

LOKPAL OF INDIA
[Plot No. 6, Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj]
New Delhi

Complaint Nos. : 117/2023
Date : 31st May, 2023.
Coram : **Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty**
Hon'ble Acting Chairperson

Justice Abhilasha Kumari
Judicial Member

Shri Dinesh Kumar Jain
Member

Smt. Archana Ramasundaram
Member

Shri Mahender Singh,
Member.

ORDER

Perused the complaint.

2. This complaint has been filed against two public servants named therein, being the then Chief General Manager (CGM), Security Paper Mill, Narmadapuram (a Unit of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Ltd. – SPMCIL) and the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the SPMCIL, New Delhi. They will hereafter be referred to as the public servants Nos 1 & 2 respectively.

3. The complainant has levelled allegations of gross misuse of power and authority as a Disciplinary Authority against the CMD of SPMCIL (public servant No. 2), by allegedly hushing up a serious act of financial irregularity in which public servant No. 1, the then



CGM (now CGM, India Government Mint, Mumbai) was involved. It is alleged that public servant No. 1 failed to utilize the security thread for ten rupee notes amounting to about Rs. 12 (twelve) crores, due to the expiry of the shelf-life of one year, which, according to the complainant amounts to national economic risk and loss to the organization and the Government of India.

4. At the behest of the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC), disciplinary proceedings were initiated against the public servant No. 1 but public servant No. 2 chose to issue a charge-sheet for minor penalty, instead of a major penalty. Further, public servant No. 2 imposed the minor penalty of "Censure" on public servant No. 1 on 22.08.2022. It is alleged that public servant No. 2, being the Disciplinary Authority is the competent authority to decide upon the quantum of punishment, which is commensurate with the gravity of the offence. However, public servant No. 2 has "played the role of savior" for public servant No. 1, against whom allegations of corruption have been made.

5. The complainant has prayed that the financial loss to the Government be recovered from the erring officers of the SPMCIL and criminal cases be registered against the public servants.

6. We have perused the contents of the complaint and considered the material on record. From the complaint, it is clear that the complainant is aggrieved by the minor penalty imposed by public servant No. 2 on public servant No. 1, which, according to him, has been done to favour public servant No. 1. There are no other allegations of corruption against the public servants in the present complaint, apart from the material that may have led to



the initiation of disciplinary proceedings against public servant No. 1. The complainant appears to be desirous of re-opening the disciplinary proceedings. However, the Lokpal of India is not inclined to interfere, as the complainant can pursue the matter before the competent authorities, through appropriate channels.

7. As there are no allegations of corruption against the public servants, other than those that are the subject-matter of the disciplinary proceedings against public servant No. 1, the Lokpal of India, looking to the mandate provided to it under the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, 2013, does not consider it necessary to interfere in this matter.

8. For the aforestated reasons, the complaint stands disposed of.


COURT MASTER,
LOKPAL OF INDIA.

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