

REGISTERED



GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB  
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT  
31-Sher Shah Block New Garden Town, Lahore

ORDER

No. SO(Estt.)1-75/2006. WHEREAS, Syed Aqeel Ahmad Bukhari, Deputy District Education Officer, District Bahawalpur filed appeal against order dated 07.02.2024 passed by the **Secretary, Special Education Department / Competent Authority** whereby major penalty of "*compulsory retirement*" was imposed upon the appellant under the **PEEDA Act, 2006**.

2. **AND WHEREAS**, comments were obtained from the Administrative Department. **Mr. Muhammad Shahid Lali**, Member-I, (Inquiries), S&GAD was appointed as Hearing Officer to afford personal hearing to the appellant and submit a comprehensive report to arrive at a definitive decision.

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the Member-I, (Inquiries), S&GAD after affording personal hearing to the appellant in the presence of the Departmental Representative of Special Education Department submit report stating therein that the appellant reiterated the points already raised in his appeal. He contended that the allegations of sharing immoral images / GIFS in WhatsApp group of Heads of Special Education Institutions of Bahawalpur Division and indulgence in immoral activities to misconduct were not proved in the inquiry proceedings with concrete evidence. The appellant denied about the charges of poor performance during posting as Deputy District Education Officer (Special Education) Bahawalpur without documentary evidence. The appellant stated that entire action taken against him was based on the departmental presumptions and no direct and reliable evidence was produced by the prosecuting agency to prove the connection of the appellant with the alleged guilt. The appellant prayed that the impugned order dated 07.02.2024 may be set aside and he be reinstated into service with all back benefits.

4. **AND WHEREAS**, on the other hand, the Departmental Representative stated that the District Education Officer, Special Education, Bahawalpur *vide* letter dated 25.02.2022 called the explanation of the appellant with regard to sharing of immoral pictures / activities on the official website (Whatsapp) group of Heads of Institutions of Special Education (HISE), Bahawalpur which was also being supervised by the office of DG, Special Education Punjab, Lahore. Upon unsatisfactory reply of the appellant dated 26.02.2022, a probe was conducted through the Headmistress, Govt. Special Education Centre, Yazman Distirct Bahawalpur on the charges of sharing immoral images in WhatsApp, poor performance and inefficiency. Finally, the Probe Officer recommended to transfer the appellant and initiate a regular inquiry under PEEDA Act, 2006 *vide* letter dated 06.05.2023. Keeping in view, the inquiry report, Secretary, Special Education /Competent Authority ordered initiation of inquiry *vide* order dated 03.08.2023 by constituting an Inquiry Committee comprising of Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Director (Admn), Directorate General of Special Education Punjab, Lahore and Ms. Khaula Munawar, Deputy Director (Curriculum) Directorate General of Special Education Punjab, Lahore. The appellant did not defend himself during the inquiry process. The Inquiry Committee recommended that the services of the appellant

are not suitable for administrative as well as teaching profession and recommended imposition of major penalty of compulsory retirement upon the appellant. After considering all the aspects, material related to the case and recommendation of the Inquiry Committee, the Secretary Special Education/Competent Authority imposed the impugned penalty upon the appellant. The Departmental Representative proposed that the appeal may be rejected being devoid of merit.

5. **AND WHEREAS**, after examining the record / material available in the case file, considering arguments presented by the appellant and report of the Hearing officer, it is observed that the appellant responses were notably inadequate and unsatisfactory. Furthermore, his unethical act of sharing obscene material on WhatsApp group poses grave threat to the security of the mentally challenged students, whom the appellant has been hired to teach. The Secretary Special Education Department / Competent Authority has therefore rightly imposed the impugned penalty upon the appellant. The appellant could not produce any material to rebut the evidence already available on record. Thus, he failed to substantiate his stance in the appeal.

6. **NOW THEREFORE**, under the circumstances, I, **Zahid Akhtar Zaman**, Chief Secretary, Punjab, do hereby **reject** the appeal of **Syed Aqeel Ahmad Bukhari**, being devoid of merit and substance.

-sd-

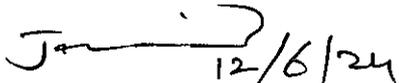
(ZAHID AKHTAR ZAMAN)  
CHIEF SECRETARY, PUNJAB

Dated: Lahore the 12<sup>th</sup> June, 2024

No. & Date Even.

A copy is forwarded to the:

1. **Accountant General**, Punjab, Lahore.
2. **Director General**, Directorate General of Special Education, Punjab, Lahore.
3. **Deputy Secretary (Service Matters)** to Chief Secretary, Punjab w.r. to Note dated 11.06.2024.
4. **District Education Officer (Special Education)**, Bahawalpur to ensure delivery of this order to the appellant under intimation to this department.
5. **Appellant concerned / Syed Aqeel Ahmad Bukhari**, ex-Senior Special Education Teacher (MC Field/BS-17), previously posted as Deputy District Education Officer (Spl. Edu.), Bahawalpur.
6. PS to Secretary Special Education Department.

  
12/6/24  
SECTION OFFICER (ESTT.)  
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT