



OD-5

IN THE HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
CONSTITUTIONAL WRIT JURISDICTION
ORIGINAL SIDE

WPO/283/2025

PURNI DEBI
VS
M/S. EASTERN COAL FIELDS LIMITED AND ORS

BEFORE:
The Hon'ble JUSTICE ANIRUDDHA ROY
Date : 29th April, 2025.

APPEARANCE:

Mr. Partha Ghosh. Adv.
Mr. Amal Kumar Datta, Adv.
Ms. Simron Sureka, Adv.
Mr. Debashis Das, Adv.
Mr. Bratin Suin, Adv.
..for the petitioner.

Ms. Sanchit Barman Roy, Adv.
Mr. Abhishek Chakraborty, Adv.
For respondents.

The Court:- The petitioner being the widow of an employee of the coal company claims the unpaid gratuity and Life Covered Scheme (LCS) benefit on account of the employment benefit of her deceased husband.

Mr. Partha Ghosh, learned counsel appearing for the petitioner submits that since it is a statutory dues and is the property of the deceased employee, there is no reason to withhold it. He further submits that owing to such illegal withholding the employer shall have to pay interest to the petitioner also.



Ms. Sanchita Barman Roy, learned counsel appearing for the respondents submits that from time to time payments have already been made to the petitioner.

Mr. Ghosh denies and disputes the submissions made on behalf of the employer.

In view of the above, the respondent no.6 shall file a detailed report by way of an affidavit disclosing their stand in the light of the case made out in the writ petition with supporting documents and records in respect of their stand. Such report shall be filed on or before May 20, 2025. The petitioner shall be at liberty to file an exception in the form of affidavit thereto on or before June 17, 2025.

The writ petition shall appear under the heading **“Court Application”** on **June 19, 2025**.

Pendency of this writ petition shall not preclude the employer to release the actual amount payable to the petitioner, if any, in accordance with law upon due scrutiny of the records, in the meantime, without prejudice to the rights and contentions of the parties.

(ANIRUDDHA ROY, J.)

dg)