

KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA

NO: COMPT/UPLOK/BGM/3504/2019/DRE4

MS Building,
Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bengaluru, Date:10/07/2020

REPORT UNDER SECTION 12(3) OF
KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA ACT, 1984

Sub: Proceedings against
1)Smt.Akkamahadevi.K.H.- District
Programme Officer & In-charge Deputy
Director of Women & Child Development
dept., 2) Sri.Dinesh.R.M - Child
Development Project Officer,
3)Smt.Shaheeda Begum Hattivale -
Anganwadi Supervisor, Gadag-1 Circle and
4)Smt.Sadiqa Begum Shirahatti,
Anganawadi worker, Anganawadi Center
Code No.258, Dyamavva Durgavva temple,
Killa Oni, Gadag district, about their
misconduct as Govt. servants - reg.

A *suo-moto* investigation was taken up by invoking Sec.7(2) of Karnataka Lokayukta Act against 1) Smt.Akkamahadevi.K.H- District Programme Officer & Incharge Deputy Director of Women & Child Development dept., 2)Sri.Dinesh.R.M.- Child Development Project Officer, 3) Smt.Shaheeda Begum Hattivale - Anganwadi Supervisor, Gadag-1 Circle and 4) Smt.Sadiqa Begum Shirahatti, Anganawadi worker, Anganawadi Center Code No.258, Dyamavva

Durgavva temple, Killa Oni, Gadag district (hereinafter referred to as 'respondents No.1 to 4, respectively - for short').

2. Brief facts of the case are:-

On the source information regarding mismanagement and misappropriation of funds \ stock, on 18/12/2019 undersigned conducted inspection at Anganwadi Center, Code No.258, Dyamavva Durgavva temple, Killa Oni, Gadag district and noticed following deficiencies \mismanagement -

- 1) The Anganwadi Center was running in a small room of 8'x10' wherein 22 children were housed;
- 2) There was no separate kitchen and on one side of the room, the foods were being cooked, which is dangerous to the life of the children;
- 3) It was stated that an amount of ₹8/- per child is allotted for maintenance of each child. If the total maintenance cost is calculated, it comes only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total maintenance expenditure of the Anganwadi Center;
- 4) The stock of food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center was not available in the Anganwadi Center. 4th respondent said that she had kept the stock of food articles in her house, which is situated about 2 kms., from the Anganwadi Center i.e., at HUDCO Colony, Gadag. On inspection in the house of 4th respondent, food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center were found at her residence;
- 5) Rice flour and Ragi Malt totally weighing 58 kgs. was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. As per the say of 4th respondent all the 58 kgs. were spent out within 11 days and as on 18/12/19 there was no stock of Rice Rava and Ragi malt;

- 6) On 07/12/19 five litres of oil was supplied to Anganwadi Center out of which, three litres were spent and stock of two litres of oil was available in the house of 4th respondent;
- 7) 25 kgs. of Sugar was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Entire 25 kgs. of Sugar was not utilized and the said stock was available in the house of 4th respondent;
- 8) 86 kgs. of Jaggery was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Out of which, 10 kgs. of Jaggery was spent and the remaining 76 kgs. was available in the house of 4th respondent;
- 9) 25 kgs. of Wheat Rava was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19 and the entire stock of Wheat Rava was available in the house of 4th respondent;
- 10) 10 kgs. of Groundnut seeds were supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Out of which, 07 kgs. of Groundnut seed was found in the house of 4th respondent;
- 11) Entire stock of 50 kgs of Milk Powder supplied on 07/12/19 was found in the house of 4th respondent;
- 12) Out of 25 kgs. of Toor dal supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19, 20 kgs. was found in the house of 4th respondent;
- 13) Two kgs. of Tamarind was found in the house of 4th respondent;
- 14) On 07/12/19, 01 quintal rice was supplied to the Anganwadi Center, while the old balance available was 161 kgs. Out of which, 140 kgs. rice was available in the house of 4th respondent.

