

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

Complaint No(s). : 24/2021  
Date : 22.05.2024.  
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 Pankaj Kumar**  
**Member**

**Shri Ajay Tirkey**  
**Member**

**Present:**

1. **Complainant** : None

2. **Central Vigilance Commission (CVC):**

- i. Shri Roop Kishor, CVO, CSIR, representing CVC, assisted by
- ii. Sh. Jyotimoy Bhuyan, Under Secretary, CSIR.



3. **Council of Scientific and Industrial Research(CSIR):**

- i. Shri Chhering Tobden, Senior Deputy Secretary.
- ii. Shri M. Arun Manikanda Bharathi, Under Secretary.

ORDER

1. This complaint has been filed on 17.12.2020, alleging, inter alia, irregularities in appointment of some persons in Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, Dhanbad (CIMFR). CIMFR is one of the constituent laboratories under the aegis of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) which is an organisation under the Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India.
2. The Full Bench vide order dated 04.06.2021 decided to refer this complaint to the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) to conduct a Preliminary inquiry into the allegations and submit its report in that regard. As the matter progressed, the Division Bench, whilst taking note of the compliance report filed by the CSIR Administration, which had been duly approved by the Competent Authority, identified four core issues that needed scrutiny by the concerned authorities, amongst others:

- i) Relaxation in eligibility conditions,
- ii) Strengthening of RAB,
- iii) Recruitment of technical and administrative staff (other than scientists), and
- iv) Amounts received as consultancy by officials of CSIR-CIMFR.

3. In response to the subsequent directions given by the Division Bench vide order dated 22.12.2023, the CVC was called upon to submit a progress report in respect of the four issues (referred to in Para 2 above). The progress report came to be submitted by the CVC qua the stated points, mentioned in the order dated 22.12.2023; and which then was considered by the Division Bench on 21.02.2024. The Division Bench noted that the matter had been duly processed and proposals on the points – (i) Relaxation in eligibility conditions, (ii) Strengthening of RAB, and (iii) Recruitment of technical and administrative staff (other than scientists) were already pending with the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT), being the appropriate authority to accord approval in that regard. As regards the fourth point - i.e., Amounts received as consultancy by officials of CSIR-

CIMFR – it noted that after due deliberation the guidelines are pending finalisation at the appropriate level.

4. CVC vide Office Memorandum (OM) dated 04.04.2024 then submitted a progress report, reiterating the pendency of the proposal before the DoPT and assurance by the CSIR to finalize the guidelines in respect of the last point with top most priority, once the internal issues were settled.
5. Having noticed that the authorities have already taken corrective steps in light of the observations made by the Lokpal in its earlier orders; and also because the proposals are now pending at the appropriate level for finalisation/approval, nothing more needs to be done in the present complaint except to express a sanguine hope that follow up steps will be taken by all concerned in right earnest.
6. On the earlier occasion, the Bench had highlighted the systemic issues concerning the CSIR. The Bench having done so, and the authorities also having responded positively in that regard as aforementioned, we do not wish to keep this complaint pending.



7. Hence, this complaint is being disposed of.

8. Ordered accordingly.



**(Court Master)**