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**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, PRINCIPAL BENCH**

**Original Application No.3179/2003**

**New Delhi, this the 23rd day of November, 2004**

**Hon'ble Mr. Justice V.S. Aggarwal, Chairman  
Hon'ble Mr. S.K.Malhotra, Member (A)**

**Shri Narendra Singh & 41 Others ... Applicants**

**(By Advocate: Sh. S.K.Sinha)**

Versus

**The Lt. Governor of National Capital  
Territory of Delhi & Others. .. Respondents**

**(By Advocate: Shri Ram Naresh proxy of Sh. Rishi Prakash)**

Note: Details of the Memo. of parties are in the OA.

**O R D E R(Oral)**

**By Mr. Justice V.S.Aggarwal:**

Applicants (42 in number), by virtue of the present application, seek a direction to the respondents for removal of the anomaly in the pay scale and to consider merger of the Senior Village Level Workers and Village Level Workers for purposes of fixation of pay scales.

2. The applicants are working as Village Level Workers under the direct control and supervision of the Development Commissioner, Department of Development, Govt. of NCT of Delhi. The applicants contend that they have been placed at a lower scale than those incumbents whose duties and responsibilities are not same. Their claim is that they should be placed in the scale of Rs.5000-8000 and to that effect, there is anomaly in the pay scales which should be removed.

3. It is pleaded that the applicants were appointed as Village Level Workers in the scale of Rs.260-430. The said scale was



revised to Rs.975-1540/-. After the 5<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission, it is now Rs.3200-4900. They claim that their designation should be changed as Assistant Extension Officer (Agriculture) and represented for merging of the post of Village Level Worker with the Senior Village Level Worker besides removal of the anomalies.

4. The plea put forward is that educational qualifications for the post of Village Level Worker are (a) Matriculation (b) Successful completion of not less than 18 months training as Village Level Worker or two years Diploma in Agriculture from a recognized institute or B.Sc. (Agriculture).

5. The duties and functions attached to the post of **Village Level Worker** are that Village Level Worker is a basic level post and responsible to supply the latest technology of Agriculture high-tech and Horticulture to the farmers; to prepare the farm plan for Kharif and Rabi in consultation with the farmers; verification of the documents in respect of electric connection for tube well; to attend the training programmes; to conduct the survey for collecting various information; to lay out the demonstration plot of the latest variety/technology of various crops, fertilizers, pesticides etc.; and to improve and multiply the agricultural and Horticulture cultivated plants.

6. The duties of **Senior Village Level Worker** have also been enumerated, which are:

(a) Verification of the loan cases of the SC/ST Farmers under SCP Scheme.

(b) To organize the group-training programme for the group discussion of the latest technology and problems faced by the Farmers.

(c) To maintain the basic data of the Farmers VLW wise and compiled the complete information of the block.

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(d) To deal with the store items pertains to the T & V Scheme."

7. It is contended that work and functions of both Village Level Worker and Senior Village Level Worker are supervised and controlled by Extension Officer (Agri.). The post of Village Level Worker is a non-selection, non-Gazetted and non-Ministerial post.

8. It is asserted that a similar situation had come up in the State of Haryana. The Punjab and Haryana High Court had directed the Government to grant proper pay scales to the said persons. An appeal filed by the State was dismissed by the Supreme Court.

9. Applicants claim that keeping in view the anomalies that are existing, they should be awarded the higher pay scale and anomalies in this regard may be removed.

10. While the present Original Application was pending, an application had been filed for placing some additional facts and grounds on the record. It has been pleaded that in the year 1994-95, Forest Department was separated from the Development Department. Some of the Village Level Workers were diverted to the newly created department and were given the designation of Deputy Forest Ranger. They have been placed in the scale of Rs.5000-8000 after the 5<sup>th</sup> Central Pay Commission. They have also pleaded that the Office of Joint Director (Agriculture), Govt. of India had communicated to Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture, Govt. of India with respect to the pay scales of Village Level Workers and the said letter indicates that the applicants are entitled for a better pay.

11. The application is being contested.

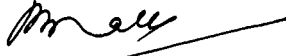
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12. Perusal of the facts clearly indicate that the matter in question is yet to be considered as to if there is any anomaly and whether the applicants are entitled to claim higher pay scale. A decision in this regard seemingly had not been taken.

13. Since it is a matter which falls firstly within the domain of the administrative authorities, this Tribunal would not like to interfere at this stage.

14. Resultantly, at this stage, we dispose of the present application directing Respondent No.3 to consider the claim of the applicants and also the additional facts that have been brought on record and thereafter to pass an appropriate speaking order within six months of the receipt of the certified copy of the order.

  
(S.K. Malhotra)  
Member (A)

  
(V.S. Aggarwal)  
Chairman

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