

30/100
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
GUWAHATI BENCH
GUWAHATI-05

(DESTRUCTION OF RECORD RULES, 1990)

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O.A/T.A No. 208/02
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SECTION OFFICER (Judl.)

Salil
28/11/17

FROM No. 4
(SEE RULE 42)

SENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
GUWAHATI BENCH:

ORDER SHEET

Original Application No. 208/02

Wise Petition No. /

Contempt Petition No. /

Review Application No. /

Applicant(s). S. R. Mazunda

-Vs-

Respondant(s) h.o.t

Advocate for the Appellant(s) A. Ahmed

Advocate for the Respondant(s) C.G.S.C.

Notes of the Registry	Date	Order of the Tribunal
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Application is in
Court of the Appellate
Authority C.F.
Appealed
No. 26527822
26-6-02
Dy. Registr. *[Signature]*
Copy not yet served
on respondents.

Ships taken along
with and stop
[Signature]

26/8/02

This application under Section 19 of the Administrative Tribunals Act has arisen and is directed against the order imposing the penalty Memo No. Vig/1-15/99(Ch.II) dated the 24th June 2002. Admittedly, an appeal lies against such order of penalty. In the circumstances it would be appropriate to direct the applicant to prefer an appeal before the appellate authority within 10 days from to-day.

Heard Mr. A. Ahmed learned counsel appearing on behalf of the applicant and also Mr. A. Deb Roy, Sr. C.G.S.C. for the respondents. Mr. A. Ahmed learned counsel for the applicant has stated that the applicant is retiring in August 2002. Therefore, the authority may be directed to dispose the appeal

contd/-

2.7.02

expeditiously before retirement of the applicant. Mr. Ahmed also submitted that in view of the imposing penalty the disciplinary authority has directed to recover a sum of Rs. 6348/- from the pay of the applicant.

Order dtd. 2/7/02
Communicated to the
Respondent along with
a copy of OA. (Comm)
of the parties.

On
4/7/02

Considering the facts and circumstances we direct the authority to dispose the appeal expeditiously within a month from the date of receipt of the appeal. Till disposal of the appeal, the respondents are directed not to make any recovery from the applicant.

Subject to the observations made above the application is disposed of. No order as to costs.

K. C. Sharma
Member

Vice-Chairman

lm

IN THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL,
GUWAHATI BENCH, GUWAHATI.

(AN APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 19 OF THE
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACT, 1985)

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 208 OF 2002.

Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumder

- Applicant.

-Versus-

Union of India & Others

- Respondents.

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Filed by

Advocate.

(Adil Ahmed)

IN THE CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL,
GAUHATI BENCH AT GAUHATI.

(AN APPLICATION UNDER SECTION 19 OF THE
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL ACT, 1985.)

ORIGINAL APPLICATION NO. 208 OF 2002.

B E T W E E N

Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumder,
Postal Assistant,
G.P.O., Guwahati,
P.O.-Guwahati-1.

- Applicant.

-AND-

1] Union Of India,
represented by the Secretary
to the Government of India,
Ministry of Communication,
New Delhi.

2] The Chief Post Master General,
Assam Circle, Guwahati,
P.O.-Guwahati-781001.

3] The Senior Superintendent of
Post Offices, Guwahati
Division, Guwahati-1.

Sambhu Ram Mazumder

Filed by
Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumder
Applicant
through J.J. Chakraborty
(Advocate)

4] The Superintendent of Postal
Store Depot, P.O.-Bamunimaidam,
Guwahati-21.

Respondents.

DETAILS OF THE APPLICATION:

1. PARTICULARS OF THE ORDER AGAINST
WHICH THE APPLICATION IS MADE:

The instant application is not directed against the impugned Office Memo No. Vig/1-15/99(Ch.II) dated 24th June 2002 issued by the Office of the Respondent No. 2 to the applicant for reduction of his pay by four stages from Rs. 6950/- to Rs. 6350/- in the scale of pay Rs. 5000/- -150-8000 for a period of 2(two) months with effect from the month of June '2002 to July '2002 with further direction that the applicant will not earn increments of pay if any due during the period of reduction and that on expiry of this period the reduction will have the effect of postponing his future increment of pay. It is also ordered that a sum of Rs. 6348/- (Rupees six thousand three hundred forty eight) only be recovered from the pay of the applicant in 3(three) equal installments @ Rs. 2116/- per month from the pay of June '2002 to August' 2002 towards partial recoupment of loss to Govt.

Sambhu Das Majumdar

2. JURISDICTION OF THE TRIBUNAL

The applicant declares that the subject matter of the instant application is within the jurisdiction of the Hon'ble Tribunal.

3. LIMITATION

The applicant further declares that the application is within the limitation period prescribed under Section 21, of the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985.

4. FACTS OF THE CASE

Facts of the case in brief are given below:

4.1] That your humble applicant is citizen of India and as such, he is entitled to all the rights and privileges and protection granted by the Constitution of India.

4.2 That your applicant begs to state that he joined in Postal Department in 1965. He is working very sincerely and honestly with utmost satisfaction to the authority concerned. He is going to be retired on superannuation from the Postal Department in the month of August, 2002.

Sambhu Ram Mayur

- 4 -

4.3] That your applicant is now working as Postal Assistant, Guwahati G.P.O., Guwahati. Earlier your applicant was Postal Assistant in the Office of the Superintendent of Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21. While he was working as Postal Assistant at Postal Store Depot he was asked to look after as Assistant Manager (P.S.D.) from 19-05-1998 to 28-05-1998, during the leave of Sri Jiwan Chandra Das, Regular Assistant Manager, Postal Store Depot in addition to his own duty. Sri Jiwan Chandra Das or the Respondent did not give him any opportunity, instruction or order to verify the stock of the store with the Stock register. In this regard he had written a letter to the Respondent about his inability to operate the Godown of the postal depot as look after Assistant Manager. But the authority rejected his prayer.

4.4 That your applicant begs to state that the Office of the Respondent No. 4, has issued a letter No. SD/Vig-I/98-99 dated 25-10-2000 about alleged discrepancy in the stock of printing paper of size 43 X 69 Cm, and he was given opportunity to submit representation in support of his defense if any within 10 (ten) days after receive of the said letter. The applicant submitted the representation in this regard and totally denied the charges brought against him. The

Sambhunandan Majumdar

Respondent No. 4 issued another Office Memorandum with article of charges under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) vide O.M. No. SD/Rule-14/ 2000-01 dated 29-11-2000.

Annexure-A is the photocopy of letter No. SD/Vig-I/98-99 dated 25-10-2000.

Annexure-B is the photocopy of Office Memorandum No. SD/Rule - 14/2000-01 dated 29-11-2000 along with article of charges brought against the applicant.

4.5 That your applicant begs to state that Sri Jiwan Chandra Das, the Assistant Manager, Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21 was charge sheeted vide Memo. No. SD/Vig-I/98-99 dated 09-01-2001 in the same vigilance case and was ordered by one Sri A C Das, Superintendent of Postal Store Depot, Guwahati to recover Rs. 16,000/- only from Jiwan Chandra Das, Assistant Manager, P.S.D., Guwahati-21 from his pay from the month of January, 2001 on installment at Rs. 2000/- per month. It may be stated that during the leave of Sri Jiwan Chandra Das, Assistant Manager, P.S.D., Guwahati your applicant

Sambhu Ran Majumdar

worked as Look After Assistant Manager from the period 19-05-1998 to 28-05-1998.

Annexure-C is the photocopy of Memo No. SD/Vig-1/98-99 dated 09-01-2001.

4.6 That the applicant begs to state that Sri S. Dey Purkayastha was appointed as Inquiry Officer under Departmental Inquiry Rule 14 of CCS (CCA) Rules 1965 against your applicant. The said Inquiry Officer informed your applicant vide letter Inquiry-14/1/2001 dated 21-05-2001 that preliminary inquiry against the vigilance Case will be held on 29-05-2001 in the "Office of Superintendent, Postal Store Depot, Guwahati at 10.00 A.M. Your applicant was asked to attend the proceeding either alone or accompanied by Defense Assistant on the appointed date, time and place failing which the proceedings shall be held ex-parte. The Proceedings of preliminary inquiry was held on 29-05-2001 in presence of your applicant.

Annexure-D is the photocopy of letter No. Inquiry-14/1/2001 dated 21-05-2001.

Annexure-E is the photocopy of preliminary hearing dated 29-05-2001.

Sambhu Pan Mynor

4.7 The applicant begs to state that he made request to the Inquiry Officer to supply some important documents vide his letter dated 04-06-2001 but the Inquiry Officer rejected it vide his letter No. Inquiry-14/1/2001 dated 10-07-2001 on the ground that it is irrelevant with the Inquiry. The Inquiry Officer vide his another letter on the same date fixed the next hearing of the case on 19-07-2001 and 20-07-2001.

Annexure-F & G are the photocopies of letters No. Inquiry-14/1/2001 dated 10-07-2001.

4.8 That your applicant begs to state that regular hearing of the case was held on 19-07-2001, 20-07-2001 and 20-08-2001 and your applicant also submitted his defence statements on 30-10-2001.

Annexure-H is the photocopy of Defence statement submitted by the applicant on 30-10-2001.

