LOKPAL OF INDIA
[Plot No. 6, Institutional Area, Phase-II, Vasant Kunj]
New Delhi - 110070
***

Complaint No.	:	2201/2022.
Date	:	9th February, 2023..
Coram	:	**Justice Abhilasha Kumari** **Judicial Member** **Shri Mahender Singh** **Member** **Dr. Indrajeet P.Gautam** **Member**

ORDER

This complaint has not been filed in the format prescribed by the Rules. The complainant was requested, in writing, to do the needful, but has not complied. The complaint was, therefore, considered on merits by the Full Bench of the Lokpal of India, on 08.09.2022.

2. The complainant has alleged that several unscrupulous importers from different parts of the country have been importing several thousand tons of boiled supari from Chennai and Tuticorin ports, by misclassifying the same under CTH 21069031, instead of CTH 08028010, to evade payment of higher customs duty applicable thereon. It is further alleged that corrupt Customs officials in Chennai and Tuticorin Commissionerates, in utter defiance of the judgement f the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, are allowing such importations.

3. The Full Bench, vide order dated 08.09.2022, ordered a Preliminary Inquiry to be caused by the Central Bureau of

Investigation (CBI) in the matter, under Section 20(1)(a) of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, with the report to be submitted on, or before, 27.10.2022. After availing extension of time, the report of the Preliminary Inquiry has been submitted by the CBI vide letter dated 07.01.2023.

4. In the said Report, the allegations levelled by the complainant have been discussed. In addition, the procedures for importing goods from various countries into India, as also the relevant circular/Notifications issued by the Government of India in this regard, have been mentioned and elaborately discussed.

5. Insofar as the allegations levelled by the complainant are concerned, it is noted in the letter dated 07.01.2023 of the CBI, as also the Report of the Preliminary Inquiry that the complaint does not contain the names of specific public servants and also does not bring out the roles of any public servants in the alleged evasion of duty by private parties. In view of this, the comments of the public servants and Competent Authority, could not be obtained.

6. In the complaint, the complainant has mentioned the cases of certain private companies that have allegedly evaded paying the appropriate Customs Duty on the goods imported. In the Report, the CBI has discussed all such cases detected which appear to be under adjudication. However, it is stated that the role of any public servant has not emerged.

7. From perusal of the complaint and the Preliminary Inquiry Report, it is clear that the complainant has failed to disclose the names of any public servants in support of his allegations, which are general in nature.

8. For the afore-stated reasons, we are not inclined to proceed further with this complaint.

9. Accordingly, the complaint is closed and stands disposed of.

/kv/