GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract


GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (SPECIAL A) DEPARTMENT


3. G.O(Rt) No.7027/2014/GAD dated 03.09.2014.
4. Letter No.104/92/2013-AVD.1 dated 01.01.2015 from Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India.
7. Preliminary Inquiry Report dated 23.02.17 furnished by Dr. K M Abraham IAS.
9. Letter dated 05.07.2017 from Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS.

ORDER

A complaint against Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh was received from Shri. Babu Joseph Puthenangadi as per 1st paper read above, alleging that, during the year 2011, Smt. Ragini Singh, W/o Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS, the then Managing Director, Kerala Water Authority, obtained admission for B.Ed Course at St. Thomas Training College, Mukkolackal, Thiruvananthapuram under the University of Kerala by producing xerox copies of fake/tampered/fraudulent mark sheet and certificate attested by her husband. Smt. Ragini Singh had not produced original certificate at the time of securing admission as required as per rules. Later Smt. Ragini Singh had withdrawn her candidature for B.Ed course.

2. The Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India vide letter read as 2nd paper above, had requested to clarify whether the acts of the officer amount to a case of moral turpitude or not. Accordingly Dr. K M Abraham IAS, the then Additional Chief Secretary(Finance) was appointed as the Inquiry Officer for conducting a preliminary inquiry on the allegation as per Government Order read as 3rd paper above.

3. Later as per letter read as 4th paper above, DoPT has informed that that department has closed the complaint from Shri. Babu Joseph Puthenangadi on the basis of comments obtained from Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS. In the light of the aforesaid decision taken by Government of India, DoPT was requested to clarify whether State Government should proceed further in the matter against the officer. DoPT had clarified
that State Government may examine the matter on the merits of the case as the alleged misconduct pertains to the period the officer was on the strength of the State cadre and the State Government is competent to take a final view in the matter. Accordingly State Government have decided to continue with the inquiry.

4. The Inquiry Officer had furnished a detailed report after conducting preliminary inquiry as per the 7th paper read above. Government after examining the inquiry report, decided to initiate disciplinary proceedings against the officer and Articles of Charges and Statement of imputations were served on the officer with the following charges:

- That the officer during the year 2011 while holding the post of Managing Director, Kerala Water Authority colluded with his wife Smt. Ragini Singh in securing admission for B. Ed course for her at St. Thomas Training College, Mukkolackal, Thiruvananthapuram under University of Kerala by producing xerox copies of fake/tampered/fraudulent mark sheet and certificate attested by him.

- That the officer has attested the Degree mark lists of Smt. Ragini Singh, who had undergone BA course from Patna University, which shows variation to the actual mark list issued by the University, without verifying its originals and ascertaining its authenticity.

5. Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS has furnished a detailed written Statement of Defence in the matter. The officer has denied all the charges levelled against him. He has informed that there is no material, legal and reliable evidence either oral or documentary against him. It is also informed that he vaguely remember that to get the equivalence of BA course of Patna University a set of documents were attested by him, but the document attestation has no bearing on admission and was only to prove bonafide of applicant for studying courses under Kerala University. The officer has also informed that Smt. Ragini Singh has subsequently submitted the available testimonials in original to Kerala University.

6. Government have examined the matter in detail with respect to the relevant records, contentions raised by the accused Officer along with the Preliminary Enquiry Report, it is found that there was no ill motive to the officer in attesting the mark list in order to secure admission to his wife for the BEd course as it was not a requirement that
the candidate should have passed Degree in first class. Smt. Ragini Singh, W/o the accused officer was in possession of BA Degree with 2nd class which was more than enough to get admission under the management quota in the college. The accused Officer failed to be sufficiently prudent in attesting a document in favour of his wife and thereby landed him in a controversy. However, taking a lenient view, giving a weightage to the fact that there was no malafides and his wife had withdrawn her candidature to the B.Ed Course, Government have decided to drop further action in the matter and to finalise the disciplinary proceedings initiated against Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS by issuing a warning to the Officer to be circumspect in such matters in future.

(By Order of the Governor)
Dr. K M Abraham,
Chief Secretary to Government.

To
Shri. Ashok Kumar Singh IAS, Director, Department of Financial Services,
Ministry of Finance, 3rd Floor, Jeevandeep Building, Sansad Marg,
New Delhi 110001.
The Secretary to Government of India, Department of Personnel & Training,
The General Administration (SC) Department.
The Web and New Media, I&PRD
Copy to: The Secretary to the Chief Minister.
The Private Secretary to Chief Minister.
The Additional Secretary to Chief Secretary.
PA to the Additional Secretary, General Administration (Special A&C) Depts.
Stock File/Office Copy.

Forwarded/By order,

Section Officer.