4.9 That your applicant begs to state that after handing over the charge by the applicant to Sri Jiban Chandra Das, Regular Assistant Manager ~~and~~ the said Sri Das, Assistant Manager has open the paper go-down in three subsequent dates, i.e., 04-06-98, 11-06-98 and 12-06-98. He supplied papers to different firms. But he did not report any

Sankha Das Majumder

loss or shortage of paper to the authority till 12-06-98. He submitted his report loss to the authority after 27 (twenty-seven) days from the date of handing over charge by the applicant.

It may be stated that when the Departmental proceeding did not completed till February 2002 the applicant approached this Hon'ble Tribunal by filing the OA No. 28 of 2002 for early completion of the said Departmental Proceeding as the applicant is going to be retired on superannuation in the month of August 2002. The Hon'ble Tribunal vide his order dated 12-02-2002 passed in O.A. No. 28/2002 directed the Respondents "to complete the exercise within six weeks from today. If the applicant is aggrieved by the decision of the authority he may approach the Tribunal if so advised as per law." But the Respondents did not completed the entire proceedings within the time framed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in this regard. So the applicant was compelled to file the Contempt Petition No. 18/2002 before the Hon'ble Tribunal. After filing the contempt petition the Respondents issued the impugned Office Memo No. Vig/1-15/99(Ch.II) dated 24-06-2002 to the applicant by which it was ordered that the pay of the applicant be reduced by four stages from Rs. 6950/- to Rs. 6350/- in the scale of pay Rs. 5000/- -150-8000 for a

Sankalp Panayad

- 4 -

period of 2(two) months with effect from the month of June '2002 to July '2002 with further direction that the applicant will not earn increments of pay if any due during the period of reduction and that on expiry of this period the reduction will have the effect of postponing his future increment of pay. It is also ordered that a sum of Rs. 6348/- (Rupees six thousand three hundred forty eight) only be recovered from the pay of the applicant in 3(three) equal installments @ Rs. 2116/- per month from the pay of June '2002 to August' 2002 towards partial recoupment of loss to Govt.

Annexure-I is the photocopy of Order dated 12-02-2002 passed by this Hon'ble Tribunal in OA No. 28/2002.

Annexure-J is the photocopy, of impugned Office Memo No. Vig/1-15/99(Ch.II) dated 24-06-2002.

4.10 That your applicant begs to state that the Respondents with a motive behind illegally victimize the applicant by way of disciplinary proceedings to hide the face of their interested persons.

4.11 That your applicant begs to state that he has filed an appeal before the authority but now it is necessary for the applicant to stop the recovery amount of Rs.

Sambhu Ram Narine

14

6348/- which is going to be recovered from the applicant by the Respondents from his monthly pay bill for the month of June 2002. Moreover, he is going to be retired on superannuation in the month of August 2002. As such, the applicant is compelled to approach this Hon'ble Tribunal for seeking justice and also for an interim order for not to recover the said amount Rs. 6348/- from the applicant till finalization of this case. Otherwise, the applicant will face acute financial hardships.

4.12 That your applicant submits that the action of the Respondents is mala fide, illegal, arbitrary and whimsical and also with a motive behind.

4.13 That your applicant submits that the Respondents have resorted the colourable exercise of power to deprive the applicant from getting his due pensionary benefits.

4.14 That the applicant submits that the Respondents deliberately done serious injustice to the applicant by issuing the said impugned order dated 24-06-2002.

4.15 That this application is made bona fide and for the ends of justice.

Sambhu Pan Majumdar

15

5. GROUNDS FOR RELIEF WITH LEGAL PROVISION:

5.1 For that, on the reasons and facts which are narrated above, the action of the respondents, is *prima facie* illegal and without jurisdiction. As such, the impugned office Memo is liable to be set aside and quashed.

5.2 For that the impugned Memo is arbitrary and illegal. The applicant can not be held responsible for the acts which have done by the others. As such, the impugned office Memo is liable to be set aside and quashed.

5.3 For that the malicious intention of the Respondents is writ large from the facts of the case. Now the impugned order was issued to the applicant to protect some interested persons of the Respondents.

5.4 For that, the Respondents are taking advantage of dilatory tactic to give mental and financial pressure to the applicant. As such, actions of the Respondents are arbitrary, mala fide, illegal and also with a motive behind.

Samuelson Magnus

5.5 For that, the actions of the Respondents are not maintainable in law as well as in facts.

5.6 For that, in any view of the matter the action of the respondents are not sustainable in the eye of law and hence the same is liable to be set aside and quashed.

The applicants crave leave of this Hon'ble Tribunal to advance further grounds at the time of hearing of this instant application.

6. DETAILS OF REMEDIES EXHAUSTED:

That there is no other alternative and efficacious remedy available to the applicants except invoking the jurisdiction of this Hon'ble Tribunal under Section 19 of the Administrative Tribunal Act, 1985.

7. MATTERS NOT PREVIOUSLY FILED OR PENDING IN ANY OTHER COURT:

That the applicant further declares that he has not filed any writ petition or suit in respect of the subject matter of the instant application before any other Court,

Sambhu Das Nayak

nor any such writ petition or suit is pending before any of them.

8. RELIEF SOUGHT FOR:

Under the facts and circumstances stated above the applicant most respectfully prays that your Lordships may be pleased to admit this petition and may call for records of the case, issue rule calling upon the Respondents to show cause as to why the relief/reliefs should not be given to the applicant and after hearing the parties on the cause or causes that may be shown and on perusal of records your Lordships may be pleased to grant the following relief/reliefs to the applicant:

- 8.1 to set aside and quash the impugned Office Memo No. Vig./1-15/99(Ch.II) dated 24-06-2002 issued by the Respondents to the applicant (Annexure-J).
- 8.2 to grant such further or other relief or reliefs to which the applicant may be entitled having regard to the facts and circumstances of the case.

Samuel Dan Maguire

8.3 Grant the Cost of this application to the applicant.

9.) INTERIM ORDER PRAYED FOR:

Pending disposal of this Original application the applicant most respectfully prays for an interim order for staying the Impugned Office Memo No. Vig. /1-15/99(Ch.II) dated 24-06-2002 at Annexure-J and also staying the recovery of Rs. 6348/- from the applicant till final disposal of the instant Original Application.

10.) Application Is Filed Through Advocate.

11.) Particulars of I.P.O.:

I.P.O. NO. 7G577822

Date Of Issue 26.2.2002

Issued from Gauhati Q. P.O.,

Payable at Gauhati

12.) LIST OF ENCLOSURES:

As stated above.

- Verification.

Sambhu Das Majumder

VERIFICATION

I, Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumder, Postal Assistant, G.P.O., Guwahati, P.O.-Guwahati-1, the applicant of the instant case do hereby solemnly verify that the statements made in paragraphs 4.1 to 4.3, 4.10, 4.11, 4.12- are true to my knowledge; those made in paragraphs 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.8, 4.9, are being matters of records are true to information derived therefrom which I believe to be true and those made in paragraph 5 are true to my legal advice and rest are my humble submissions before this Hon'ble Tribunal I have not suppressed any material facts.

And I sign this verification today on this the 1st day of July 2002 at Guwahati.



Declarant

Department of Posts, India
Office of the Supdt. Postal Store Depot, Guwahati. 781021

No. SD/Vig-1/98-99

To
Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar,
P.A. O/O the Supdt. Postal
Store Depot, Guwahati.
Dated at Guwahati the 25-10-2000.

Sub:- Alleged discrepancy in the stock of
Printing Paper of size 43x69 cms.

It is observed that during the period of leave of Sri Jiwan Ch. Das, Asstt. Manager, Postal Store Depot, during the period from 19-05-98 to 28-05-98, you were ordered to look after the works of Asstt. Manager, Postal Store Depot. It is found that as per the order, you looked after the duties of the Asstt. Manager during the above said period. Being the Asstt. Manager, it was necessary on your part to take over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with the stock register as the stocks were under the charge of Jiwan Ch. Das earlier just before you. In your written Statement dtd. 2-7-98 given before the then L.P.O. (U), it has been stated by you that neither you see the stock nor the stock was given to you. It was necessary on your part to take over the stock correctly or to report discrepancy if any under Rule 276 of P&T Manual 3rd edition (2nd reprint). Failing to take over the stock of articles carefully checking them with the stock register while you took over the works of Asstt. manager, it is alleged that you did not observe the spirit of the rule 276 as mentioned above.

While examining the Register of Key maintained in the PSD/ Guwahati you were found to have taken over the keys of Paper Godown on 20-05-98 and 21-05-98. The stock Register of Printing Paper reflected that on 20.5.98 you in the capacity of Asstt. Manager issued papers of size 43X69 cms for printing in Risograph Printing Machine and on 21.5.98 you have issued papers of size 43X69 cms to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guwahati-5 for printing of one lakh Est-36 vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.5.98. Again on 21.5.98 you have issued paper of size 69X86 cms to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guwahati-5 for printing of 2000 books of 3-37 vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.5.98 and on the same order you have issued Cover of size 56X71.1 cms on that day i.e 21.5.98. Again on 21.5.98 you have issued to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guwahati-5 paper of size 43X69 cm for printing of 100 pads of Prescription Slip vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 14/5.98, paper of size 56X91 cms for printing of one lakh Corr-67 vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 14/15-05-98 and paper of size 56X91 cms for printing of one lakh Daily Bag Balance Report vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.05.98.

