

LOKPAL OF INDIA
Plot No – 6, Vasant Kunj Institutional Area – Phase II
New Delhi – 110070.

Complaint No. : 95/2021 & 3305/2022

Date : 13th April, 2023.

Coram : Justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty
Acting Chairperson

Shri Dinesh Kumar Jain
Member

Shri Mahender Singh
Member

ORDER

Perused the report from Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) dated 23.03.2023 enclosing therewith a copy of the Status Report from CVO, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPS&W) dated 21.03.2023 in compliance with the Order of the Division Bench dated 21.02.2023 in respect of Complaint No.95/2021 & 3305/2022.

2. The complainant had filed this complaint on 20.12.2021 alleging inaction by various authorities in taking action against the officials of Chennai Port Authority (CPA). The complainant had alleged involvement of some officials of CPA in a scam relating to fixed deposits in bank in connivance with the officials of the concerned bank.

3. The matter was last considered by the Division Bench on 21.02.2023. The Bench had taken note of the report dated 03.10.2022 of the CVO, CPA submitted through the CVC. This report included a table with respect to the inquiry proceedings on the charges against six (06) out of the seven (07) Respondent Public Servants (RPSs). From the table, it was also seen that in respect of five out of six RPSs, Major Penalty orders had been issued on different dates.

4. It was also observed that in respect of one (01) RPS, the matter had been referred to CVC for Second Stage Advice.

5. In respect of an HoD level officer, the report dated 03.10.2022 mentioned that the matter had been referred to the concerned Ministry. It was also observed that a regular case has been registered against one of the public servants for offence punishable under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Prevention of Corruption Act (PCA), 1988.

6. Vide Order dated 21.02.2023, the Bench had directed that in respect of HoD level officer, CVC may expedite a decision of the concerned Ministry and submit a status report on or before 27.03.2023.

7. CVC vide letter dated 23.03.2023, has submitted a status report in respect of the HoD level officer of Chennai Port Authority. The status report contains an Office Memorandum of the concerned Ministry dated 21.03.2023 which conveys that major penalty has been imposed on the charged officer. It is thus observed that the disciplinary proceedings have been concluded against the six (06) RPSs and in respect of the seventh RPS, the matter is between CVC and the Chennai Port Authority.

8. It is also observed that a chargesheet has already been filed by the CBI in this case.

9. In view of the action taken above, we do not wish to proceed any further in this case. However, in respect of one of the RPSs wherein Second Stage Advice of CVC has been sought, the concerned authorities may take an appropriate decision in accordance with the rules.

10. With these observations, the complaints are disposed of.


Court Master
Lokpal of India