

ITEM NO.45

COURT NO.1

SECTION X

S U P R E M E C O U R T O F I N D I A
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Writ Petition (Civil) No.464/2023

RE PENSION BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES RETD. FROM
HIGH COURT OF BOMBAY AT GOA

Petitioner(s)

VERSUS

STATE OF GOA & ORS.

Respondent(s)

Date : 17-04-2023 This petition was called on for hearing today.

CORAM :

HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE PAMIDIGHANTAM SRI NARASIMHA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE J.B. PARDIWALA

For Petitioner(s)

By Courts Motion

For Respondent(s)

UPON hearing the counsel the Court made the following
O R D E R

- 1 Some of the former employees of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay at its seat at Goa have addressed a communication dated 15 March 2023, on the basis of which this Court has taken cognizance of the letter dated 15 March 2023 by registering the proceedings as a *Suo Moto Writ Petition* under Article 32 of the Constitution.
- 2 The grievance of the former employees of the High Court at Goa is that they are only in receipt of provisional pension and, despite the lapse of between

three and seven years pursuant to their retirement, they have not received commutation of pension or other benefits till date.

- 3 Earlier, it appears that a communication dated 9 February 2021 was addressed to the Chief Justice of India in which a report was called from the High Court. The employees have highlighted that a former employee was constrained to commit suicide as a result of the mental stress occasioned by non payment of pensionary and retiral benefits.
- 4 In view of what has been stated before the Court, we are of the considered view that urgent action is required to be taken by the States of Maharashtra and Goa in conjunction with the Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay for rectifying the grievance at the earliest.
- 5 Notice shall issue to the Registrar General of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, returnable in two weeks.
- 6 The Registry shall also cause a copy of the present order together with the communication of the employees to be served on the Standing Counsel for the States of Maharashtra and Goa. A copy of the order shall also be emailed to the Registrar General of the Bombay High Court.
- 7 Mr Mahfooz Nazki, counsel is requested to appear as *Amicus Curiae* through the Supreme Court Legal Services Committee.
- 8 The Registry shall supply a copy of the petition to the *Amicus Curiae* whose name shall be reflected in the Cause List on the next date of hearing.
- 9 List the Petition on 1 May 2023.

(CHETAN KUMAR)
A.R. -cum-P.S.

(SAROJ KUMARI GAUR)
Assistant Registrar