As per Memo of Distribution of Works, Asstt. Manager is the custodian of Printing Papers. He is also to maintain proper account of stock of papers and fully responsible for accountability, short/excess in stock of papers.

After resumption of duty by Sri Jiwan Ch. Das, Asstt. Manager it was reported to Supdt. PSD/Guwahati on 25.6.98 that there is discrepancy in the stock of paper. Accordingly inquiry was instituted and shortage of 116 Reams and 191 sheets of printing paper of the size 43X69 cms was established. The cost of 116 Reams 191 sheets of the paper of 43X69 cms comes to Rs. 32,383.29 @ Rs. 278.25 per Ream, according the entry in the remarks column of page No. 205 of the Stock Register.

*After 1st
Advan
C.S. → Advance*

Thus it is alleged that laxity on your part to observe the spirit of rules contained under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol. II 3rd edition (2nd reprint) and failure to follow contents of Works distribution memo contributed towards the loss of papers worth of Rs.32,383.29, while working as Asstt. Manager PSD/Guwahati, which constitutes a grave misconduct and which deserves a serious view.

However, before being resorted to such action you are given an opportunity to submit representation in support of your defence if any within 10 days of receipt of this letter failing which it will be presumed that you have no representation to make and action as deemed fit will be initiated.

30/11/2008
T. A. Das
Supdt. Postal Stores Depot
Guwahati- 781 021

After Tel
JD *Anscombe*

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS : INDIA
OFFICE OF THE SUPDT. POSTAL STORES DEPOT
GUWAHATI-781021

No. SD/Rule-14/2000-01.
Dated at Guwahati the 29-11-2000.

MEMORANDUM

The undersigned proposes to hold an inquiry against Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar P.A./PSD/CH under Rule 14 of the Central Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of articles of charge (Annexure I). A statement of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of each article of charge is enclosed (Annexure II). A list of documents by which, and a list of witnesses by whom, the articles of charge are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexures III and IV).

2. Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar is directed to submit within 10 days of the receipt of this Memorandum a written statement of his defence and also to state whether he desires to be heard in person.

3. He is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charges as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

4. Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defence on or before the date specified in para 2 above, or does not appear in person before the inquiring authority or otherwise fails or refuses to comply with the provisions of Rule 14 of the CCS (CCA) Rules, 1965, or the orders/directions issued in pursuance of the said rule, the inquiring authority may hold the inquiry against him ex parte.

5. Attention of Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar is invited to Rule 20 of the Central Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt with in these proceedings it will be presumed that Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule 20 of the CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

6. The receipt of the Memorandum may be acknowledged.

To, ✓

Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar
P.A./Postal Stores Depot,
Guwahati. 781021.

(A.C.Das.)
Superintendent
Postal Stores Depot, Guwahati

Attn: Col
J. S.  Attn: to

Annexure-1.

Statement of articles of charge framed against Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A/ Postal Store Depot, Guwahati, 7810021

Article-1.

That the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A. Postal Store Depot, while functioning as Asstt. Manager Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21 during the period from 19-05-98 to 29-5-98 (F/N) failed to take over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with the Stock register, while resuming duty on 19-05-98 as Asstt. manager, Postal Store Depot, as was required under Rule 276 of P&T manual Vol II 3rd edition (2nd reprint), which resulted discrepancies in stock of printing papers and thereby failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. Servant in contravention of Rule 3 (1)(ii) and 3(1) (iii) of CCS (conduct) Rules, 1964.

Article-II

That during the aforesaid period, while functioning in the aforesaid office, the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, being the custodian of printing Papers failed to excercise his duty as entrusted as per memo of distribution of works and contributed towards loss of 116 ream 191 sheets of paper of size 43x69cm valued of Rs. 32383.29 from his custody and thus failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. Servant in contravention of Rule 3(1)(ii) and 3(1)(iii) of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Annexue-II

Statement of imputation of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of the articles of charge framed against Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A/ Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21.

Article-1

That the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, Senior most P.A. was ordered to look after the works of the Asstt. Manager in addition to his share of work during the leave vacancy of Sri J.C. Das. Accordingly Sri Sambhu Ram Majumdar looked after the work of Asstt. Manager during the period from 19.5.98 to 29.5.98 (F/N). Under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol. II, 3rd edition (2nd reprint), it was necessary on the part of Shri Majumdar to take over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with the Stock Register while resuming duty as Asstt. manager on 19.5.98 as the stocks were under the charge of Sri Jiwan Ch. Das, Asstt. Manager during the period prior to proceeding on leave. But the said Sri Majumdar did not do so. Subsequently, Sri Das Returning from leave made a report as to the discrepancy in stock of paper to Mgmt. P&T/ Guwahati. Inquiry instituted revealed that there were shortage of 116 Reams and 191 sheets of printing paper of the size 43X69cms in Stock.

Thus the said Shri Majumdar failing to observe the spirit of rules contained under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol. II 3rd edition(2nd reprint), contributed towards

After Tel
J.D. —
Answer to

discrepancies in stock of papers, while working as Asstt. Manager PSD/Guahati. Thus it is alleged that the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. Servant in contravention of Rule 3(1)(ii) and 3(1)(iii) of CCS (conduct) Rules, 1964

Article-II

That the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, while working as Asstt. Manager postal Store Depot, Guahati-21, was found to have taken over the keys of the Paper Godown on 20-5-98, and 21-05-98. Stock Register reflected that on 20-5-98, Shri Majumdar, in the capacity of Asstt. Manager issued papers of size 43X69 cms for printing in Risograph Printing Machine and on 21.5.98, Sri Majumdar issued papers of size 43X69 cms to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guahati-5 for printing of one lakh Est-36 vide order No SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.5.98. Again on 21.5.98, Sri Majumdar, issued paper of size 69X86 cms to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guahati-5 for printing of 2000 books of S-37 vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.5.98 and on the same order Sri Majumdar issued cover of size 56X71.1 cms on that day i.e 1.5.98. Again on 21.5.98, Sri Majumdar issued to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press, Guahati-5 paper of size 43X69 cm for printing of 100 pads of Prescription Slip vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 14/15.5.98, paper of size 56X91 cms for printing of one lakh Corr-67 vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 14/15-05-98 and paper of size 56X91 cms for printing of one lakh Daily Bag Balance Report vide order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd 15.05.98.

Though the said Sri Majumdar repeatedly supplied papers from the stock, no discrepancy was reported on the above particularised dates. Subsequently, discrepancy in stock of papers was reported to Supdt. PSD/Guahati by Sri Jiwan Ch. Das Asstt. manager after returning from leave. On receipt of the report of discrepancy inquiry was instituted and shortage of 116 Reams and 191 sheets of printing paper of the size 43X69 cms was established. The cost of 116 Reams 191 sheets of the paper of 43X69 cms comes to Rs. 32,383.29 @Rs. 278.25 per Ream.

As per Memo of Distribution of Works, Asstt. Manager is the custodian of Printing Papers. He is also to maintain proper account of stock of papers and fully responsible for accountability, short/excess in stock of papers.

Sri Sambhu Ram Majumdar failing to exercise duty as entrusted as per Memo of distribution of works, contributed towards the loss of papers worth of Rs. 32,383.29, while working as Asstt. Manager PSD/Guahati. Thus it is alleged that the said Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. Servant in contravention of Rule 3(1)(ii) and 3(1)(iii) of CCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Annexure-III

List of documents by which the articles of charge against Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A./P.S.D/Guahati are proposed to be sustained

- (1) Stock register of paper
- (2) Register of Keys.
- (3) One Month after the Duty of Asstt. manager.

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4) Memo of distribution of works.
(5) Report dtd 25-6-98 to Sudt. PSD by Jiwan Ch. Das Asstt. Manager regarding discrepancy of paper of size 43x69 cm.
(6) Written representation dtd. 2-11-2000 of Sri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A. PSD/GH.
(7) Written Statement of Sri Sambhu Ram Majumdar P.A./PSD/GH dtd. 2-7-98
(8) Written Statement of Sri jiwan Ch. Das. Asstt. Manager, PSD/GH dtd. 30-6-98.
(9) Written Statement of Sri Bhupendra Nath Chaudhury, Accountant PSD/GH dtd. 1-7-98.
(10) Written Statement of Sri Mahesh Ch. Das P.A./G.P.O./GH dtd 2-7-98.
(11) Written Statement of Sri Sarbeswar Kalita Night Guard/PSD/GH dtd. 30-6-98.

Annexure-IV

List of witnesses by whom the articles of charge framed against Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, P.A./PSD/GH are proposed to be sustained

1. Sri Bhupendranath Haloi SDI(P) Pathsala Sub Divn. pathsala.
2. Sri Jiwan Ch. Das. Asstt. Manager, PSD/GH
3. Sri Bhupendra Nath Chaudhury, Accountant, PSD/GH
4. Sri Mahesh Ch. Das P.A./Guwahati GPO
5. Sri Sarbeswar Kalita. Night Guard/ PSD/GH


Superintendent
Postal Stores Depot, Guwahati


Addl. Superintendent


Department of Posts, India
Office of the Supdt. Postal Stores Depot, Guwahati 781021

Memo No. SD/Vig-1/98-99

Dated at Guwahati the 09-01-2001.

