.4500-7000. He was further promoted as Technical Assistant(Sound) on 29.5.1998 in the pay scale of Rs.5000-8000 as per the order dtd.18.7.2001(Annexure-R1). The applicant was given two ACP in the pay scale of

Rs.5500-9000 and Rs.6500-10500 w.e.f. 9.8.1999 vide order dtd.13.4.2006 (Annexure-R2). The applicant has completed 30 years of service on 24.10.1996 and within these 30 years he got two regular promotions and 1st and 2nd ACP also. As on 31.12.2005, he drew pay in the pay scale of Rs.6500-10500. He retired from service on 31.10.2006. The applicant was given GP Rs.4600 w.e.f. 1.1.2006 to 31.12.2006. The MACP scheme guidelines was introduced on 1.9.2008 onwards. The applicant was granted 2nd ACP on 9.8.1999. And considering GP of Rs.4800 as 2nd upgradation is not permissible and hence there is no question of refixation of 2nd MACP and GP w.e.f. 1.1.2006. As such the applicant is not entitled to any relief. And moreover, the OA is filed after 11 years from the date of his retirement and hence the OA is liable to be dismissed on the ground of delay and laches.

4. The applicant has filed rejoinder reiterating the submission already made in the OA and submits that as per DOPT clarification dtd.9.9.2010, it is clarified that 'since the pre-revised pay scales of Rs.5000-8000 & Rs.5500-9000 have been merged and placed in PB-2 with GP of Rs.4200, 1st Financial Upgradation would be allowed in the GP of Rs.4600 w.e.f. 1.1.2006. It is also clarified that 'since the pre-revised pay scales of Rs.6500-10500 & Rs.7450-11500 have been merged and placed in PB-2 with GP of Rs.4600, 2nd financial upgradation would be allowed in the GP of Rs.6600. The applicant having completed 30 years of service by 14.8.2004 but retired from service w.e.f. 31.10.2006 before the MACP scheme came into force, he is entitled for 1st ACP in GP Rs.4600 and 2nd ACP in GP Rs.4800 w.e.f.1.1.2006. The contention of the respondents that he is not entitled for the 2nd ACP in GP of Rs.4800 is untenable and is liable to be set aside.

5. We have heard the Learned Counsel for both the parties and perused the

materials and written arguments note filed by both the parties in detail. The case of the applicant is heavily dependent on Annexure-A9 which talks about the effect of the promotion granted in the pre-revised pay scales of Rs.5000-8000, Rs.5500-9000, Rs.6500-10500 & Rs.7450-11500 which have been merged into a single Grade Pay of Rs.4200 and Rs.4600 w.e.f. 01.01.2006. As rightly pointed out by the respondents, the applicant was promoted as Field Publicity Assistant on 14.8.1974 and as on 01.01.1996 he was in the pay scale of Rs.4500-7000. Annexure-A9 would clearly apply only in the case of persons recruited in the pre revised pay scale of Rs.5000-8000 and who had completed 12/24 years in the period between 01.01.2006 to 31.08.2008. The applicant is clearly not in this category. In fact, he was promoted on 29.05.1998 as Technical Assistant(Sound) in the pay scale of Rs.5000-8000. Therefore, he was not recruited in the scale of Rs.5000-8000 but was promoted into this scale and therefore his promotion cannot be ignored for the purpose of ACPs. Further he was given two ACPs to Rs.5500-9000 and further to Rs.6500-10500 w.e.f. 09.08.1999 vide order dtd.13.4.2006(Annexure-R2). As on 01.01.2006, the applicant was in the Pay Band-2 with Grade Pay of Rs.4600 and on 31.10.2006 he retired from service before introduction of MACP guidelines on 01.09.2008. And hence there is no question of granting 2nd ACP in the Grade Pay of Rs.4800 w.e.f. 1.1.2006. Therefore, it is clear that he is not entitled to any further upgradations. The applicant would also rely on Annexure-A16. But a clear interpretation of the order would show that it is meant for promotions given within the merged pay scales and not from a lower pre-revised pay scale to these pay scales which were merged. The applicant was in the pay scale of Rs.4500-7000 and therefore Annexure-A16 would also not be of any help to him. The OA is, therefore, dismissed. However, the respondents are directed to refix the pay,

pension etc., if not already done within a period of one(1) month from this order as per their orders already issued. No costs.

(C.V.SANKAR)
MEMBER (A)

(DR.K.B.SURESH)
MEMBER (J)

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Annexures referred to by the applicant in OA.No.170/00751/2017

Annexure-A1: DOPT OM dtd.9.8.1999
Annexure-A2: The 2nd respondent communication dtd.5.1.2000
Annexure-A3: 2nd respondent letter dtd.4.2.2000
Annexure-A4: 2nd respondent communication dtd.8.2.2006
Annexure-A5: 2nd respondent order dtd.31.10.2006
Annexure-A6: Min. Of Finance OM dtd.13.11.2009
Annexure-A7: 3rd respondent circular dtd.23.11.2009
Annexure-A8: Pay fixation statement dtd.29.12.2009
Annexure-A9: DOPT OM dtd.9.9.2010
Annexure-A10: The Director General, AIR, N.Delhi circular dtd.17.1.2013 & 4.9.2013
Annexure-A11: representation dtd.26.12.2013
Annexure-A12: DOPT OM dtd.12.5.2017
Annexure-A13: 2nd respondent communication dtd.26.10.2017
Annexure-A14: Standard pay scales of 4th CPC to 7th CPC

Annexures with reply statement:

Annexure-R1: Office order dtd.18.7.2001
Annexure-R2: Office order dtd.13.4.2006

Annexures with rejoinder:

Annexure-A16: DOPT clarification dtd.10.2.2000
Annexure-A8: DOPT clarification dt.9.9.2010

Annexures with written argument note filed by the applicant:

Annexure-A18: DOPT clarification point No.4,5 & 6
Annexure-A19: DOPT clarification point No.52

Annexures with written argument notes filed by the respondents:

-NIL-
