In The Court of Commissioner, Saran Division, Chapra Service Appeal No. 221/2013

Gyanchand Ram Vrs. D.M. Siwan

ORDER

(3.03.2pt) The instant appeal is directed against the impugned order of punishment passed by D.M. Siwan as contained in memo No. 905/Estl. dt. 24.06.2013.

The brief facts of the case are the appellant Gyanchand Ram was posted, at the relevant time, as incharge Head clerk in the Circle Office, Hussainganj of Siwan District. The further case is that in view of certain reported allegations against the appellant in respect of some irregularities like three months delay in making the final payment of provident fund amount of one retired chaukidar Bishwanath Manjhi, wrongful making payment to two revenue Karmcharis for the period of which their pay was slopped, issuance of wrong utilization certificate of the allettment received under flood relief head (2007-08) without drawing any amount from that head. On the basis of these allegations charges were framed and accordingly deptt. Proceeding was ordered by D.M. Siwan and Addl. Collector, Deptt. enquiry. Siwan was made the conducting officer to the conducting officer after concluding the enquiry submitted his report to the disciplinary authority, the D.M. Siwan who in turn acting on the said enquiry report appellant was inflicted with the punishment of censure and with holding of one-increment of pay with cumulative effect and these punishments were to be entered in the service book of the appellant.

On being aggrieved by and dissatisfied with the aforementioned punishment order, the appellant has preferred this appeal.

Heard the parties.

The learned senior counsel appearing on behalf of the appellant submitted that the order passed by the Collector is not sustainable both on facts and law as he neither considered the show cause submitted by the appellant nor has assigned any no witness was examined by the enquiry officer in presence of the appellant and no opportunity of cross examination of the witnesses was given to the appellant. The learned counsel further pleaded that sub-rule (2) and (3) of Rule-18 of Bihar CCA Rules-2005 clearly says that the disciplinary authority after receipt of the enquiry report, disagrees with the finding of the enquiry officer, records reasons for such disagreement and shall forward the enquiry together with findings to the delinquent employee, inorder to substantiate this plea, the learned counsel heavily relied on some of the reported

Judgments of Hon"ble High Court (2013 (2) PLJR-page 605 and of Hön"ble Apex Court (2013 (2) PLJR (S.C) page No. 25). The learned courtsel lastly prayed that the impugned order be set aside and this appeal is fit to be allowed.

The learned Govt. Pleader appearing on behalf of D.M. Siwan strongly supported the impugned order and further submitted that punishment is the discretion of the disciplincy authority and now there is no requirement of asking second show cause from the delinquent employee before awarding of punishment so the impugned order is

Considering the facts and circumstances of the case, material available on the learned counsel for the appellant, it is quite apparent that the deptt, enquiry aganist the delinquent for the alleged charges has been conducted as per the provision of Bihar CCA Rules-2005. However, the petitioner counsel contends that the petitioner was not mandatory requirement to be followed by the disciplinary authority as per the provision view that serving of second show cause notice before awarding of punishment which is the contained in Bihar C.C.A. Rules-2005. But the learned G.P. on the other hand, is of firm proceedings. It is almost well settled now that issuance of a second show cause to the delinquent employee to determine the quantum of punishment is not mandatory and as such on this ground alone, the punishment order can not be assailed. Although, the in the fact situation of this case.

Thus, for the aforesaid reasons, I do not find any reason to interfere with the impugned order of D.M. Siwan contained in memo No. 905/Estt. dt. 24 06.13; hence the same is upheld and in the result this appeal is dismissed.

Dictated and Gorrected by me.

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