Das, Asstt. Manager, Postal Stores Depot/Guwahati-21 was informed that it was proposed to take action against him under Rule-16 of CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965. A statement of imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour on which action was proposed to be taken was also enclosed therein. The Memo as mentioned above was delivered to Sri Jiwan Ch. Das on 24-11-2000 under receipt. Sri Jiwan Ch. Das was given an opportunity to submit representation in support of his defence within 10 days of receipt of the said Memo. The charges brought against Sri Jiwan Ch. Das was as under-

That the said Shri Jiwan Ch. Das, while working as Asstt. Manager, Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21 went on leave w.e.f. 19-05-98 to 28-05-98. Asstt. Manager being the incharge of the stock of forms / printing papers, it was essential to make arrangement against him. Accordingly Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar Senior most P.A. was ordered to look after the works of the Asstt. Manager in addition to his share of work. Accordingly Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar looked after the work of Asstt. Manager during the period from 19.5.98 to 29.5.98 (F/N). On expiry of leave, the said Shri Das resumed duty in the F/N of 29.5.98. As per instructions contained Under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol. II, 3rd edition (2nd reprint), it was necessary on the part of Shri Das to take over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with the Stock Register, while resuming duty on 29.5.98, as the stocks were under the charge of Sri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar who looked after the duties of Asstt. Manager during the period of leave mentioned above. But the said Sri Das did not do so.

After joining to his duty, Sri Das was found to have taken over the keys of the Paper Godown on 4.6.98, 11.6.98 and 12.6.98. The Stock Register of Printing Papers reflected that on 4.6.98, Shri Das, in the capacity of Asstt. Manager issued papers of size 43X69 cms to M/S Bobby Printing and Binding House Guwahati-27 for printing 500 books of SK-1 (Small) as per Order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd. 1.6.98. It was also noticed that though Shri Das took over the keys of Paper Godown on 11.6.98 as per Register of Keys, no printing papers found to have issued on 11.6.98. On 12.6.98 it was noticed that Shri Das went to Paper Godown, twice at 1140 hrs and 1515 hrs. The Stock Register of printing paper exhibits that on 12.6.98 papers of size 56X91 cms were issued for cutting and printing in the Risograph Printing Machine of the office. Again on the same day papers of size 56X91 cms were found to have issued to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press for printing of one lakh Corr-67 (Small envelope) as per order No. SD/LP/Tender-02/97-98 dtd. 14/15-05-98.

As per Memo of distribution of Works, Asstt. Manager is the custodian of Printing Papers. He is also to maintain proper account of stock of papers and fully responsible for accountability, short/excess in stock of papers.

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J. D. — Adamte*

It was alleged that after resumption to duty, Shri Das though repeatedly supplied papers from the stock, no discrepancy was reported on the above particularised dates. Subsequently, discrepancies in stock of papers was reported to Supdt. PSD/Guwahati on 25.6.98 i.e. after 27 days of resumption to his duty after expiry of leave. On receipt of the report of discrepancy, inquiry was instituted and shortage of 116 Reams and 191 sheets of printing paper of the size 43X69 cms was established. The cost of 116 Reams 191 sheets of the paper of 43X69 cms comes to Rs. 32,383.29 @Rs. 278.25 per Ream. Thus, it was alleged that the said Shri Das failing to observe the spirit of rules contained under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol. II 3rd edition (2nd reprint) as well as to exercise duty as entrusted as per Memo of distribution of works, exhibited misconduct and contributed towards the loss of papers worth of Rs. 32,383.29, while working as Asstt. Manager PSD/Guwahati.

Thus it was alleged that the said Shri Jiwan Ch. Das failed to maintain absolute integrity; devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt Servant in contravention of Rule 3(1) (i), 3(1)(ii) and 3(1) (iii) of CCS (Conduct Rules) 1964."

On receipt of the memorandum, as said above, Sri Jiwan Ch. Das requested to allow him to inspect the statement of Sri B.N. Choudhury the then manager in charge and of Sri Sarbeswar Kalita, Night Guard of the Paper Godown, for his feasibility to submit defence statement vide his letter dtd. 04-12-2000. Two reports were

Considering his request, the photo copy of the above said two statements were supplied to Sri Jiwan Ch. Das vide this office letter of even no dtd. 04-12-2000. Thereafter Sri Jiwan Ch. Das submitted his defence statement dtd. 19-12-2000 which reads as follows-

"With reference to your memorandum no. Sd/Vig-1/98-99 dtd. 24-11-2000 served on me enclosing thereto a statement of allegations with charge for violation of Rules 3(1) (i), 3(1)(ii), 3(1)(iii) of CCS Conduct Rules 1964 proposing thereby to take action against me under Rule 16.

As directed vide your above memo, I with due respect and submission, beg to place before you the following statement, of my defence for favour of your perusal and careful consideration, realistic assessment of the situation and facts relating to the allegation against me and take a favourable decision in the matter.

The allegation precisely pointed are that there was a shortage of papers in the Godown amounting to 116 Reams and 191 Sheets of the size of 43x69 cm papers. Prior to the aforesaid proposal, I was called upon to explain on the same allegations as levelled against me and with due obedience, I submitted my explanations vide letter dtd. 14-11-2000 but it is a matter of resentment that no opinion was made by your good self as to whether my explanation was at all untenable and downright rejected. Having regard to my above contention I held the view that there was tendency and motive to initiate action against me abruptly to show and exhaust departmental channel to shirk the authority's responsibility and had it not been so, no allegations relating to the month of May/98 would have been levelled hurriedly now at the 12th hour of my retirement to commence on 31-01-2001. Thus it is held and rationally viewed that

Attest
Q.D. *[Signature]*

principles of justice were denied and it goes against the provision and guidelines of the discipline covered under the article 311 of the Indian Constitution.

It is consistent and proved by the statement dtd. 01-07-98 and 30-06-98 of Sarbasree B.N. Chaudhury and Sarbeswar Kalita supplied to me under your letter No even dtd. 04-12-2000 that the alleged shortage took place during my leave i.e. on 21-05-98 by way of theft in day light. Consequently doubt arose in the mind of the authority that the stock of papers in the Godown was handled unauthorisedly by the official posted to stop-gap of 10 days of leave. Evidently there was clandestine deal in collaboration and even after renewing the fact no report was made to Police and had it been done the stolen materials i.e. Papers could have been recovered.

The stop gap arrangement for mere 10 days as it tends to think, reflect otherwise before doing so no office for standing orders as prevailed were consulted but an official of doubtful character was entrusted to higher responsibility. Further as I know there was specific restriction in the handling of paper stock by the official put to stop gap of my leave but this was not examined before posting of a substitute.

It is my fervent request to you to judge carefully the point that the incidence of theft or dishonest deal was not attributed to the alleged failure of proper accounting of paper stock at the time of my rejoining after leave on 29-05-98. The position and feasibility of detecting any discrepancy in any particular size of papers were very remote and instantaneous as explained in my letter dtd. 14-11-2000 which I would request may kindly be treated as a part of my defence in this respect and also having due cognizance to what has been stated in the related matter by S/Sri B.N. Chaudhury and Sarbeswar Kalita.

Under the facts and circumstances stated above and having a realistic view on my long unblemished service records without any stigma, I would fervently request you to kindly consider me in the matter of allegation with leniency and exonerate me from the perviewed of the charge and thus do justice before my retirement on 31-01-2001.

In the Defence statement Sri Jiwan Ch. Das referred to his earlier representation dtd. 14-11-2000 which reads as under-

"With reference to the above, I beg to state that prior to proceeding on leave w.e.f. 19-05-98 there was no discrepancy of paper in stock.

That Sir, on resumption to duty from leave on 29-5-98, Infact I have supplied different size of Papers in compliance to office order to press and office Risho printing machine on different dates. Sometimes I happened to visit twice to the Paper Godown for supply of papers to different printers on their attendance for lifting papers as also for supply of papers for the use of office Risho Printing Machine and debit of balance of stock have accordingly been casted in the Stock Register.

On 23-6-98 I had been ordered for supply of 40 ream Printing Papers of size 43x69 cm to M/s Bobby Printing and binding house. Surprisingly I found only 21 ream 190 sheets of printing papers available in stock. I supplied 21 reams papers to the Press on 23-6-98 and non availability papers in stock was reported verbally

Ans

fil Advocate

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to the office on the advice of the office, I have thoroughly checked the stock of papers of all sizes on 24-6-98, and finding no trace of shortage, the matter was reported to the authority in writing on 25-6-98.

Slr, In fact the Asstt. Manager is the Custodian of Paper Godown and responsible for maintenance of correct stock of papers received from DSSRD and local purchase and are used to be kept in a small room and for want of proper accomodation storing and stocking of papers size wise hampered. Very often paper used to be kept mixing with other size of papers for accomodation problem.

That Slr, on resumption from leave on 29-5-98, on good faith, I have taken the stock as good. During my incumbency as Asstt. Manager, I have discharged my duties and responsibilities faithfully.

Under the circumstances, explained above, I beg to pray your goodself to consider my case sympathetically and exonerate me from the charges in consideration of faithful and unblemished services rendered to the Department during the period of my entire 40 years service."