3. Observation notes were sent to the respondents for their comments.

4. Respondent No.1 submitted comments stating that -

The Anganwadi Center is running in a rented building, as suitable building was not available in the locality. Now, it is learnt that Anganwadi Center has been shifted to one of the rooms in School No.1. On 13/03/19, a meeting was called and instructed the Anganwadi Supervisor and CDPO to store the food articles supplied to the Anganwadi, in the Anganwadi Center itself. 1st respondent has stated that it is the duty of Anganwadi Supervisor visit every Anganwadi Center and to verify the food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center with reference to its quality and quantity. On 05/03/19 she along with Anganwadi Supervisor visited the Anganwadi Center and noticed that the Anganwadi was running in a house having 03 rooms, situated in Killa Oni. 1st respondent has contended that she has not shown dereliction in her duties.

5. Respondent No.2 submitted comments stating that -

Since there was no own building, Anganwadi Center Code No.258 running in rented building and rent is @ ₹990/- per month. Since there was no availability of suitable building, the Anganwadi Center was running in a small room. On 16/12/19 meeting was held in Taluk Panchayath and the President, Taluk Panchayath was requested to provide room in Government School situated in the locality. On the instructions given by the President, Taluk Panchayath to BEO, one suitable room in Girls Kannada School [School No.1] has been provided. On 01/01/2020 Anganwadi Center Code No.258 has been shifted to the said building. 2nd respondent has further contended that, in spite of instructions given to the Anganwadi worker she has kept the stock of food articles in her house. In this regard, on the evening of 18/12/19 necessary instructions were given to her to shift

the stock to the Anganwadi Center. Accordingly, on 19/12/19 the stock of food articles shifted to Anganwadi Center. Show-cause notices were issued to Anganwadi worker and the Supervisor for not keeping the stock of food articles in the Anganwadi. While enclosing the copies of stock and issue register, 2nd respondent has contended that necessary instructions are given to the Anganwadi Supervisor and Anganwadi Worker to verify the stock with reference to its quality and quantity from time to time. 2nd respondent has stated that he has not shown dereliction in his duties.

6. Respondent No.3 submitted comments stating that -

In spite of giving instructions and issuing notices, the Anganwadi worker has not taken steps to shift the stock of food articles to the Anganwadi Center. In this regard, another show-cause notice dated:19/12/19 issued to her and the stock has been shifted to the Anganwadi Center. On 01/01/2020, Anganwadi Center has been shifted to School No.1 situated in the same locality. 3rd respondent has stated that henceforth, there will not be any lapses and requested to drop the proceedings.

7. Respondent No.4 submitted comments stating that -

She had kept the stock of food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center in her residence since there was no suitable building to store the stock. Now, the Anganwadi center has been shifted to School No.1 situated in the same locality and requested to drop the proceedings.

8. The material on record discloses that -

- 1) During the inspection\ preliminary enquiry on 18/12/19 in Anganwadi Center, Code No.258, Dyamavva Durgavva Temple, Killa Oni, Gadag, undersign noticed following deficiencies\ mismanagement -
- a) The Anganwadi Center was running in a small room of 8'x10' wherein 22 children were housed;
 - b) There was no separate kitchen and on one side of the room, the foods were being cooked, which is dangerous to the life of the children;
 - c) It was stated that an amount of ₹8/- per child is allotted for maintenance of each child. If the total maintenance cost is calculated, it comes only $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total maintenance expenditure of the Anganwadi Center;
 - d) The stock of food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center was not available in the Anganwadi Center. 4th respondent said that she had kept the stock of food articles in her house, which is situated about 2 kms., from the Anganwadi Center i.e., at HUDCO Colony, Gadag. On inspection in the house of 4th respondent, food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center were found at her residence;
 - e) Rice flour and Ragi Malt totally weighing 58 kgs. was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. As per the say of 4th respondent all the 58 kgs. were spent out within 11 days and as on 18/12/19 there was no stock of Rice Rava and Ragi malt;
 - f) On 07/12/19 five litres of oil was supplied to Anganwadi Center out of which, three litres were spent and stock of two litres of oil was available in the house of 4th respondent;
 - g) 25 kgs. of Sugar was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Entire 25 kgs. of Sugar was not utilized and the said stock was available in the house of 4th respondent;
 - h) 86 kgs. of Jaggery was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Out of which, 10 kgs. of Jaggery was spent and the remaining 76 kgs. was available in the house of 4th respondent;

