

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

Subject:- Regular Departmental Action against Mr. Abdul Gaffar Ahanger, the then Zonal Education Officer, Chamkote Karnah, Kupwara.

Reference:- OM No. GAD (Vig)55-RDA/2017 dated 06.07.2017, received from the General Administration Department.

Government order No.285-JK(EDU) of 2024

Dated:-29-07-2024

WHEREAS, the General Administration Department, vide letter dated 06.07.2017, forwarded the communication No. VO-BK-JSC-08/2014-8246-47 dated 11.05.2017, along with connected documents as received from the Vigilance Organization, J&K (now ACB), for initiating Regular Departmental Action, against Mr. Abdul Gaffar Ahanger, the then Zonal Education Officer, Chamkote Karnah, in accordance with the J&K Civil Service (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956;

AND WHEREAS, it was alleged that the officer had purchased fire extinguishers for Zone Chamkote at exorbitant rates after receiving commissions in the process;

AND WHEREAS, vide this department's letter dated 11.10.2017, the Director School Education, Kashmir, was requested to serve a charge sheet containing articles of charge, statement of imputation and gist of evidence to the delinquent officer;

AND WHEREAS, vide letter dated 09.04.18 Director School Education, Kashmir furnished the reply of the officer to the charges leveled against him along with the report of the CEO Kupwara;

AND WHEREAS, the accused officer has stated in his reply that the purchase of fire extinguishers was made pursuant to the directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, which were communicated by the Chief Education Officer, Kupwara to all ZEOs, who in turn communicated the same to the Heads of Institutions down below. He further states that he had no role in purchase of the fire extinguishers, as the funds were directly transferred to the school accounts which were operated by the Heads of the schools and the Village Education Committee members;

AND WHEREAS, vide this department's dated 09.08.23, Director School Education, Kashmir was requested to examine the report submitted by the Chief Education Officer, Kupwara. Director School Education, Kashmir in his reply vide his letter dated 18.03.24 stated that the matter was again taken up with the Chief Education Officer, Kupwara who got the matter inquired through a committee comprising ZEO Chamkote and Deputy CEO Kupwara (ADVO).

AND WHEREAS the enquiry report reveals that the accused officer has not made any purchases from his office, instead the fire extinguishers were purchased by the school heads. The committee has recommended that a lenient view may be taken and the said ZEO may be censured;

AND WHEREAS, Director School Education, Kashmir while endorsing the findings of the Inquiry committee has recommended to take a lenient view in the matter and the officer in question may be exonerated of all the charges on merits of the case and a fine of 10 days pay may be imposed upon the delinquent officer Mr. Abdul Gaffar Ahanger, the then ZEO Chamkote, Karnah Kupwara, retired on superannuation on 31.10.2023.

AND WHEREAS, the case was further examined in the department and it can be concluded that although the charges leveled against the officer have not been established, the delinquent officer has failed to perform his duties as a Zonal Head, which warrant imposition of a minor penalty as provided under Rule 30 of the J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956;

NOW THEREFORE in view of the above facts, Sanction is hereby accorded to imposition of a fine of one month's salary upon the charged officer, Mr. Abdul Gaffar Ahanger, the then ZEO Chamkote, Kupwara, in terms of Rule 30(ii) of J&K Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal), Rules 1956. The charges against him are dropped and the case is closed at the departmental level.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/-

(Alok Kumar)IRS

Principal Secretary to the Government,
School Education Department.

No: Edu-HRM/91/2023-01(7211652)

Dated: 29.07.2024

Copy to the :-

1. Joint Secretary (J&K and Ladakh), Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
2. Commissioner Secretary to the Government, General Administration Department with the request to confirm the departmental action.
3. Director, School Education Kashmir.
4. Chief Education Officer, Kupwara.
5. OSD to the Hon'ble Advisor (B).
6. Pvt. Secretary to Principal Secretary to the Government, School Education Department.
7. I/C Website, School Education Department.
8. Government Order file/Monday Return.

(Peer Zahid Ahmad)JKAS

Deputy Secretary to the Government