I have gone through the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour on which action was proposed to be taken. Defence statement of the official and all other connected documents of the case carefully and observed that the said Sri Jiwan Ch. Das could not put forward any convincing ground to refute the charges brought against him.

In the defence statement of the official, Sri Das referred to his earlier representation dtd. 14-11-2000, wherein Sri Das clearly admitted that the Asstt. Manager is the custodian of paper godown and responsible for maintenance of correct stock of papers. Sri Das also stated in his representation that on good faith he did take the charge of the stock of paper as correct, on resumption to duty after leave on 29-5-98. Being the responsible Govt. Servant with too many years of Service on record, taking over of Stock of Papers on good faith, on the part of Sri Das is the sheer negligence towards his duty and thereby the said Sri Das contributed towards the loss of papers of the size 43x69 worth of Rs. 32383.29. Thus the very admittance of the fact by the official itself proved the charges brought against Sri Das.

Further it is found that the said Sri Das resumed duty on 29-5-98 after leave and he supplied papers thereafter on 4-6-98 and 12-6-98. The supply included the papers of size 43x69 also. But Sri Das did not report any discrepancy. There after on 25-6-98, after 27 days of resumption to duty/taking over of the charge of the Godown, Sri Das reported the discrepancy. In this position there remain no scope to the said Sri Das to evade his contribution towards the loss of papers under his custody.

Sri Das, in his defence representation dtd. 19-12-2000 put a question of denial of natural justice too. In this point it is evident that the memorandum enclosing the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour was served to Sri Das on 24-11-2000. Sri Das was given ample opportunity to submit his defence representation within 10 days of receipt of the letter. Sri Das desired to inspect the Statement of Sri B.N. Chaudhury and Sri Sarbeswar Kalita, which were supplied to him and finally Sri Das submitted his defence statement on 19-12-2000 i.e. after 25 days of receipt of the memo of imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour. In this position, the question of denial of natural justice

Attn: 1
J. D. F. D. 10/12/2000

to the said Sri Das does not arise at all.

Sri Das also pointed out the statement of Sri B.N. Chaudhury and Surbeswar Kalita and put forward some other issues which are not at all convincing to evade his contributions towards the loss to the Govt.

The foregoing discussions made above clearly establish the charges brought against Sri Jiwan Ch. Das and found that the said Sri Das contributed towards the loss of papers worth of Rs. 32,363.29 while working as Asstt. Manager, PSD/Guwahati-21. Therefore, keeping in view the partial recoulement of loss, caused to the Govt. and to meet the end of justice the following orders are passed-

Order.

- I, Sri A.C. Das, Supdt. Postal Stores Depot/Guwahati-21, hereby order that an amount of Rs. 16000/- (Sixteen thousands) only be recovered from the pay of Sri Jiwan Ch. Das, Asst. Manager, P.S.D./Guwahati-21, commencing from the pay for the month of January/ 2001 on instalments (a) Rs. 2000/- per month.

Sd/-
(A.C. Das.)

Supdt. Postal Stores Depot
Guwahati-21.

*After C
J.C. → Banerjee*

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS: INDIA
OFFICE OF THE SR. SUPDT OF POST OFFICES
GUWAHATI D.N. GUWAHATI-781001.

NO. Inquiring - 14/1/2001 dt. Guly, 21-5-01

To

Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar,
PA (BCR), Guwahati G.P.O.

Sub:- Departmental inquiry under Rule 14 of the CCS (CA), Rules, 1965 against Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, PA, PSD, Guwahati-21.

Sir,

Under his order no. SD/Rule-14/2000-01 dt 25-1-2001, a copy of which has been endorsed to you also, the Supdt. PSD, Guwahati has appointed me as the Inquiring Authority to enquire into the charges framed against you vide his memo No. SD/Rule-14/2000-01 dt 29-11-2000.

I shall hold preliminary hearing in the case on 29-5-01 in the office of the Supdt. PSD, Guwahati at 10.00 A.M. You are, therefore, required to attend the proceedings either alone or accompanied by your Defence Assistant. The date, time and place, failing which the proceedings shall be held ex parte.

Instructions for getting your Defence Assistant relieved will be issued if his particulars and willingness to work as such along with the particulars of his controlling authority are received by me before 25-5-01.

Attn: J.S. *[Signature]*

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Article nominating a serving
Government Servant as Defence
Assistant the instructions on the
subject should be kept in view.

yours faithfully

G. DEY PURKAYASTHA

Inquiry office

গুৱাহাটী পৰিষাক পাইকা

গুৱাহাটী মেট্রো, গুৱাহাটী

Ass't. Superintendent of P.O.

Guwahati Division

Guwahati, 781001

Copy to :-

1. Sri Rabindra Biswas,
Presenting office, A.S.P (HQ), of the
S.S.P.O., Guwahati, Do, Guwahati.
He is requested to attend the
Preliminary Hearing along with all
the listed documents and copies
of the statements of listed witnesses,
any recorded during preliminary
investigation as per programme
given above.

2. Mr. Postman, Guwahati
C.P.O. He is requested
to charge office the
Preliminary Hearing on
date, time and place
appointed.

3. Mr. Subdt. P.S.D. Guwahati
for information and necessary
action.

4. Mr. S. S. Subdt. P. O. Guwahati
for information and
necessary action.

Arif
Q. J. J.

Sd/-

G. DEY PURKAYASTHA
Inquiry office

Proceedings of Preliminary Enquiry
Receiving dt 29-5-01

The proceedings were taken up by me in the office of the Supdt. PSD, Guorahati on 29-5-01 at 10.00 hours when the following were present :-

1. Shri Rabindra Biswas, Presenting officer.
2. Shri Sambhul Ram Mazumder, Charged officer.

The C.O. when questioned by the S.O. admitted to have received the charge sheet and to have understood the charges against him fully. He, however, pleaded not guilty for all the charges levelled against him.

The charged officer has submitted an application dt- 28-5-01 to Shri Bhinique Ram Lahkar Retd AFM, Guorahati GPO. who has given willingness to work as Defense Assistant which is accepted by the S.O.

The P.O. as directed, appeared before me with all the listed documents which were offered to the C.O. as follows:-

- (1) Stock Register of paper - 13x69 cm
 Page No. 206 to 207 and 56x91 cm
 Page No. 259 to 260, which marked as Ex-1.
- (2) Register of Keys - marked as Ex-2.
- (3) Order to look after the duty of Asset Manager - marked as Ex-3.
- (4) Memo of distribution of work - marked as Ex-4.
- (5) Report dt 25-6-98 to Supdt. PSD by Shri Jitendra Ch. Das, Asset Manager

regarding discrepancy of paper 3-
Size 13x69 - marked as Ex-5

(6) written representation dt 2-11-2000
of Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, PA,
PSD, Guwahati - marked as Ex-6.

(7) written statement of Shri Sambhu
Ram Mazumdar, PA, PSD, Guwahati dt
02-07-98 - marked as Ex-7

(8) written statement of Shri Jibwan
Ch. Das, Asslt Managrc, PSD, Guwahati
dt 30-6-98 - marked as Ex-8.

(9) written statement of Shri Bhupendra
Nath Choudhury, Accountant, PSD/GH
dt 1-7-98 - marked as Ex-9.

(10) written statement of Shri Mahesh
Ch. Das, PA, G.P.O. GH dt 2-7-98 -
marked as Ex-10.

(11) written statement of Shri Sarbeswar
Kalita, Night Guard / PSD, GH dt
30-6-98 - marked as Ex-11.

The C.O. also admitted the
above listed documents as genuine.

The C.O. has asked for
copies of all listed documents.

The C.O. was directed to
give a notice by 31-5-01 for the
production of any document which
is in his possession of the Government
and is not mentioned in Annexure
III to the charge sheet but is rele-
vant to his defence. While doing
so, he shall indicate the relevance
of the documents required by him
and the custodian authorities there-
of.

The C.O. was directed to
submit a list of Defence Witnesses
proposed to be examined on his
behalf but he replied negative.

Copies of additional documents shall be
simultaneously furnished by the
C.O. and P.O. also.

~~See~~ additional documents
that will be permitted by me
and will be forthcoming will be
inspected by the C.O. and his
Defence Assistant on 7-6-01 in
the office of the S.S.P.O. Guwahati
on Guwahati at 11:00 A.M.

Copies of all the listed
documents mentioned in Annexure-II
has been supplied to the charged
officer on spot on 29-5-01.

Copies of preliminary hearing
has been supplied to the charged
officer and P.O.

~~Recd~~
29/5/01
Presenting officer

~~Recd~~
29/5/01
In 29/5/01
Inquiry officer
Charged officer

Attn
JL
Attn

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS: INDIA

OFFICE OF THE SR. SUPDT OF POST OFFICES
GUWAHATI DN: GUWAHATI-781001.

No. Inquiry-14/1/2001

dt. 6/6/01, 10-7-01

To

Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumder
PA (TBCR), Guwahati GPO.

Sub:- Departmental inquiry under
Rule 14 (3) of the PCS (cc) Rules,
1965 against Shri Sambhu Ram
Mazumder, PA, PSD, Guwahati-21.

Sir,

With reference to your
letter no. nil dt 4-6-01 regarding
supply of additional documents
I am to state that:-

In the charge sheet -
article 1 relates to taking over
of 100000 sheets of postage
16 Reams and 191 sheets. 2) printing
paper 3) the size 13x69 cms in
the stock.

