

KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA

NO: COMPT/UPLOK/BGM/3510/2019/DRE4

MS Building,
Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bengaluru, Date:20/05/2020

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

Sub: Proceedings against
1)Smt.K.H.Akkamahadevi - District
Programme Officer & In-charge Deputy
Director of Women & Child Development
dept., 2) Sri.R.M.Dinesh - Child
Development Project Officer, 3) Smt.Lalitha
S Alavandi - Anganwadi Supervisor,
Betageri-1 circle and 4) Smt.T.M.Hosur,
Anganawadi worker, Anganawadi Center
Code No.261, Betageri, 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.K.H.Akkamahadevi - District Programme Officer & Incharge Deputy Director of Women & Child Development dept., 2)Sri.R.M.Dinesh - Child Development Project Officer, 3) Smt.Lalitha S Alavandi - Anganwadi Supervisor, Betageri-1 circle and 4) Smt.T.M.Hosur, Anganawadi worker, Anganawadi Center Code No.261, Betageri, 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.261, Manjunath Nagar, Betageri and noticed following deficiencies \ mismanagement -

- 1) The Anganwadi Center was running at Nagalingeshwara Community hall;
- 2) There was no separate kitchen for Anganwadi Center;
- 3) There was no platform for cooking ;
- 4) The gas cylinder was placed on the floor, very near to the children, which is dangerous to the safety of the children;
- 5) Anganwadi worker has not maintained the attendance register of the children and also the stock & issue register of food articles;
- 6) There was no verification of stock & issue register with reference to the physical quantity of food articles;
- 7) Further, there was no qualitative and quantitative verification of food articles, either by the Anganwadi worker or by the higher authorities;
- 8) There was no inspection of the Anganwadi Center relating to functioning of the Anganwadi Center and the stock & issue register of the food articles.

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

4. Respondents No.1 and 2 have offered comments, whereas respondents No.3 and 4 have not submitted comments. Respondents No.1 and 2 submitted that they have discharged the duties efficiently and requested to drop the proceedings.

5. The material on record discloses that -

1) During the inspection\ preliminary enquiry on 18/12/19 in Anganwadi Center, Code No.261, Manjunath Nagar, Betageri by the undersigned 17 children were present in the Anganwadi Center and noticed following deficiencies\ mismanagement -

- a) The Anganwadi Center was running at Nagalingeshwara Community hall;
- b) There was no separate kitchen for Anganwadi Center;
- c) There was no platform for cooking ;
- d) The gas cylinder was placed on the floor, very near to the children, which is dangerous to the safety of the children;
- e) Anganwadi worker has not maintained the attendance register of the children and also the stock & issue register of food articles;
- f) There was no verification of stock & issue register with reference to the physical quantity of food articles;
- g) Further, there was no qualitative and quantitative verification of food articles, either by the Anganwadi worker or by the higher authorities;
- h) There was no inspection of the Anganwadi Center relating to functioning of the Anganwadi Center and the stock & issue register of the food articles.

2) 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 certain deficiencies as were noticed. Relevant portions of show-cause notices are extracted -

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 ನಗರ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:221 ಮತ್ತು 261 ಕೇಂದ್ರಗಳಿಗೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಭೇಟಿ ಸಂದರ್ಭದಲ್ಲಿ ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಹಾಜರಾತಿ ಶೇ.50ರಷ್ಟು ಕಡಿಮೆ ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳಿಗೆ ವಿತರಿಸುವ ಪೂರಕ ಪೌಷ್ಟಿಕ ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಮತ್ತು ವಿತರಣಾ ವಹಿಯನ್ನು ದಿ:31/10/19ರವರೆಗೂ ಮಾತ್ರ ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಮಾಡಿದ್ದು, ನಂತರದ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಮತ್ತು ವಿತರಣಾ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಯ ಕೊನೆಯ ಪುಟಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಅನಗತ್ಯ ಮಾಹಿತಿಯನ್ನು ಬರೆದಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ ಹಾಗೂ ವಹಿ ಪುಟಗಳನ್ನು ಹಾಳು ಮಾಡಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಅಕ್ಟೋಬರ್, 2019ರ ಮಾಹೆಯಿಂದ ಫಲಾನುಭವಿಗಳ ಹಾಜರಾತಿಯನ್ನು ದಾಖಲಿಸಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. ಮುಂದುವರೆದು, ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಬೇಕಾದ ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸುವಲ್ಲಿ ವಿಫಲರಾಗಿರುವ ಕುರಿತು ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತರು ವಿಷಾದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಕೇಂದ್ರ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ-261ರಲ್ಲಿ ನಾಮಫಲಕ ಇದ್ದರೂ ಸಹ ಹಾಕಿರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ ಮತ್ತು ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಆಹಾರ ತಯಾರಿಸುವಾಗ ಗ್ಯಾಸ್ ಒಲೆಯನ್ನು ನೆಲದ ಮೇಲಿಟ್ಟು ತಯಾರಿಸುತ್ತಿದ್ದು, ಪಕ್ಕದಲ್ಲಿ ಮಕ್ಕಳನ್ನು ಕೂರಿಸಿದ್ದು, ಮಕ್ಕಳ ಸುರಕ್ಷತೆಗೆ ಕ್ರಮ ವಹಿಸದೇ ಇರುವುದು ಮತ್ತು ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಯನ್ನು ಕಾರ್ಯಕರ್ತೆಯು ತನ್ನ ಮನೆಯಲ್ಲಿಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಬಗ್ಗೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸದೇ ಇರುವ ಕುರಿತು ತೀವ್ರ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX”

