

REGISTERED



GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

ORDER OF INQUIRY

No. SO(ESTT.)1-133/2005: **WHEREAS**, upon receipt of complaint against the Headmistress, Govt. Special Education Centre, Shahpur Saddar, District Sargodha on multiple allegations by Malik Afzaal, Social Worker / Journalist, Shahpur Sadar, Directorate General of Special Education, Punjab, Lahore was directed vide letter dated 04.01.2024 to look into matter and submit fact finding report alongwith clear cut recommendations. In response thereto, Deputy Director (Admn), Directorate General of Special Education Punjab vide letter dated 05.04.2024 forwarded probe report conducted by District Education Officer (Special Education), Sargodha with recommendations for initiation of regular inquiry under PEEDA Act, 2006 against Ms. Sobia Akram, Headmistress (BS-17+10%), Govt, Special Education Centre, Shahpur Saddar, District Sargodha.

2. **AND WHEREAS**, the undersigned being the Competent Authority, under the Punjab Employees Efficiency, Discipline and Accountability Act, 2006 ('Act'), in due consideration of the facts of the case, is of the view that there are sufficient grounds to proceed against, against **Ms. Sobia Akram**, Headmistress (BS-17+10%), Govt, Special Education Centre, Shahpur Saddar, District Sargodha ('accused officer') on the charges of inefficiency, misconduct and corruption, under section 5 read with Section 9 of the Act *ibid*. I, therefore, order initiation of disciplinary proceedings through a regular inquiry against the accused officer under the Act *ibid* by appointing **Mst. Sarwat Nawaz, Headmistress BS-18, Govt. Special Education Centre, Silanwali, District Sargodha** as Inquiry Officer to proceed against the accused officer in terms of Section 5 read with Section 9 of the Act *ibid*.

3. The Inquiry Officer will proceed against the accused officer on the following charges of inefficiency, misconduct and corruption:

- i. During the Financial Year 2021-22, as per supply order, 422 uniforms (summer and winter) were received whereas, as per record maintained by the accused officer, 387 number of uniforms were distributed. During the probe 42 uniforms received during the Financial Year 2021-2022 were found in the store, were not distributed. During the probe, uniforms distribution record was found incomplete, receivers' signatures and thumb impressions were missing in the register which shows inefficiency of the accused officer and also indicates poor record-keeping and potential mismanagement and misappropriation of Govt. resources.
- ii. The accused officer conducted an auction of old vehicle spare parts and other materials from the school store and deposited an amount of Rs. 37,730 in the Govt. treasury through Challan 32-A dated 29.01.2024. Whereas, the accused officer earlier reported that old tyres were shredded and combusted, while driver's statements recorded during probe indicate that more than a dozen old tyres were

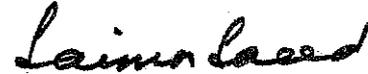
sold in the local market. These contradictory statements of the accused officer tantamount to misconduct and also shows financial irregularities and unauthorized sale of school property for personal gain.

4. The accused officer is directed to submit her written defense to the Inquiry Officer, within **07** days of the receipt of this order. If she fails to submit her written defense within the prescribed period, it shall be presumed that either she has no defense to offer or she has declined to offer the same and she has accepted the charges.

5. **Deputy District Education Officer (Special Education), Sargodha** is appointed as Departmental Representative in terms of Section 9(1)(c) read with Section 12 of the Act *ibid*.

6. In case, the accused officer desires to consult any record on which the aforesaid charges are based or is relevant to the aforesaid charges, she may do so with prior arrangement with the Departmental Representative within **03** days of the receipt of this Order.

7. The Inquiry Officer will submit report and recommendations to the undersigned within sixty days (**60 days**) of the initiation of inquiry in terms of Section 10(6) of the Act *ibid*.



(SAIMA SAEED)
SECRETARY to

GOVERNMENT OF THE PUNJAB
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT /
COMPETENT AUTHORITY

Dated Lahore the
June 24 /2024

NO. & DATE EVEN

A copy is forwarded to: -

1. The Director General, Special Education Punjab, Lahore.
2. The District Education Officer (Special Education), Sargodha.
3. **Mst. Sarwat Nawaz**, Headmistress BS-18, Govt. Special Education Centre, Silanwali, District Sargodha / **Inquiry Officer**.
4. **Deputy District Education Officer (Special Education), Sargodha / Departmental Representative** is directed to ensure delivery of this order to the accused officer through all possible means, provide complete relevant record to the Inquiry Officer and to the accused officer, *if so requested by her*, and assist the Inquiry Officer on each and every date of hearing proceedings.
5. **Accused officer / Ms. Sobia Akram**, Headmistress (BS-17+10%), Govt, Special Education Centre, Shahpur Saddar, District Sargodha.
6. PS to Secretary Special Education Department.



SECTION OFFICER (ESTT.)
SPECIAL EDUCATION DEPARTMENT