



KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA

No:LOK/INQ/14-A/453/2014/ARE-7

Multi Storied Building,  
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi,  
Bengaluru-560 001.  
Dated 04.12.2020.

RECOMMENDATION

Sub:- Departmental inquiry against (1) Shri A.M.Niranjan, Senior Geologist, (2) Sri Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and (3) Sri Srinivas, Junior Engineer, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore - reg.

Ref:- 1) Government Order No. CI 80 MGS 2014 dated 25.07.2014.

- 2) Nomination order No. LOK/INQ/14-A/453/2014 dated 06.08.2014 of Upalokayukta, State of Karnataka.
- 3) Inquiry report dated 01.12.2020 of Additional Registrar of Enquiries-7, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru.

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The Government by its order dated 25.07.2014 initiated the disciplinary proceedings against (1) Shri A.M.Niranjan, Senior Geologist, (2) Sri Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and (3) Sri Srinivas, Junior Engineer, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore, [hereinafter referred to as Delinquent Government Officials, for

short as 'DGOs 1 to 3' respectively] and entrusted the departmental inquiry to this Institution.

2. This Institution by Nomination Order No. LOK/INQ/14-A/453/2014 dated 06.08.2014 nominated Additional Registrar of Enquiries-5, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru, as the Inquiry Officer to frame charges and to conduct departmental inquiry against DGOs for the alleged charge of misconduct, said to have been committed by them. Subsequently, by order No. Uplok-2/DE/2016 dated 03.8.2016, Additional Registrar of Enquiries-10 was re-nominated and finally, by order No. Uplok-1&2/DE/Transfers/2020 dated 28.5.2020, Additional Registrar of Enquiries-7, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru, was re-nominated as the Inquiry Officer to continue the said departmental inquiry against DGOs.

3. The DGOs 1 to 3 Shri A.M.Niranjan, Senior Geologist, Sri Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and Sri Srinivas, Junior Engineer, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore, were tried for the following charges :-

That you DGO-1 to 3 by name (1)A.M.Niranjan, Senior Geologist (2)Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and (3) Srinivas, Junior Engineer while working in the office of the Dy.Director of Mines and Geology, Mangalore are responsible for allowing Sri.Mahesh Shetty S/o.A.Vittal Shetty to continue the illegal mining activity in Sy.No.203/1 of Heggunje Village in Udupi Taluk which is licensed area and in extended area beyond the permitted extent of land and also beyond the permitted depth, by renewing/recommending for renewal of mining licence and thus caused loss to the Government. Thereby you DGOs-1 to 3 have failed to maintain absolute integrity and devotion to duty, and caused dereliction of duty, the said acts of you were unbecoming of a Government Servants and thereby committed misconduct as enumerated u/s 3(1)(i) to (iii) of Karnataka Civil Service (Conduct ) Rules 1966."

4. The Inquiry Officer (Additional Registrar of Enquiries- 7) on proper appreciation of oral and documentary evidence has held that, the above charge against the DGO-1 Shri A.M.Niranjan, Senior Geologist, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore, is ' **proved**'.

5. Further, the Inquiry Officer (Additional Registrar of Enquiries- 7) on proper appreciation of oral and documentary

evidence has held that, the above charge against the DGO - 2 Sri Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and DGO -3 Sri Srinivas, Junior Engineer, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore, is 'not proved'.

6. On re-consideration of report of inquiry and all other materials on record, I do not find any reason to interfere with the findings recorded by the Inquiry Officer. Therefore, it is hereby recommended to the Government to accept the report of Inquiry Officer and exonerate DGO-2 Sri Mahadevappa, Junior Engineer and DGO -3 Sri Srinivas, Junior Engineer, Mines and Geology Department, Mangalore, of the charges leveled against them.

7. As per the First Oral Statement of DGO-1 furnished by the Enquiry Officer, DGO-1 Shri A.M.Niranjan, is due for retirement on 28-02-2030.

8. Having regard to the nature of charge '*proved*' against the DGO-1 Shri A.M.Niranjan, and considering the totality of circumstances, it is hereby recommended to the Government to impose penalty of 'withholding two annual increments payable to DGO-1 Shri A.M.Niranjan, with cumulative effect.'

9. Action taken in the matter shall be intimated to this Authority.

Connected records are enclosed herewith.

 5-12-20

(JUSTICE B.S.PATIL)  
Upalokayukta,  
State of Karnataka.

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