The invoices 3) - papers
supplied by Jagiroad Paper Mill
during 1998 has no relevancy with
the above charges.

As the pages 3) - stock
register 3) - relative period has been
supplied, asking for inspection file
from 1-5-98 to 27-5-98 is found
irrelevant.

Inquiry officer
Guwahati, Assam
Guwahati, Assam
Asst. Supdt. of P.O., Gh. Division
Guwahati-781001.

After
File
Date

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS: INDIA
OFFICE OF THE SR SUPDT OF POST OFFICES:
GUWAHATI DN: GUWAHATI-781001.

No. Inquiry-14/1/2001 dt Enq, 10-7-01

To

Shri Sambhul Ram Mazumder
PA (TBCR), Guwahati G.P.O.

Sub:- For the proceedings against
Shri Sambhul Ram Mazumder
PA, PSD, Guwahati-21 at the
off the S.S.P.Os, Guwahati
on 19-7-01 and 20-7-01 at
11.00 hours daily.

Ric,

1. As the Inquiring Authority
in the Disciplinary Proceedings against
Shri Sambhul Ram Mazumder.

2. The next dates of hearing
fixed on 19-7-01 and 20-7-01
at 11.00 hrs at the office of the
S.S.P.Os, Guwahati for to examine
the following Prosecution Witnesses:-

1. Shri Bhupaneshwar Haloi
SDI (P), Pathsala Sub Dist
Pathsala.

2. Shri Girjan Ch. Das, (Rtd)
Asset Manager, PSD, Guwahati.

3. Shri Bhupendra Nath Choudhury,
Accountant, PSD, Guwahati.

4. Shri Mahesh Ch. Das
PA, Guwahati G.P.O.

5. Shri Saribeswar Kalita
Night Guard PSD
Guwahati.

You are therefore required
to attend the hearing accompanied
by your Defence Assistant Shri
Bhupen Ram Lahkar, Rtd APM, Guwahati
G.P.O. failing which the proceedings

34-

shall be held ex-parte.

36

Yours faithfully

S-DES BURKAYASTHA
Inquiry office.

विधायक बंधीकाल, दाकघर
गुवाहाटी बड़ल, गुवाहाटी
Assam. Supdt. of P.O., Gh. Division
Guwahati-781001.

Copy to:-

1. Sir R. Biswas, Presenting officer and ASP (HQ), of the S.S. P.Os, Guwahati Div, Guwahati. He is required to attend the hearing on the dates, time and place.
2. The S. Subdt. of P.O, Guwahati and necessary action.
3. The S. Postmaster, Guwahati GPO will be requested to relieve the official to attend the hearing on the above dates, time and place.

Retd 1. Srin Bhongu Ram Lahkar,
A.T.M, Guwahati G.P.O.

S.D.
विधायक बंधीकाल, दाकघर
गुवाहाटी बड़ल, गुवाहाटी
Assam. Supdt. of P.O., Gh. Division
Guwahati-781001.

Abu D
Ch. S. S. S.

Date 30.10.2001

To

The Asstt. Supdt. of Post Offices (HQ)
Guwahati Division, Guwahati - 781 001.

Ref:- Memo No. SD-Rule-14/2000-2001 dated 29.11.2000.

Sub:- Defence Statement submitted by Shri Sambhu
Ram Mazumdar, P.A. P.S.D., Guwahati.

Sir,

Most respectfully I submit the following Defence Statement in reference to your Office Memo No. SD-Rule-14/2000-2001 dated 29.11.2000.

Before giving the parawise reply of the charges levelled against me it is necessary to give background of the case. On careful scrutiny of records of Stock Book of Paper (Ex-1) which did not covered with the report of inquiry officer ~~it has been seen~~ it has been seen during the period of leave of Shri Jiwan Chandra Das the regular Asstt. Manager and also prior to my assignment as look after Asstt. Manager Shri Subhas Chandra Chowdhury then regular Manager PSD/GH has supplied a quantity of 35 R 88 Sheets of printing Papers of size 43 x 69 cm to M/s. Sahity Rathi press without following any official procedure from the appropriate authority. This supply could not be treated as an emergency nature as it is found from the entry made in the Stock Book (Ex-1) showing date entry as 19.5.1998 2.1.1998. As per entry in Stock Book it is very clear the order of supply was granted on 2.1.1998. The same was not executed till 18.5.1998. But Shri Subhas Chandra Chowdhury, Manager has personally executed the supply on 19.5.1998 in absence of regular Asstt. Manager after gap of five (5)

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months from the date of approval. Moreover Shri Subhas Chandra Chowdhury did not make any entry on the Key Register showing particulars key taken by him on 19.5.1998. Moreover Shri Chowdhury could have executed the order of supply in presence of regular Asstt. Manager within the period from 2.1.1998 to 18.5.1998. After execution of said supply he availed the leave of L.T.C. with effect from 20.5.1998. It may be stated that as per Distribution of Works (Ex-4) the sole responsibility of supply of papers is vested on Asstt. Manager not on Manager. From it appears that Shri Chowdhury (P.S.D.) with malafide intentions and with a motive behind executed the supply order dated 2.1.1998 on 19.5.1998 without following any official procedure. It may be apprehend that Shri Chowdhury, Manager (PSD) might misused his official position to give favour to some of his interested persons during absence of regular Asstt. Manager on 19.5.1998. From the above fact and circumstances it may be assumed that the shortage of Printing Paper may be occurred on 19.5.1998 when it was supplied to M/s. Shity Rathi Press as per Stock Book entry on 19.5.1998 _{2.1.1998}.

1. That with regard to Article of charges Annexure-1, Article-1 I beg to state that I took over the charge as look after Asstt. Manager (P.S.D.) Vice Shri Jiwan Chandra Das Asstt. Manager (P.S.D.) who was on Medical leave with effect from 19.5.1998 to 29.5.1998 in addition to my own duties. Shri Jiwan Chandra Das or the authority did not give me any opportunity instruction or order to verify the Stock with the Stock Register.

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So I have written a letter to the authority about my inability to operate the Godown as look after Asstt. Manager. But the authority rejected my prayer and submission, hence I cannot be held responsible for any lapse committed by the authority.

2. That with regard to Article of charges Article-II I beg to state that some are not correct and hence denied by me.

As per Memo of Distribution of Works (Ex-4) nothing has been mentioned about "accompanying of Group 'D' staff with the Asstt. Manager to Godown for supply of Printing Papers to press. The Memo of Distribution of Works (Ex-4) has vested sole responsibility of stock of Paper to the Asstt. Manager and as per the responsibility I supplied papers to M/s. Gitanjali printing Press with full satisfaction. On approval of supply to M/s. Gitanjali printing press by the Supdt. PSD/GH in file the Dealing Asstt.(pw-1) has prepared the order and placed it in the table of Manager. The order slip was issued with the following description of papers to be supplied to the M/s. Gitanjali printing Press.

Size (in CM)	Quantity
43 x 69	41 R 430 Sheets
56 x 91	18 R
56 x 71	447 Sheets
69 x 86	6 R 216 Sheets.

The look after Manager Shri Bhupendra Nath Chowdhury (PW-2) handed over the slip to me and asked me for supply of Papers to M/s. Gitanjali printing press from Godown. Accordingly I had taken the key of the Godown

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from the Manager PSD/CH on giving initial in the Key Register with time and date. After that I proceeded for Godown to supply papers. Before opening the Godown I found Shri Sarbeswar Kalita (PW-3) Night Guard of the said Godown, who was in front of the Godown door. In presence of Shri Kalita I had opened the door of the Godown and supplied papers to the concerned firm as per order slip given by the Manager after careful counting of papers. Immediately on completion of supply of papers I had closed the door of Godown in presence of Shri Sarbeswar Kalita Night Guard and I left the Godown with him which has been admitted by him (PW-3) in his statement. After arrival at the main building I had return the Key to look after Manager Shri Bhupendra Nath Chowdhury (PW-2) with making entry in the Key Register with time, date, and signature.

It is worth to mention here that I acted as look after Asstt. Manager with effect from 20.5.1998 to 29.5.1998. Shri Jiwan Chandra Das (PW-4) the regular Asstt. Manager had resumed to his duty after availing leave on 29.8.1998. After resumption of duty Shri Jiwan Chandra Das Asstt. Manager did not verified the stock of the Godown with the Stock Register or with me. Shri Jiwan Chandra Das had opened the papers Godown in three (3) subsequent dates i.e. on 4.6.1998, 11.6.1998 and 12.6.1998. He supplied papers to different firms. But he did not report any loss or shortage of papers till 12.6.1998. In the enquiry report it has not been mentioned what size of papers the Asstt. Manager supplied on 4.6.1998, 11.6.1998 and 12.6.1998.

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The regular Manager Shri Subhas Chandra Chowdhury was on leave on LTC with effect from 20.5.1998. After resumption to his duty and on a subsequent date on 23.6.1998 Shri Chowdhury enquired the regular Asstt. Manager Shri Jiwan Chandra Das (PW-4) about the stock position of a particular paper of size 43 x 69 CM. Now it can be easily presumed that shortage of that size of papers was within the knowledge of Shri Chowdhury, the regular Manager P.S.D. On enquiry of Shri Chowdhury, Manager the Asstt. Manager Shri Jiwan Chandra Das (PW-4) examined and reported shortage of paper of size 43 x 69 CM on 25.6.1998 after (twenty seven) 27 days from his resumption to duty after leave.

