

Government of Jammu & Kashmir
School Education Department,
Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu.

Subject:- Reinstatement of Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, ZEO Trehgam, Kupwara.

Government order No. 280-JK(EDU) of 2024

Dated: 26-07-2024

WHEREAS, a complaint was received in the Department from one Sh. Javid War, purportedly claiming himself to be the Chairman, Block Development Council, Qadirabad, Kupwara against Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, the then Zonal Educational Officer, Trehgam, Kupwara. In the complaint it was alleged that Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat is indulging in corrupt practices during his official functioning, demanding bribe for various approvals, including maternity and other leaves;

WHEREAS, vide Government Order No. 176-JK(Edu) of 2023 dated 19.06.23, pending Inquiry into his conduct, Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat was suspended and attached with the Directorate of School Education, Kashmir. Mr. Mohammad Rouf Rehman, the then Joint Director (Central) Education, Kashmir was appointed as the Inquiry Officer in the matter;

WHEREAS, vide communication No. DSEK/ JD/C&N/482-83 dated 02.08.2023, the Inquiry Officer submitted his inquiry report, along with recommendations. The relevant portion of the report is reproduced hereunder:-

“...The complaint filed by the PRI/ BDC Chairman against Zonal Education Officer, Trehgam, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, at the behest of a suspended teacher Manzoor Ahmad Khan is purely a personal vendetta and is aimed to victimise the Zonal Education Officer concerned. There is no solid, concrete or tangible proof of corruption or bribery against the suspended Incharge Zonal Education Officer, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat at all but just only a complaint with no corroboration from any authentic source.

All this has proved, that the allegations against Zonal Education Officer, Trehgam, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, are malicious, fictitious and aimed at tarnishing his image, while as a matter of fact, the complaints if believed to be true or authentic would have been brought into the notice of his immediate Education Officers like, Chief Education Officer, Joint Director or Director School Education, Kashmir but suspended teacher approached PRI/ BDC Members to hide his own faults and to play a

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sympathy card by exploiting his disabled daughter's (certificate and medical condition), his unauthorised absence and subsequent suspension to get the Incharge Zonal Education Officer, Trehgam punished for his no fault at all. 89/90

The Chief Education Officer, Kupwara, Deputy. Chief Education Officer, Kupwara, District Education and Planning officer, Kupwara, have absolutely no crisis, grievances or complaint for zone Trehgam or against I/c zonal Education officer, Trehgam, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, who is a very capable, hardworking officer with high potential to bring a revolution in Education Department and has an impressive service career of 25 years at his back having rendered meritorious service which needs to be acknowledged and appreciated by reinstating him with honour, dignity and reward.

The Incharge Zonal Education officer, Trehgam, Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, (under suspension) has been victimized on a fake, false and baseless complaint which is devoid of any merit and deserves dismissal on the strength of his defence and material on record”.

WHEREAS, during the course of inquiry it has also surfaced that the complaint against Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, the then Zonal Educational Officer, Trehgam, Kupwara was made at behest of a teacher namely Manzoor Ahmad Khan to score the personal vengeance against the officer and has misused the office of public functionaries which warrants initiation of disciplinary action against Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Teacher for his conduct which is unbecoming of a Government employee. The allegations leveled against the suspended ZEO have been found baseless and unfounded.;

WHEREAS, Director School Education Kashmir, vide this Departments letter dated 20.10.2023, was requested to furnish his comments upon the findings of the Inquiry Officer. In response, the Director, School Education, Kashmir furnished his comments vide his letter No. DSEK/Estt/Gaz/E-7333801/961 dated 15.12-2023 and recommended that the officer be reinstated, on the merits of the case;

WHEREAS, the suspension case of Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, I/c ZEO, Trehgam was reviewed in the meeting of Departmental Suspension Review Committee on 31.05.2024 and the said committee made the following recommendations:-

1. Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, I/c ZEO, Trehgam be reinstated with immediate effect with a strong warning to be vigilant in future. The period of suspension of the officer shall be treated as on duty, subject to the verification/ production of attendance certificate.

2. Director School Education, Kashmir vide his letter No. DSEK/Estt/Gaz/7333801/424 dated 02.07.2024 submitted the attendance certificate of the suspended officer; **Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Teacher (Complainant) and transfer him to any Hard Zone for his unbecoming act and misuse of Government machinery.**

WHEREAS, Director School Education, Kashmir vide his letter No. DSEK/Estt/Gaz/7333801/424 dated 02.07.2024 submitted the attendance certificate of the suspended officer;

NOW THEREFORE, in view of the above stated facts and on the recommendations of the Suspension Review Committee, Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Bhat, the then I/c ZEO, Trehgam Kupwara who was placed under suspension vide Government Order No. 176-JK(Edu) of 2023 dated 19.06.23 is hereby reinstated with immediate effect. His period of suspension shall be treated as on duty.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

(Alok Kumar), IRS
Principal Secretary to the Government,
School Education Department.

Dated: 26 .07.2024

No: Edu-HRM/70/2023(7195290)

Copy to the:-

1. Director, School Education Kashmir with the request to initiate inquiry against Mr. Manzoor Ahmad Khan, Teacher (Complainant) and shift him to a hard zone.
2. OSD to Hon'ble Advisor (B).
3. Chief Education Officer, concerned.
4. Pvt. Secretary to Principal Secretary to the Government, School Education Department.
5. I/C Website, School Education Department.
6. Government Order file/Monday Return.

(Masood Ahmad Wani)
Deputy Secretary to the Government