- i) 25 kgs. of Wheat Rava was supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19 and the entire stock of Wheat Rava was available in the house of 4th respondent;
 - j) 10 kgs. of Groundnut seeds were supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19. Out of which, 07 kgs. of Groundnut seed was found in the house of 4th respondent;
 - k) Entire stock of 50 kgs of Milk Powder supplied on 07/12/19 was found in the house of 4th respondent;
 - l) Out of 25 kgs. of Toor dal supplied to Anganwadi Center on 07/12/19, 20 kgs. was found in the house of 4th respondent;
 - m) Two kgs. of Tamarind was found in the house of 4th respondent;
 - n) On 07/12/19, 01 quintal rice was supplied to the Anganwadi Center, while the old balance available was 161 kgs. Out of which, 140 kgs. rice was available in the house of 4th respondent.
- 2) Respondents have conceded in their comments that the food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center was not stored in the Anganwadi Center itself. On the contrary, entire stock of food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center stored in the residence of Anganwadi worker i.e., respondent No.4;
 - 3) 4th respondent ought not have stored the food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center at her residence, situated at HUDCO Colony, Gadag, which is about 2kms., away from the Anganwadi Center;
 - 4) Though, respondent No.2 stated in his comments that he has given instructions to respondent No.4 to keep the stock of food articles in Anganwadi Center, his contention is not supported by any documents;
 - 5) It is worth to note that after the spot inspection of aforesaid Anganwadi Center by the undersigned, respondent No.2 had issued show-cause notices to respondents No.3 and 4 wherein, respondent No.2 admits the deficiencies. Relevant portions of show-cause notices are extracted as under -

Show-cause notice to R3:-

"ದಿನಾಂಕ:19/12/19

ಕಾರಣ ಕೇಳುವ ನೋಟೀಸ್

ವಿಷಯ: ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದ ನ್ಯೂನತೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು.

ಮೇಲಿನ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿ:18/12/19ರಂದು ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರು ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಗದಗ ನಗರದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:258ಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಭೇಟಿ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇವಲ ಎರಡು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಹಾಜರಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ, ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ನಾಮಫಲಕವನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ದಿ:17/12/19ರ ತಾರೀಖಿನ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಹಾಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಮತ್ತು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿತರಿಸಿದ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಖರಿಸಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ತಾವು ಪ್ರತಿ ದಿನ ಎರಡು ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ, ಹಾಜರಾತಿ, ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಹಿಗಳನ್ನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಿ, ದೃಢೀಕರಿಸುವಂತೆ ಮಾಸಿಕ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ತಾವು ನಿಯಮಿತವಾಗಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡದೇ ಪರಿಶೀಲನೆ ನಡೆಸದೇ ಇರುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಖರಿಸಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡದೇ ಇರುವುದು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ಲೋಪವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"

Show-cause notice to R4:-

"ದಿನಾಂಕ:24/12/19

ಕಾರಣ ಕೇಳುವ ನೋಟೀಸ್

ವಿಷಯ: ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಕಂಡು ಬಂದ ನ್ಯೂನತೆಗಳ ಕುರಿತು.

