

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

66.

OA 1278/2023 with MA 1260/2024

Sgt Adarsh Kumar (Retd)	.....	Applicant
Versus		
Union of India & Ors.	.....	Respondents

For Applicant	:	Mr. Tatsat Shukla and Mr. Dhiraj Kumar, Advocates
For Respondents	:	Mr. R S Chhillar, Advocate

CORAM

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

ORDER  
24.04.2024

MA 1260/2024

For the averments made in the application, delay in filing the counter affidavit is condoned. Counter affidavit is taken on record. MA stands disposed of.

OA 1278/2023

2. 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 Applicant’s RMB proceedings to the extent the order denies grant of Disability element of Pension to the applicant.

(b) To set aside the impugned order and direct the respondents to grant the disability element of pension @

30%, broad-banded to 50%, along with all consequential benefits, with arrears and interest @ 12% p.a. w.e.f. date of discharge, by treating disease as attributable to and aggravated by military service, in view of the Hon'ble Apex Court judgment in Rajbir Singh (Supra) & Dharamvir Singh (Supra), or.

(c) To pass such orders, direction/directions as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in accordance with law."

3. In this case, the applicant was enrolled in Indian Air Force on 17<sup>th</sup> June, 2002 and on completion of service was discharged on 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2022. The Release Medical Board dated 03<sup>rd</sup> October, 2021 found him fit to be released from service in LMC A4G2 (Permanent) for Primary Hypertension.

4. The applicant submits that for the purpose of Primary Hypertension, the disability has been assessed @ 30% for life 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 v. 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 competent Medical Board @ 30% for life.

6. Accordingly, we allow this application holding that the applicant is entitled to disability element of pension @ 30% rounded off to 50% for life with effect from the date of his discharge. All other claims stand rejected.

7. The respondents are directed to grant disability element of pension to the applicant @ 30% for life which be rounded off to 50% for life from the date of retirement 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.

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

9. No order as to costs.

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[JUSTICE RAJENDRA MENON]  
CHAIRPERSON

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

Priya