Central Administrative Tribunal Principal Bench

CP-271/2003 In OA-2653/2000

New Delhi this the 16th day of September, 2003

Hon'ble Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan, Vice-Chairman (J) Hon'ble Shri V.K. Majotra, Member (A)

R.A. Bhatnagar (Retired SDE) DG-1063 Sarojini Nagar New Delhi-110022.

-Petitioner

(By Advocate: Shri S.N. Anand)

Versus

- Shri Vinod Vaish Secretary Department of Telecommunications Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashoka Road, New Delhi-110001.
- 2. Shri V.K. Chanda
 Member (Services)
 Department of Telecommunications
 Sanchar Bhawan, 20, Ashok Road
 New Delhi-110001.
- 3. Shri D.P. Saini
 Assistant Director General (Vig.II)
 Department of Telecommunications
 West Block-1, Wing 2,
 R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110066.
- 4. Shri R.K. Gupta, CGM UP(West) Telecom Circle Dehra Dun-248001.

-Respondents

(By Advocate: Shri V.S.R. Krishna)

ORDER (Oral)

Hon'ble Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan, Vice-Chairman (J)

We have heard the learned counsel for the parties in CP-271/2003.

2. This Contempt Petition has been filed on 30.7.2003 on which notice was issued on 5.8.2003. it

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is relevant to note that reply affidavit has been filed by respondents on 12.9.2003 in which they have, inter-alia, stated that the due amount of cheque for Rs.12,405/- has been paid to the petitioner as per the orders of the Tribunal dated 3.10.2000. They have also Apologised for the delay in implementation of Tribunal's orders.

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In this regard, it is relevant to note what respondents have stated that the copy of the aforesaid order of the Tribunal has been received their office on 5.2.2003. However, we are constrained to note the lackadaisical attitude of the Department implement the Tribunal's order because evident that until the contempt notice was issued against them in Tribunal's order of 5.8.2003, they did not take any effective steps to implement the same. However, within one month of receipt of the notice, they have paid the due amount to the petitioner. These actions of the respondents show@clearly that their action has resulted in another infructuous litigation, which could have been easily avoided by the State as a model employer. In the circumstances, we caution the Department and its officials to honour the Court/Tribunal's directions and implement them well in time to avoid such litigation, which is not in public interest. However, noting that the respondents have implemented the Tribunal's order, though belatedly and have also apologised for the delay, let the watter rest at this stage.

- 4. With the above observations, Contempt Petition is dismissed. Notices to the alleged contemners are discharged. File to be consigned to the record room.
- 5. Let a copy of this order be issued to respondent No.1, i.e., Secretary, Ministry of Communications, New Delhi, for future guidance and implementation.

(V.K. Majotra) Member (A)

(Smt. Lakshmi Swaminathan) Vice-Chairman (J)

cc.