ಮೇಲಿನ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿ:18/12/19ರಂದು ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರು ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ ಯೋಜನೆ, ಗದಗ ನಗರದ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:258ಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಭೇಟಿ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಕೇವಲ ಎರಡು ಮಕ್ಕಳು ಮಾತ್ರ ಹಾಜರಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ, ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ನಾಮಫಲಕವನ್ನು ಹಾಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ದಿ:17/12/19ರ ತಾರೀಖಿನ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಹಾಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ, ಮತ್ತು ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿತರಿಸಿದ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದಾಖಲಿಸಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನುಗಳನ್ನು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಖರಿಸಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ ಮತ್ತು ನೀವು ಪ್ರತಿ ದಿನ ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿ, ಹಾಜರಾತಿ, ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ದಾಖಲಾತಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ವಹಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬರೆದಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಗೌರವಧನ, ವಲಯ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸೂಚನೆ ನೀಡಲಾಗಿದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ತಾವು ನಿಯಮಿತವಾಗಿ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಬರೆಯದೇ ಇರುವುದು ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಆಹಾರ ಪದಾರ್ಥಗಳನ್ನು ತಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಶೇಖರಿಸಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಮಾಹಿತಿ ನೀಡದೇ ಇರುವುದು ನಿಮ್ಮ ಕರ್ತವ್ಯ ಲೋಪವಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX"

- 6) The contents of the show-cause notices issued to respondents No.3 and 4 indicate that there was total mismanagement in Anganwadi Center, Code No.258, Dyamavva Durgavva Temple, Killa Oni, Gadag;
- 7) The above instance makes it clear that neither the Anganwadi Supervisor i.e., 3rd respondent; nor the CDPO i.e., 2nd respondent and incharge Deputy Director, Women & Child Welfare dept., i.e., 1st respondent have inspected the Anganwadi Center Code No.258, Killa Oni, Gadag;
- 8) It is forthcoming from the records that welfare & safety of the children was not taken care of by any of the respondents, as it was found that 22 children were housed in a very small room measuring about 8'x10' and food for the children cooked in one side of the same room as there was no separate kitchen;
- 9) Stock and issue register of food articles October, 2019 and November, 2019 available on record shows that there are arithmetical corrections and striking with reference to the quantity of food articles supplied to the Anganwadi Center. There are no initials\ small signatures to those corrections. This itself indicate that stock and issue register of food articles has not been maintained properly;
- 10) It is evident from the show-cause notices issued to the respondents No.3 and 4 that there is no name-board to the said Anganwadi Center;
- 11) The extract of diary entry produced by the respondent No.2 [21/09/19 to 21/12/19] indicate that he has hardly paid any visit to Anganwadi Center No.258, Dyamavva Durgavva Temple, Killa Oni, Gadag prior to the visit by the undersigned on 18/12/19;
- 12) There is nothing to indicate that respondent No.1 visited \ inspected the said Anganwadi Center;
- 13) Respondent No.3 being jurisdictional Anganwadi Supervisor, did not bother to inspect the said Anganwadi Center and that she has not conducted any kind of inspection;
- 14) Had respondents No.1 to 3 visited the said Anganwadi Center from time to time, there would not have been any scope for

respondent No.4 to store the food articles supplied to Anganwadi Center in her residence and there would not have been mismanagement;

- 15) These aspects indicate that there was no periodical inspection of Anganwadi Center by respondents No.1 to 3 to check the mismanagement \ misappropriation of food grains supplied to the Anganwadi Center.

9. Therefore, explanations offered by the respondents are not accepted. Investigation substantiates the allegation against all the respondents. The materials on record clearly make out a case for holding disciplinary enquiry against all the respondents.


10. The materials available on record *prima facie* disclose that the respondents being Govt.\ Public servants, have failed to maintain absolute integrity, devotion to duty and acted in a manner unbecoming of Government servants, and thereby committed misconduct attracting 3(1) of KCS (Conduct) Rules 1966 and liable for disciplinary action.

11. Therefore, acting under Section 12(3) of Karnataka Lokayukta Act, recommendation is made to the Competent Authority to permit to initiate disciplinary proceedings against all the respondents and to entrust the enquiry to this Authority under Rule 14-A of KCS (CCA) Rules.

3504/19

12. Further, as per section 12(4) of Karnataka Lokayukta Act 1984, the Competent Authority is required to intimate to this authority within three months from the date of receipt of this report.

Copies of connected records are enclosed.


(JUSTICE N.ANANDA)
Upalokayukta-1,
Karnataka State.

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