

COURT NO. 1
ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH, NEW DELHI

97.

OA 3280/2023 WITH MA 3886/2024

HFL Ram Kumar (Retd) Applicant
Versus
Union of India & Ors. Respondents

For Applicant : Mr. Nawneet Krishna Mishra, Advocate
For Respondents : Mr. Arvind Kumar, Advocate

CORAM

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON, CHAIRPERSON
HON'BLE LT GEN C.P. MOHANTY, MEMBER (A)

O R D E R
24.09.2024

MA 3886/2024

Counter affidavit has been filed. There being some delay in filing the counter affidavit, this application has been filed seeking condonation of delay. Delay condoned. Counter affidavit is taken on record.

2. MA stands disposed of.

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3. Invoking the jurisdiction of this Tribunal under Section 14 of the Armed Forces Tribunal Act 2007, the applicant has filed this application and the reliefs claimed in Para 8 read as under:

(a) To quash and set aside the RMB proceedings and impugned order to the extent they deny the grant of disability element of pension to the applicant.

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(b) To direct the respondents to grant the disability element of pension @40.5% broad-banded to 50% with interest @12% p.a w.e.f date of discharge, by treating the disabilities as attributable to and/ or aggravated by military service.

4. The applicant was enrolled in the **Indian Air Force** on **04.04.1984** and discharged from Service on **31.03.2023**. During the course of hearing, learned counsel for the applicant made a fair statement that in this application, the applicant would only be praying for disability pension pertaining to one ailment, i.e. Primary Hypertension and he gives up his claim for all other ailments. The applicant submits that for the purpose of Primary Hypertension, the disability has been assessed @30% as is evident from the medical records.

5. Keeping in view the consistent stand taken by this Tribunal based on the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Dharamvir Singh* Vs. *Union of India and others* (2013) 7 SCC 316 that Primary Hypertension may arise even in a peace area due to stress and strain of service, we see no reason not to allow the prayer of the applicant with regard to the disability Primary Hypertension, which has been assessed by the Release Medical Board @30%.

6. Accordingly, we allow this application and direct the respondents to grant disability element of pension to the

applicant for Primary Hypertension @30% for life which be rounded off to @50% for life from the date of retirement, i.e., **31.03.2023** in terms of the judicial pronouncement of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of *Union of India* Vs. *Ram Avtar* (Civil Appeal No. 418/2012) decided on 10.12.2014.

7. Accordingly, the respondents are directed to calculate, sanction and issue necessary PPO to the applicant within four months from the date of receipt of copy of this order, failing which, the applicant shall be entitled to interest @ 6% per annum till the date of payment.

8. No order as to costs.

[JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON]
CHAIRPERSON

[LT GEN C.P. MOHANTY]
MEMBER (A)

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