

REGISTERED



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

ORDER

No. SO(Estt.)10-484/2016. WHEREAS, Rana Muhammad Tahir, Counsellor (BS-18/Personal), Govt. Secondary School for the Blind (Boys), Sargodha filed appeal against order dated 17.01.2024 passed by the **Secretary Special Education Department / Competent Authority** whereby minor penalty of "*withholding of increment of a period of two years*" was imposed upon the appellant under the PEEDA Act, 2006.

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

3. **AND WHEREAS**, the Member-IV (Inquiries), S&GAD after affording personal hearing to the appellant in the presence of the Departmental Representative of the Special Education Department submitted hearing report stating therein that the appellant reiterated the points already raised in his appeal and contended that four charges levelled against the appellant in the order of inquiry are based on some misconception and could not be held as proved against him. The Inquiry Officer has not relied upon documentary evidence rather on oral statements based on some misconception and could not be proved against him. Resultantly, the Competent Authority imposed the impugned penalty upon the appellant *vide* impugned order dated 17.01.2024, which may be set aside to ensure the ends of justice.

4. **AND WHEREAS**, on the other hand, the Departmental Representative stated that while working at Govt. Institute for blind, Gujranwala, the appellant was involved in unethical and political activities within the institution and also illegally resided in the hostel premises without proper authorization. Moreover, the appellant tampered the attendance register and falsely marked his attendance of absence days. The appellant was in the habit of pressurizing the staff members to disregard the orders of Headmistress. The appellant failed to perform his duties and responsibilities rather with intention to create obstruction in administrative processes. Therefore, the Secretary Special Education appointed Mr. Qaisar Abbas Shah, Principal Govt. Secondary School of Special Education for hearing Impaired Children Jhang as Inquiry Officer who after conducting inquiry submitted report to the effect that all four charges fully proved against the appellant and recommended imposition of minor penalty of "*withholding of increment for a period of 3 years*". The Secretary Special Education / Competent Authority issued show-cause notice dated 27.11.2023 and after affording personal hearing, imposed the impugned penalty upon the appellant. The Departmental Representative proposed that appeal may be rejected being devoid of merit.

5. **AND WHEREAS**, after examining the record / material available in the case file, considering the arguments advanced by the appellant and report of the Hearing Officer, it is observed that disciplinary proceedings were initiated by the

Secretary Special Education Department / Competent Authority against the appellant on account of his unethical and political activities within the institution and also residing illegally in the hostel premises without proper authorization. Therefore, the Secretary Special Education / Competent Authority has rightly imposed the impugned penalty upon the appellant in accordance with law. The appellant could not produce any material to rebut the evidence already available on record to prove his innocence. 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 **Rana Muhammad Tahir**, being devoid of merit and substance.

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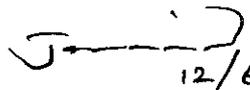
(ZAHID AKHTAR ZAMAN)
CHIEF SECRETARY, PUNJAB

Dated: Lahore the 12th Jun, 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 25.05.2024.
4. **District Education Officer (Special Education)**, Sargodha to ensure delivery of this order to the appellant under intimation to this department.
5. **Principal / Headmaster / Headmistress, Government Secondary School for Blind (Boys) Sargodha** to ensure delivery of this order to the appellant under intimation to this department.
6. **Appellant concerned / Mr. Muhammad Tahir**, Counsellor (BS-18/Personal), Government Secondary School for Blind (Boys) Sargodha.
7. PS to Secretary Special Education Department.


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