



Government of Haryana/हरियाणा सरकार
Directorate of Food, Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs
खाद्य, नागरिक आपूर्ति तथा उपभोक्ता मामले निदेशालय

REGD.
ORDER

Whereas; disciplinary proceedings under Rule 7 of the Haryana Civil Services (Punishment & Appeal) Rules, 1987 were initiated against Sh. Arvind Kumar Punia, IFS (Retd.), vide charge-sheet Memo No. SB-I-SRS-I-2015/18069 dated 25.05.2015, in respect of alleged irregularities relating to the storage and upkeep of wheat stocks during his posting at PR Dabawali Centre, Sirsa, during the years 2012-13 and 2013-14. The allegations against the charged officer primarily related to failure to ensure proper storage and upkeep of wheat stocks, resulting in approximately 1,478 MT of wheat not being maintained in sound and prescribed storage conditions. The value of the damaged wheat was assessed at approximately ₹1,81,67,890/-.

And whereas; upon receipt of the written statements of defence from the charged officials, a regular departmental inquiry under Rule 7 of the Haryana Civil Services (Punishment & Appeal) Rules, 1987 was ordered in respect of the three serving officials. The inquiry was conducted by Sh. R.P. Bhasin, Retired Judge, who submitted his Inquiry Report on 01.08.2016. The Inquiry Officer held that the allegations framed in the charge-sheets stood proved.

And whereas; the charged officer was afforded an opportunity of personal hearing on 29.07.2026 at 12:00 noon. During the personal hearing, the charged officer reiterated the submissions made in his written statement of defence and contended that the findings of the Inquiry Officer were contrary to the evidence produced during the inquiry. He submitted that although the Inquiry Officer had initially taken note of the evidence produced by him, the final report erroneously held the charges as proved without objectively appreciating the documentary and technical evidence placed on record. He further submitted that the Food Corporation of India (FCI) had not drawn any sample of the wheat and, therefore, there was no basis to conclude that the wheat had become non-issuable during the relevant period. He contended that the wheat stocks had remained sound for a considerable period despite having been affected by rain and excess moisture and that the stocks subsequently deteriorated due to prolonged storage, particularly as they remained stored in the open. The charged officer further submitted that, as per the information received by him from FCI under the Right to Information Act, the shelf life of wheat stored in the open was approximately six months to one year. He also submitted that this aspect had been acknowledged by the Director General, Food & Supplies and the Administrative Secretary while deciding various similar

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cases, wherein deterioration of wheat stocks had been attributed to prolonged storage. He contended that it was the responsibility of FCI to arrange timely lifting of the wheat stocks on priority.

He further submitted that, despite the adverse circumstances, approximately 96% of the wheat stock was successfully dispatched without damage. He also referred to the comments of the District Food & Supplies Controller, Sirsa, wherein his work had reportedly been found satisfactory.

After careful consideration of the material available on record (the charge-sheet, written statement, Inquiry report & submissions made during the personal hearing), it is found that the reply of the official is satisfactory. Hence, it would be appropriate that charge-sheet issued to Sh. Arvind Kumar Punia (Now retired) vide Memo No. SB-I-SRS-I-2015/18069 dated 25.05.2015 may be dropped.

I, order accordingly.

Dated, Chandigarh
29.07.2026

ANSHAJ SINGH, IAS
Director General, Food Civil Supplies
& Consumer Affairs Department, Haryana

Endst. No. 4E(1)-2026/16634

Dated, Chandigarh, the - 09-09-2026

A copy of the above is forwarded to the following for information and necessary action:-

1. Sh. Arvind Kumar Punia, IFS (Retd) through DFSC, Sirsa.
2. Distt. Food & Supplies Controller Sirsa.
3. Deputy Supdt. (Pension) & Deputy Supdt. (Storage).
4. Smt. Sikha, Junior Programmer, for uploading the order on departmental website
5. PS/DGFS/SSS/AD Admn. (For kind information of Worthy DGFS & AD Admn.)

Deputy Director (Estt. III.)
for Director General, Food Civil Supplies
& Consumer Affairs Department Haryana