

Lokpal of India
Plot No.6, Vasant Kunj Institutional Area – Phase-II
New Delhi – 110070

Complaint No. : **207/2024**

Date : **10.12.2024**

Coram : **Shri Justice A.M. Khanwilkar**
Chairperson

Shri Justice L. Narayana Swamy
Judicial Member

Shri Justice Sanjay Yadav
Judicial Member

Shri Sushil Chandra
Member

Shri Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi
Judicial Member

Shri Pankaj Kumar
Member

Shri Ajay Tirkey
Member

ORDER

1. The complaint dated 30.08.2024 was made against the public servant who is working as a Sorting Assistant, 'Rail Dak Sewa', Department of Posts (Ministry of Communications).
2. Vide order dated 18.10.2024 the Full Bench of Lokpal of India directed the CVO, Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication,



Government of India to inquire into the complaint and submit its Preliminary Inquiry Report within a period of five weeks.

3. In compliance with the Full Bench order dated 18.10.2024, the Chief Vigilance Officer, Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications submitted the Preliminary Inquiry Report vide letter dated 28.11.2024.
4. We have gone through the Preliminary Inquiry Report and the annexures 1 to 5 produced along with it. Annexure-1 is an acknowledgment/ permission issued by the office of the Superintendent Railway Mail (SRM), MP permitted the RPS to purchase the property. Annexure-2 is the declaration in the Annual Immoveable Property Return (AIPR). Annexure-3 is the details of transactions of Rs.48 lakhs through LIC Housing Finance Ltd. (LICHFL) and Annexure-4 is the receipt for having a withdrawal of Rs.24 lakhs through GPF. Annexure-5 is a statement made to the Inquiry Officer to the effect that apart from LICHFL loan of Rs.48 lakhs and Rs.24 lakhs from GPF the remaining amount was arranged with the help of relatives.
5. The report also refers to the statement made by the RPS and comments/observations of the Competent Authority. The IO has recorded the comments of the competent authority that "No irregularity in terms of departmental rules has been observed in the

purchase of the property acquired by the complainee official, purchased/acquired by him, during last seven years.

6. The IO has also made his observations/ comments as extracted below:

“It is observed that prior permission for purchase of property House No.3, Red Square Bhopal Ward 53, Nagar Nigam Bhopal, valued at Rs.72.50 lacs was sought by Shri XXXX (name redacted) vide his application dated 15.07.2021, which was duly acknowledged by SRM (Superintendent Railway Mail), MP Division vide letter No.B-2/Moveable-immovable/Ch-II/2020-21 dated 22.07.2021. Payment for acquiring the said property is found to be made through Housing Loan and GPF, thus, no irregularity is observed in the purchase of this property, as per extant rules.”

7. The Inquiry Officer concludes that the allegation against the RPS has not been substantiated. The RPS has purchased the property after following due process as per the Rules and prior permission was obtained from the higher officers. There is no material available in Annexures produced, which is contrary to this opinion. Resultantly, we accept the inquiry report after taking into consideration, the statement of the RPS and the comments of the Competent Authority.



8. Therefore, we are of the considered opinion to close the complaint
and dispose it of accordingly.

**Sd/-
(Justice A.M. Khanwilkar)
Chairperson**

**Sd/-
(Justice L Narayana Swamy)
Judicial Member**

**Sd/-
(Justice Sanjay Yadav)
Judicial Member**

**Sd/-
(Sushil Chandra)
Member**

**Sd/-
(Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi)
Judicial Member**

**Sd/-
(Pankaj Kumar)
Member**

**Sd/-
(Ajay Tirkey)
Member**


(Court Master)

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