

KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA

No. Lok/ARE-10/14-A/Enq-170/2014 Multi-storeyed Building,
Dr.B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore, dt.02.03.2015.

RECOMMENDATION

Sub: Departmental Enquiry against Kum.
Ranjitha, the then Tahsildar, Tarikere
Taluk, Chikmagalur District (presently
working as Office Assistant, Office of the
Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District)- reg.

- Ref: 1. Government Order No. RD 11 ADE 2014
dated 18.03.2014.
2. Nomination Order No. LOK/INQ/14-A/
170/2014 dated 27.03.2014.

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By order dt. 18.03.2014, the Government initiated the  
disciplinary proceedings against Kum. Ranjitha, the then  
Tahsildar, Tarikere Taluk, Chikmagalur District (presently  
working as Office Assistant, Office of the Deputy  
Commissioner, Hassan District) (herein after referred to as the

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Delinquent Government Official, for short 'DGO') and entrusted the disciplinary inquiry to this Institution.

2. This Institution, by nomination order dated 27.03.2014 and nominated the Additional Registrar of Enquiries-10, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bangalore, as the Inquiry Officer to conduct the departmental inquiry against the DGO for the alleged misconduct alleged to have been committed by her.
3. The Inquiry Officer, after completing the departmental inquiry has submitted a report dt. 20.02.2015 inter-alia holding that the charge of misconduct alleged against the DGO has been proved by the Disciplinary Authority.
4. The charge alleged against the DGO was that, while she was working as the Tahsildar, Tarikere Taluk, Chikmagalur District, one Shri K.T. Govindaswamy s/o late K. Thimmaiah, resident of Lakkavalli post, Tarikere Taluk, Chikmagalur District (in short, referred to as 'the complainant'), approached the DGO on 09.02.2012 and filed a complaint alleging that one

Vijayalakshmi w/o Shri A.V. Harinath, resident of A.V.Nagar, Lakkavalli has obtained false caste certificate from DGO's office on 24.05.1999 as belonging to Bhovi caste (ST) though she does not belonged to said community and belongs to Vokkaliga. However, the DGO failed to take action in spite of the direction issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Chikmagalur on 22.02.2012 and 04.05.2012. Thereby, the DGO he failed to maintain absolute integrity, devotion to duty and acted in a manner unbecoming a Government servant. The act of the DGO is misconduct within the meaning of Rule 3(1)(i) to (iii) of Karnataka Civil Service (Conduct) Rules, 1966.

5. The Disciplinary Authority, in support of its charge of misconduct, has examined Shri K.T. Govindaswamy, the complainant. In his evidence, he has categorically stated that, the DGO has failed to take action in spite of his request and direction from the Deputy Commissioner. To support the same, he has produced communication from the Deputy Commissioner's office dt. 05.05.2012 as Ex.P8, wherein the

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Deputy Commissioner has directed the DGO to take action. Even the Asst. Commissioner had also directed the DGO to take action for cancellation of the caste certificate stated to have been obtained by false representation.

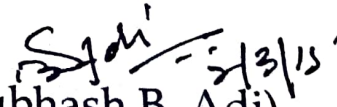
6. The Inquiry Officer has held that the evidence of PW1, complainant is corroborated with the documentary evidence produced by him (Exs.P4 and P5) which show that, the Deputy Commissioner had directed the DGO. Based on this evidence, the Inquiry Officer has held that, the DGO has failed to discharge her official function and committed misconduct.

7. Considering the nature and the gravity of offence and also circumstances and further, the DGO in her evidence admits her fault as there was delay in cancelling the caste certificate, however she has stated, the said certificate was cancelled on 30.07.2013 i.e. nearly after one year five months, to this extent that the charge of misconduct alleged against the DGO is held proved. ✓



8. Hence, considering the evidence on record, I find that the DGO deserves punishment for the lapse and delay in taking action on her part. Accordingly, it is hereby recommended to the Government that the DGO - Kum. Ranjitha, the then Tahsildar, Tarikere Taluk, Chikmagalur District (presently working as Office Assistant, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Hassan District) be punished with withholding of two annual increments without cumulative effect for a period of five years in exercise of powers under Rule 8(iii) of the Karnataka Civil Service (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules.

9. Action taken in the matter is to be intimated to this Authority. Connected records are enclosed here with.

  
(Justice Subhash B. Adi)  
Upalokayukta,  
State of Karnataka.