Shri Bhubaneswar Haloi (PW-5) enquired about the loss and his report of enquiry it has been shown the loss of 116 R 191 Sheet of paper size 43 x 69 CM. The enquiry officer did not fully gone through the all aspect of the matter and also did not scrutinized the materials on records. He filed a bias report and erroneous finding of the matter. From the above fact, I cannot be held responsible for any shortage of printing papers in Godown. I have done my duties with full responsibility, devotion and honesty without any malafide intention in addition to my duties.

Thanking you

Yours faithfully

(Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar)
P.A. P.S.D/Guwbati

In The Central Administrative Tribunal :: Guwahati Bench
Guwahati

ORDER SHEET

APPLICATION NO. 28

/2002

Applicant(s)

S. R. Mazumdar

Respondent(s)

Mai Zans

Advocate for Applicant(s) Mr. A. K. Ahmed

Advocate for Respondent(s) C.G.S.C.

Notes of the Registry

Date

Order of the Tribunal

12.2.02

Heard Mr. A. Ahmed, learned counsel for the applicant and also Mr. A. K. Choudhury, learned Addl. C.G.S.C. for the respondents.

By this application the applicant has assailed the continuance of the departmental proceeding initiated on 25.10.2000 pertaining to an event that took place in May, 1998. It has been stated by the respondents that the proceeding is almost complete and the department is waiting for the report of the Enquiry Officer. Mr. A. K. Choudhury, learned Addl. C.G.S.C. for the respondents stated that the enquiry was completed in the last month and the competent authority is eagerly expecting the enquiry report. The competent authority shall act with all promptitude on receipt of the report.

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Advocate

Date

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Order of the Tribunal

Considering all the aspects of the matter, we are of the opinion that the enquiry proceeding needs to be concluded at the earliest. Since the proceeding is almost complete, we direct the respondents to complete the exercise within six weeks from today. If the applicant is aggrieved by the decision of the authority he may approach the Tribunal if so advised as per law.

The application stands disposed of. No order as to costs.

Sd/ VICE CHAIRMAN

Sd/ MEMBER (A)

Certified to be true Copy

मानिष प्रतिलिपि

29/4/02

Section Officer (J)

मानिष प्रतिलिपि (न्यायिक दाख)

Central Administrative Tribunal

केन्द्रीय प्रशासनिक अधिकार, Guwahati

Guwahati Bench, Guwahati

मानिष प्रतिलिपि (न्यायिक दाख)

Attested
J. D. Adarsh

DEPARTMENT OF POSTS
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF POSTMASTER GENERAL
ASSAM CIRCLE; GUWAHATI; 781001.

Memo No. Vig/1-15/99(Ch.II)

dated the 24th June' 2002.

In the Memo No. SD/Rule-14/2000-2001 dated 29.11.2000 issued by the Supdt. of Postal Store Depot, Guwahati it was proposed to hold an inquiry against Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, PA(BCR) P.S.D. Guwahati under Rule 14 of Central Civil Services(Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1965. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in shape of Articles of Charge in respect of which the inquiry was proposed to be held, a statement of the imputations of misconduct or misbehaviour in support of each article of charge, a list of documents by which and a list of witnesses by whom , the charges were proposed to be sustained were enclosed along with the said memorandum. The articles of charge set out against Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar are as follows :-

Article - I

That the said Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar PA, Postal Store Depot while functioning as Asstt. Manager, Postal Store Depot, Guwahati-21 during the period from 19.5.98 to 29.5.98 (F/N) failed to take over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with stock Register while resuming duty on 19.5.98 as Asstt. Manager, Postal Store Depot as was required under Rule 276 of P&T Manual Vol.II 3rd edition (2nd reprint) which resulted discrepancies in stock of printing papers and thereby failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. Servant in contravention of Rule 3(1)(ii) and 3(1)(iii) of CCS(Conduct)Rules, 1964.

Article - II

That during the aforesaid period, while functioning in the aforesaid office, the said Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, being the custodian of printing papers failed to exercise his duty as entrusted as per Memo. of distribution of works and contributed towards loss of 116 ram 191 sheets of paper of size 43 X 69 c.m. valued Rs.32383.29 from his custody and thus failed to maintain devotion to duty and acted as such which was unbecoming of a Govt. servant in contravention of Rule 3(1)(ii) and 3(1)(iii) of CCS (Conduct) Rules 1964.

2. Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar was asked to submit within 10 days of the receipt of the said memorandum, a written statement of his defence and also to state specifically whether he admits or denies each article of charge and also to state whether he desires to be heard in person. Shri Mazumdar received the said Memorandum on 29.11.2000 and he submitted his written statement of defence on 30.11.2000 denying the charge and desired to have hearing in person.

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3. Since the said charged official denied the charges, it was decided to appoint an Inquiry Authority for detailed oral inquiry towards finding the fact. Shri S.D.Purkayastha, ASPOs(Divn), Guwahati Divn. was appointed as the Inquiry Authority vide Memo No.SD/Rule-14/2000-2001 dated 25.01.2001 of the Supdt of PSD, Guwahati, to inquire into the charges framed against the said Shri Mazumdar. To present the case on behalf of the Disc. Authority, Shri Rabindra Biswas, ASP(HQ) Guwahati Divn. was appointed as the Presenting Officer vide Memo of even no. dated 25.1.2001 separately.

4. The Inquiry Authority held preliminary hearing on 29.5.2001 followed by further regular hearing on 19.7.2001, 20.7.2001, 20.8.2001 and 10.9.2001. The charged official took assistance of Shri Bhrigu Ram Lahkar, Retired APM, Guwahati GPO as his Defence Assistant to defend his case during the entire period of inquiry. The Presenting Officer submitted his written brief to the Inquiry Authority on 26.9.2001 with a copy thereof to the charged official. In response, Shri Mazumdar submitted his written brief to the Inquiry Authority on 30.10.2001. The Inquiry Authority then submitted his Inquiry Report to the Disc. Authority along with the records and proceedings of Inquiry.

5. As the charged official belongs to BCR(HSG-II) cadre whose appointing authority is the Director of Postal Services who can only decide and pass orders on Disc. proceedings for one of the major penalties specified in Rule-II of CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965 against BCR(HSG-II) officials, the case was forwarded to the undersigned for decision and passing orders as deemed fit.

6. The undersigned being the Appointing Authority of the charged official and competent Disc. Authority for imposing one of the major penalties specified in Rule-II of CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965 has gone through the Inquiry Report submitted by the Inquiry Authority with reference to the records and evidences adduced during the inquiry and accepted the findings of the Inquiry authority tentatively.

The Inquiry Authority submitted his inquiry Report with findings of all the charges brought against Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar as proved. The Inquiry Authority has recorded the reasons to arrive at his conclusion and findings of the Inquiry against each article of charge as under:-

Article - I

i) The charged official worked as Asstt. Manager, PSD Guwahati from 20.5.98 to 29.5.98 in addition to his own duty. As per Memo of distribution of work (Exh.4), the Asstt. Manager is the custodian of stock of printing papers and responsible towards their accountability, short/excess. Thus taking over the articles of stock after carefully checking them with the stock register was automatic on the part of the charged official.

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- ii) The contention of the charged official to the fact that the shortage of printing papers might have occurred on 19.5.98 when Shri Subhas Choudhury, Manager, PSD made supply of papers to M/S Sahitya Rathi Press out of favour, does not bear value as mere apprehension of the charged official cannot prove his contention.
- iii) The charged official worked as Asstt. Manager, PSD, Guwahati from 20.5.98 to 29.5.98. The question of giving him opportunity, instruction or order to verify the stock of paper with stock register did not arise as it was his automatic duty.

Thus the charge brought against Shri S.R. Mazumdar under Article-I is proved beyond doubt.

Article - II

- i) It is clear from the stock register of papers (Exh-1) and the key register (Exh-2) that the charged official issued papers of size 43 X 69 cm on 20.5.98 and 21.5.98 in the capacity of Asstt. Manager, PSD, Guwahati, but did not report any discrepancy in the stock.
- ii) Deposition of Shri B.N. Choudhury (PW-2) corroborating his written statement dated 1.7.98 (Ex-9) reveals that the charged official took the keys of paper Godown without knowledge of the Manager on 21.5.98 and also did not seek any group 'D' assistance for supply of papers as per procedure followed in the PSD.
- iii) Deposition of Shri Mahesh Das (PW-1) corroborating his written statement dated 2.7.98 (Ex-10), reveals that the charged official supplied paper to Geetanjali Printing Press on 21/5/98 without taking assistance of Group 'D' staff.
- iv) Deposition of Shri B. Haloi (PW-5) who investigated the alleged shortage in the stock of printing paper of size 43 X 69 cm reveals that the charged official did not take permission of the Manager, PSD for the keys of the Godown nor asked for Group 'D' assistance. He proceeded to paper Godown at his own accord.
- v) Deposition of Shri Jiwan Ch. Das (PW-4) corroborating his written statement dated 30.6.98 (Ex-8) reveals that shortage in stock of printing paper of size 43 X 69 cm was detected on 23.6.98 when he was supplying the paper after resuming duty as Asstt. Manager, PSD on expiry of leave.