Show-cause notice to R4:-

“ದಿನಾಂಕ:19/12/19

ಕಾರಣ ಕೇಳುವ ನೋಟೀಸ್

ವಿಷಯ: ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದ ಕಾರ್ಯಚಟುವಟಿಕೆ ಸರಿಯಾಗಿ ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸದೇ ಇರುವ ಕುರಿತು.

ಉಲ್ಲೇಖ: ಮಾನ್ಯ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರ ಭೇಟಿ ದಿ:18/12/19.

ಮೇಲಿನ ವಿಷಯಕ್ಕೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಉಲ್ಲೇಖಕ್ಕೆ ಸಂಬಂಧಿಸಿದಂತೆ ದಿ:18/12/19ರಂದು ಮಾನ್ಯ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು ಅಂಗನವಾಡಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರ 261ಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದಾಗ ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿಯನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿದ್ದದೇ, ತಮ್ಮ ಮನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗಿರುವುದನ್ನು ನೋಡಿ, ಮಾನ್ಯ ಲೋಕಾಯುಕ್ತರು ವಿಷಾದ ವ್ಯಕ್ತಪಡಿಸಿರುತ್ತಾರೆ. ಎಲ್ಲಾ ದಾಖಲಾತಿಗಳನ್ನು ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲೇ ಇಡಲು ಸೂಚನೆಯನ್ನು ನೀಡಿದರೂ ಸಹ ತಾವು ವಹಿಗಳನ್ನು ಮನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಂಡು ಹೋಗಿರುವುದು ತಾವು ಕರ್ತವ್ಯದಲ್ಲಿ ನಿರ್ಲಕ್ಷ್ಯತನ ತೋರಿರುವುದು ಕಂಡು ಬರುತ್ತದೆ. ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ವಹಿ ಕೇಂದ್ರದಲ್ಲಿ ಇಲ್ಲದಿದ್ದರಿಂದ, ಆಹಾರ ದಾಸ್ತಾನು ಪರಿಶೀಲಿಸಲು ಸಾಧ್ಯವಾಗಲಿಲ್ಲ. ಹಾಗೂ ಗ್ಯಾಸ್ ಒಲೆಯನ್ನು ಸಿಲಿಂಡರ್‌ಗಿಂತ ಎತ್ತರಕ್ಕೆ ಇಡಲು ಕೇಂದ್ರಕ್ಕೆ ಭೇಟಿ ನೀಡಿದಾಗ ಹಾಗೂ ಸಭೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಮೇಲ್ವಿಚಾರಕಿಯರು ಹಾಗೂ ಶಿಶು ಅಭಿವೃದ್ಧಿ

ಯೋಜನಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು ತಿಳಿಸಿದರೂ ತಾವು ಅದೇ ತಪ್ಪನ್ನು ಮುಂದುವರೆಸಿರುವುದು
ವಿಷಾದನೀಯ. XXXXXXXXXXXXX”

- 3) The contents of the show-cause notices issued to respondents No.3 and 4 itself indicate that there was mismanagement in Anganwadi Center, Code No.261, Manjunath nagar, Betageri;
- 4) It is evident that stock and issue register of food articles was not punctually \ properly maintained and the same was not made available to the undersigned for verification, as the same was carried to the residence of respondent No.4;
- 5) It is further evident that name board was not affixed\ displayed in the Anganwadi Center;
- 6) It is also evident that there was no platform for cooking and gas cylinder was placed on the floor, very near to the children, which is dangerous to the safety of the children;
- 7) 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 independent visit to Anganwadi Center No.261, which is admittedly running in private building viz., Nagalingeshwara Community hall;
- 8) There is nothing to indicate that respondent No.1 visited \ inspected the said Anganwadi Center;
- 9) 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;
- 10) Safety of the children at Anganwadi Center is the paramount aspect. However, by placing the gas stove on the floor, very near to the children, safety measures to the children was given complete go by;
- 11) These aspects indicate that there was no periodical inspection of Anganwadi Center by respondents No.1 to 3 to check the mismanagement \ misappropriation of funds \ food grains.

6. Therefore, explanations offered by the respondents No.1 and 2 are not worth to be accepted. Thus, 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.

7. 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.

8. 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.

9. 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.

no. 
(JUSTICE N.ANANDA)

Upalokayukta-1,
Karnataka State.


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