



Subject: Suspension of Shri Arif Ahmad Khan, Communication Officer.

Order No.: JKEDI/HR - 228 of 2024

Dated: 08.11.2024

Whereas, a criminal complaint titled *Shabir Ahmed Sheikh Vs Director JKEDI, Pampore* (Reg. No. 92/2023) was lodged by the complainant, Shabir Ahmad Sheikh, S/o Ali Mohammad Sheikh, R/o, Harnipora, Handwara, Kupwara, at the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Handwara in August 2023;

Whereas, the complainant is a beneficiary of the Term Loan Scheme of the National Minorities Development and Finance Corporation (NMDFC), but has defaulted persistently in his repayments, thereby becoming a chronic defaulter under the scheme;

Whereas, the last appearance on behalf of JKEDI as the accused party before the Chief Judicial Magistrate (CJM) Handwara was made on 06-03-2024 by the then District Nodal Officer (DNO) Kupwara and the said case was subsequently listed on 19-04-2024, 20-06-2024, 11-07-2024, 20-08-2024 & 14-10-2024;

Whereas, no official from JKEDI District Centre Kupwara nor the appointed counsel, Advocate Wasim Nazir, appeared in court on aforementioned dates, culminating in the issuance of a non-bailable warrant against the Director JKEDI, through the Senior Superintendent of Police (SSP), Awantipora, Pulwama;

Whereas, the Director JKEDI, through the Incharge Legal Section, sought an explanation from District Nodal Officer, Kupwara, regarding the aforementioned negligence;

Whereas, the District Nodal Officer submitted a report on 04.11.2024 to the legal section via email which was reviewed by the Competent Authority and same was found to be both contradictory and non satisfactory in addressing the issues raised;

Whereas, the legal section of JKEDI has consistently reminded all Range Officers/District Nodal Officers to maintain and provide updated records of court cases pertaining to their districts for timely review, guidance, and necessary action;

Whereas, vide order no JKEDI/HR-46 of 2024 dated 02.04.2024, explicit directions were issued that all district-level cases shall be handled by the concerned Range Officers / District Nodal Officers;

Whereas, as per the report submitted by the legal section, it was found that Shri Fahim Hamid Mir, Assistant Faculty has availed a full day duty on 14.10.2024, with remarks "*Official visit to Handwara Court*", the same day on which the non-bailable warrant was issued against the Director, JKEDI and the said duty was duly approved by the District Nodal Officer, Kupwara;

Arif
8/11/2024



Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute (J&K EDI)
(An organisation of Government of Jammu & Kashmir)
Sempora, Pampore (Kashmir)/ Bari Brahmana, Jammu

Whereas, prima facie, it seems that the District Nodal Officer Kupwara, has failed to ensure attendance or make appropriate arrangements for representation in court, which directly led to adverse legal action against the institute, thereby jeopardizing both the reputation of the Institute and that of the Director;

Whereas, in view of the above facts, a Committee comprising of following members is constituted to conduct an in-depth enquiry into the mishandling of the aforementioned court case and to examine the allegation of dereliction of duties by Shri Arif Ahmad Khan, Communication Officer / District Nodal Officer, Kupwara, and Shri Faheem Hamid Mir, Assistant Faculty.

1. Smt. Nafia Nazir, Senior manager P&A/Range Officer
2. Sh. Ishfaq Ahmed Mir, Incharge Legal Section/CIEC
3. Sh. Zahid Ali Dar, Incharge CIIBM
4. Sh. Shafat Ahmad Baba, Incharge IT

In light of the foregoing, pending enquiry into the conduct and in terms of Rule 31 (1) of Jammu and Kashmir, Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1956, Shri Arif Ahmad Khan, Communication Officer / District Nodal Officer Kupwara is hereby placed under suspension with immediate effect. During the period of suspension, he shall remain attached to the JKEDI District Centre, Kupwara. Further, Shri Azmat Hussain, Assistant Faculty shall hold the charge of District Nodal Officer, Kupwara till further orders.

Sd/-
Rajinder Kumar Sharma(JKAS)
Director

No.: JKEDI/HR/GO/2024/1055-1058

Dated: 08.11.2024

Copy to:

1. Accounts Officer for information.
2. Director's Secretariat for kind information of the Director.
3. IT section for information & necessary action.
4. Order/Concerned File.


08/11/2024
Manager HR