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vi) Deposition of Shri Sarbeswar Kalita (PW-3) corroborating his written statement dated 30.6.98 (Ex-11) reveals that the charged official opened the paper godown on 21.5.98 accompanied by the proprietor of Geetanjali Press and supplied paper from the Godown to the Press loading in a Mini truck. He was not accompanied by any Group 'D' staff while making the supply.

vii) The charged official during inquiry admitted to the Inquiry Authority to the fact that he did not count the paper in stock before and after supply made to Geetanjali Press.

Thus the charge brought against Shri S.R.Majumdar in Article -II is proved beyond doubt.

7. A copy of the Inquiry Report was supplied to the charged official vide letter No.VIG/1-15/99 (Ch . II) dated 11.3.2002 with direction to him to submit representation if he so desired against the report/findings of the Inquiry Authority within 15 (fifteen) days of receipt of the letter. The charged official submitted his representation on 19.3.2002. In the representation the charged official has stated the following points to refute the findings of the Inquiry Authority.

- i) The Inquiry Report submitted by the Inquiry authority against him are baseless and without going through the roots of the case.
- ii) He cannot be held responsible for the mistake committed by other officials.
- iii) After taking over the charge of Asstt. Manager, PSD,Guwahati from him, Shri Jiwān Ch. Das the regular Assit. Manager had opened the paper Godown in three subsequent dated on 4.6.98, 11.6.98 and 12.6.98 and supplied papers to different firms. But he did not report any loss or shortage of papers till 12.6.98.
- iv) The Inquiry Officer has not scrutinised his defence statement submitted by him on 30.10.2001 and submitted an erroneous findings of Inquiry Report.

8. The undersigned has gone through the representation of the charged official, records of the entire proceedings the Inquiry Report of the Inquiry Authority very carefully. The Inquiry was held as per provisions laid down in Rule-14 of CCS(CCA) Rules 1965 and the charged official participated in the inquiry till its conclusion. Every reasonable opportunity was given to the charged official to defend his case engaging a Defence Assistant. After careful scrutiny and assessment of the evidences adduced during the inquiry , the undersigned records his own findings as under.

8.1 Shri Sambhu Ram Majumdar, the charged official was the sole

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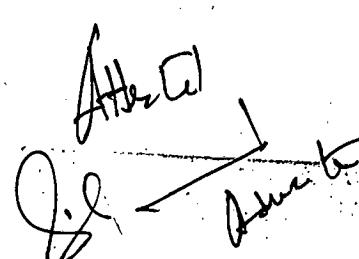
custodian of the stock of printing papers as Asstt. Manager, PSD during the period from 19.5.98 to 28.5.98. He was responsible for correct maintenance of the stock register and other records. He was also accountable for any short/excess supply of printing papers. But he failed to discharge his duty by not taking the charge of the stock of paper after physical verification on 19.5.98. Similarly, the charged officer failed to make over the charge of the stock of paper when he relinquished the charge on 28.5.98. Thus he violated the provisions laid down in Rule 276 of P Manual Vol.II. Had the charged official observed the procedure, shortage /excess if any in the stock of paper could have come to light on the dates of his taking over or making over the charge of Asstt. Manager. This gross lapse on the part of the charged official frustrated the probe to find out the reasons and period of occurrence of shortage of 116 Reams 191 sheets of printing papers in the stock and contributed towards loss of Rs.32,383.29 to Govt. on account of the cost of missing papers.

8.2. The Charged official supplied printing papers of size 43 X 69 cms to M/S Gitanjali Printing Press Guwahati- 5 on 21.5.98 as per stock register (Ex-1). But he did not follow the established procedure of taking group 'D' assistance under permission of the manager. He went to paper godown alone on 21.5.98 and supplied papers to the said firm on his own as per eye witness of Shri Sarbeswar Kalita, Night Guard (PW-3). He also failed to verify the stock position of the papers after supply was made. He had not any reason not to take any group 'D' assistance and to make the supply without notice of other official. By these lapses, he flouted the official procedures and acted as such in manner of unbecoming of a Govt. Servant.

8.3. From the Key Register (Ex-2) it is established that the charged official took the keys of the paper Godown on 21.5.98. But the entries made in the Key Register were not authenticated by the Manager who is the custodian of the Keys. Oral evidences of Shri Bhupendra Nath Choudhury (PW-2) who was the Manager then reveals that the Charged official took the keys of the paper Godown without knowledge of the Manager nor did he return the keys with knowledge of the Manager. By the said acts, the charged official infringed the official procedure to be followed with regard to handling the keys of the paper godown and thereby acted as such in a manner of unbecoming of a Govt. Servant.

9. The undersigned has also given careful consideration of the points raised by the charged official in his representation dated 19.3.2002 against the findings of the Inquiry authority and record the observations as under;

- i) The Inquiry Authority conducted the inquiry into the charges against the charged official as per procedures laid down in Rule-14 of CCS(CCA) Rules, 1965. The Inquiry Report was submitted based on the evidences both oral and documentary adduced in the inquiry. The Inquiry Authority gave his mind to the defence submitted by the charged official before concluding his findings. The contention of the charged official to the effect that the Inquiry report against him are baseless and without going through the roots of the case is therefore not acceptable.

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ii) The charged official maintains that he can not be held responsible for the mistake committed by other official. But during the inquiry he could not bring any material proof to the fact that the shortage in the stock of paper of size 43 X 69 cm occurred due to mistake of other official. Efforts have been made in his defence to convince the Inquiry Authority by implicating his seniors for the shortage of the Printing Paper purely on assumption. What the other officials did have no relevancy with the charges inquired into. The charged official can not be absolved from the violation of rules and procedures committed in the capacity of Asstt. Manager. Therefore the contention of the charged official is not agreeable.

iii) Shri Jiwan ch. Das, the regular Manager, PSD noticed the shortage of paper of size 43 X 69 cm in the Godown while supplying the paper of that size on 23.6.98 to M/S Bobby printing and Binder house, Satgaon. This was reported by him to the authority on the same day followed by a written report dated 25.6.98 (Ex-5). The suggestion of the charged official to the effect that the shortage of paper occurred when the regular Asstt. Manager made supply on 4/6/98, 11/6/98 and 12/6/98 after taking over the charge from the charged official is purely an assumption and not supported by any proof.

iv) The charged official states that the Inquiry Officer has submitted an erroneous findings without scrutiny of his defence statement submitted by him on 30.10.2001. On perusal of the Inquiry Report it can be seen that the Inquiry Authority has indeed discussed the Defence Statement of the charged official in length in the Inquiry Report and applied his mind while assessing the evidences and giving his conclusive findings. Therefore, the above contention of the charged official is not acceptable.

10. In view of what have been discussed above, the undersigned has agreed with the findings of the Inquiry authority to the fact that all the charges leveled against Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, PA (BCR), PSAD, Guwahati are proved. He is accountable for violation of Rules and procedures with regard to accounting custody, verification and supply of stock of printing paper while functioning as Asstt. Manager, PSD Guwahati. By negligence to duty and breach of orders/Rules the charged official frustrated the investigation to locate the real reasons and culprit behind the shortage of Printing papers worth Rs. 32,383.29 and led to loss to Govt. Shri Mazumdar deserves punishment for the offence he committed as a deterrent to others. However, considering that he is retiring on superannuation very shortly after a long period of service and taking all other aspects and circumstances of the case into consideration the case is decided with the following orders to meet the end of justice.

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ORDER

I, Shri V. C. Roy, Director of Postal Services (HQ) Assam Circle, Guwahati hereby order that the pay of Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar, PA(BCR), P.S.D.Guwahati (now PA, Guwahati GPO) be reduced by 4(four) stages from Rs. 6950/- to Rs. 6350/- in the scale of pay of Rs.5000 – 150- 8000 for a period of 2(two) months with effect from the month of June'2002 to July'2002 with further direction that Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar will not earn increments of pay if any due during the period of reduction and that on expiry of this period the reduction will have the effect of postponing his future increment of pay. It is also ordered that a sum of rs.6348/- (Rupees six thousand three hundred forty eight) only be recovered from the pay of the said Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar in 3(three) equal installments @ Rs. 2116/- per month from the pay of June'2002 to August'2002 towards partial recoupment of loss to Govt.

(V. C. Roy)

Director Postal Services(HQ)
Assam Circle, Guwahati:781001

To

**Shri Sambhu Ram Mazumdar,
PA, Guwahati GPO
(Through SSPOs, Guwahati)**

Copy forwarded to:

- 1) The SSPOs Guwahati w.r.t. his No. F1-Misc/PSD/99-2000 dated 17.1.2001. The copy of the order for the charged official is sent herewith for delivery under receipt which may be sent to C.O. for record.
- 2) The Supdt. PSD, Guwahati w.r.t his No. SD/Rule-14/2000-01 dated 1.3.2002.
- 3) The Sr. Postmaster,Guwahati GPO for information and necessary action.
- 4) Staff (Appeal/petition) Section, CO Guwahati.
- 5) Office copy
- 6) Spare.

(V. C. Roy)
Director Postal Services(HQ)
Assam Circle, Guwahati:781001.

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J. J. Lawrence