MAHARASHTRA ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL, NAGPUR BENCH, NAGPUR.

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 552/2010

Vijay Rajabhau Chincholkar Aged about 59 years R/o: 17, Vidya Vihar, Pratap Nagar, Nagpur.

Applicant

- Versus -

- (1) The State of Maharashtra
 Through its Secretary,
 Water Resources Department,
 Mantralaya, Mumbai 32.
- (2) Chief Engineer,
 Water Resources Department,
 Sinchan Seva Bhavan,
 Camp Amravati.
- (3) Accountant General (A&E)-II Maharashtra, Civil Lines, Nagpur.

Respondents

Shri Bharat Kulkarni, Advocate for the applicant

Shri S. C. Deshmukh, P. O. for the respondents

Coram: - The Hon'ble Shri B. Majumdar, Member(A)

Dated: 4.1.2013

ORDER

The applicant, a retired Executive Engineer of the Water Resources Department, is aggrieved with the quantum of commutation part of his pension and hence has filed the present O.A.

2. The applicant's date of birth is 25-8-1950. A chargesheet was served on him and Departmental Enquiry (D.E.) was initiated on 28-2-2005. He was compulsorily retired on 28-4-2005 when he was 54 years of age. The order exonerating him from the charges in the D.E. came to be issued on 8-1-2010. Thereafter on 17-2-2010, he submitted the prescribed Form-A for commutation of pension. On 25-6-2010, the Accountant General (R-3) issued the order sanctioning commutation of pension amounting to Rs. 4,17,438/-. According to the applicant, the said amount is not properly calculated and hence has challenged the order by filing the present O.A. According the applicant, he had submitted the application for commutation of pension within one year of completion of the D.E. He was granted gratuity on compulsory retirement when his age was 54 years. Hence this age calculated for gratuity, should also be used for calculating the value of commuted part of the pension. It is also the submission of the applicant that as per Rule 13 sub-rule (1) and sub-rule (2), if an employee applies

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for commutation of pension within one year of retirement but his application in Form-A is received after one year of the date of retirement, he cannot get his pension commuted without medical examination. In his case, since no medical examination was required to be done, in terms of the provisions of the above Rule, his date of applying for commutation should be considered as within one year of his compulsory retirement.

- 3. The respondents in their reply submit that under Rule 6 of the Commutation of Pension Rules, the date for calculation of commutation became absolute on the day he submitted his Form-A, that is, 10-3-2010. Under Rule 4, the applicant could not have applied for commutation as long as the D.E. was pending against him. When the D.E. was finally concluded and he became eligible for commutation, he was 59 years of age and the quantum of commutation was calculated based on his age at his next birthday, that is, 60 years. Thus, the calculation of commutation of applicant's pension, according to the respondents, was as per provisions of the Commutation of Pension Rules.
- 4. Shri. Bharat Kulkarni, learned counsel for the applicant reiterated the grounds raised by the applicant in the O.A. in support of the applicant's claim that respondents should have calculated the value of his commutation based on

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the date on which he was compulsorily retired and not from the date on which he submitted his Form-A.

- 5. Shri. S. C. Deshmukh, learned P.O. reiterated the provisions of the Commutation of Pension Rules which have been relied on by the respondents in their reply. He submitted that the calculation of the applicant's commuted value of pension is properly done in terms of the provisions of the Rules.
- 6. I have carefully considered the submissions made by the counsels of the respective parties. I have also gone through the records placed before me as also the relevant provisions of the Maharashtra Civil Services (Commutation of Pension) Rules, 1984. The applicant was granted commutation of pension vide the impugned order dated 25-6-2010 based on submission of Form-A on 17-2-2010. The applicant was compulsory retired on 28-4-2005 when he was aged 54 years but he could not apply for commutation, at that time as a D.E. was pending against him. He was exonerated in the D.E. on 8-1-2010. He thus applied before the lapse of one year from the finalization of the D.E. The relevant provisions governing the applicant's case are covered under Rules 4, 6(1)(i), 8(1), 12(v) and 13(1)(ii). The provisions of these Rules are reproduced as follows.

4. Rest	triction	on com	mutation	of pe	nsion.	- No
Governme	nt serva	nt, against	whom d	lepartmer	tal or	judicial
proceeding	s have	been inst	tituted be	efore the	date	of his
retirement,	or the p	ension aga	ainst who	m such p	roceed	ings are
instituted a	after the	date of hi	s retirem	ent, shall	be eli	gible to
commute a	fraction	of his pro	visional p	ension au	thorize	d or the
pension, a	s the ca	se may be	e, during	the pen	dency	of such
proceeding	gs.			•		
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6.	Commi	itation of	pensi	on to be	come a	absolu	te. – (1) T	he
comm	utation (of pension	shall	become	absolu	te in tl	ne case	e of	an
applica	ant refer	red to –							

(i)	In sub-rule (1) of Rule 13, on the date on which the application in Form A is received by the Head of					
	Office.					
(ii)						
(iii)						

8. Calculation of commuted value of pension and its non-restoration. - (1) The lump sum payable to an applicant shall be calculated in accordance with the Table of the values prescribed from time to time and applicable to the applicant on the date on which the commutation becomes absolute.

(2) 12. Eligibility. – An applicant who is authorize	
12. Eligibility. – An applicant who is authoric	
angionity in apprount who is duffering	zed –
(i)	
(ii)	
(iii)	
(iv)	

(v) a pension in whole in part on the finalization of the departmental or judicial proceedings and issue of final orders thereon shall, subject to the limit in Rule 5, be

eligible to commute a fraction of his pension without examination:

Provided that he applies for commutation of pension in Form A or Form B in accordance with the provisions of Rule 13.

13. Application for commutation of pension. -(1) An applicant, who is in receipt of any pension referred to in Rule 12 and desires to commute a fraction of that pension any time after the date following the date of his retirement from service but before the *expiry of one year* of the date of retirement:

Provided that in the case of an applicant –

- (i) referred to in Clause (iii) of Rule 12, where order retiring him from Government service had been issued from a retrospective date, the period of *one* year referred to in this sub-rule shall reckon from the date of issue of the retirement orders.
- (ii) referred to in Clause (v) of Rule 12, the period of one year referred to in this sub-rule shall reckon from the date of issue of the orders consequent on the finalization of the departmental or judicial proceedings.
- (2)
- (3)

Thus, in terms of these Rules, the applicant was eligible for applying for commutation of pension by submitting Form-A only after final outcome of the D.E. conducted against him. The date of submission of the form became absolute for calculation of the value of commutation as per table under Rule 8(1) by

taking into consideration his age at the next birthday, that is, 60 years. He was past 59 years of age on 17-2-2010 when he submitted Form A, his date of birth being 25-8-1950. There is, thus no merit in the present O.A. and the same stands rejected with no orders as to cost.

sd/-

(B. Majumdar) Member(A)

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