WEST BENGAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

Present-

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The Hon'ble Urmita Datta (Sen) Member (J) & Hon'ble P. Ramesh Kumar, Member (A)

OA-428 of 2018

Paresh Chandra Bera <u>Vs</u> The State of West Ber	ngal & Ors
Order of the Tribunal with signature 2	Office action with date and dated signature of parties when necessar
For the applicant : Mr. M.N. Roy, Learned Advocate.	
For the respondent : Mr. S. Ghosh, Learned Advocate.	
The instant application has been filed praying for following relief :-	
a) An order do issue thereby setting aside, quashing the Departmental Proceeding. Memorandum No. 02/Ag/O/Sec-23/14, dated, Kolkata the 9 th February, 2015, being the Charge Sheet, Final Order of Punishment issued by Respondent No. 2 herein, vide Order No. 11/AG/O/Sec-23/14 dated, KJolkata, the 16 th April, 2018 and enquiry report, if any, immediately as the same has been done in violation	
	Order of the Tribunal with signature 2 For the applicant : Mr. M.N. Roy, Learned Advocate. For the respondent : Mr. S. Ghosh, Learned Advocate. The instant application has been filed praying for following relief :- a) An order do issue thereby setting aside, quashing the Departmental Proceeding. Memorandum No. 02/Ag/O/Sec-23/14, dated, Kolkata the 9 th February, 2015, being the Charge Sheet, Final Order of Punishment issued by Respondent No. 2 herein, vide Order No. 11/AG/O/Sec-23/14 dated, KJolkata , the 16 th April, 2018 and enquiry report, if any, immediately

Notice and Enquiry Report based on

which the final order of punishment

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03 30.08.2018	has been passed. b) An order do issue thereby setting aside, quashing the Final Order of Punishment issued by Respondent No. 2 herein, vide order vide No. 11/AG/O/Sec-23/14 14 dated Kolkata, the 16 th April, 2018 immediately as the same has been done in violation of the Principles of "Natural Justice". c) Any other appropriate order/orders direction/directions as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper to protect the right of the applicant and in the ends of justice. According to the applicant, while he was working as Additional Director of Agriculture	3
	(Administration) during the period from 2009 to 2011, he submitted false tour diary and T.A. bills to the tune of Rs.	
Davis /2	3,456/- by causing misappropriation of Govt. exchequer. As per the applicant, he was charge sheeted vide Memo No. 02/Ag/O/Sec-23/14, Kolkata dated, the 9 th February,	
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	2015. On receipt of the aforementioned charge sheet,	
03	the applicant submitted written statement of defence on	
30.08.2018	23.07.2015 (Annexure-B). However, without following	
	the provisions of Rule 10 (12) of the W.B.S. (CCA) Rules,	
	1971 i.e. without issuance of any second show cause	
	notice or supplying the enquiry report, the disciplinary	
	authority has imposed its punishment by way of	
	reduction of his pay to three stages lower in the current	
	pay band till retirement. It has been further directed that	
	during the said penalty he will not earn any increment of	
	pay along with other punishments. Being aggrieved the	
	applicant has filed the instant application.	
	According to the counsel for the applicant,	
	the applicant has been punished under Section 8	
	(iv). However, as per Rule 10 (12), if any employee has to	
	be punished under Rule 8 (iv), he should have been	
	served with a notice stating the proposed punishment	
	and grounds as well as copy of the enquiry report should	
	be served upon him before imposition of any	
	punishment. Since the respondents have not complied	
Page /3	with the aforesaid provisions of the Rules, the impugned	

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03 30.08.2018	order is void ab initio and liable to be set aside.	
	The respondents have filed their reply	
	wherein they have admitted that they have not served	
	any copy of the second show cause notice of the enquiry	
	report and prayed for leave to rectify the same. However,	
	the provision of Article 311 (2) of Constitution of India, it	
	is not necessary to give opportunity for making	
	representation on the proposed penalty.	
	Heard the parties and perused the records. It	
	is admitted fact that before imposing the punishment the	
	state respondents have not served the copy of the	
	enquiry report as well as second show cause notice.	
	It is noted that Rule 10(12) (b) stipulates inter	
	alia :-	
	" If the disciplinary authority, having regard to	
	its finding on the charges, is of opinion that any	
	of the penalties specified in clauses (iv) to (viii)	
	of Rule 8 should be imposed or where the	
P/4	Commission recommends, in any of the cases	

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	referred to it under sub-rule (11) one or other	3
03	of the penalties specified in clauses (iv) to (viii)	
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	of Rule 8 and the disciplinary authority agrees	
	with the views, it shall :	
	a)	
	b) Give him a notice stating the punishment	
	proposed and the grounds therefore and	
	calling upon him to submit within a	
	specified time such representation as he	
	may with to make on the punishment	
	proposed but only on the basis of the	
	evidence adduced during the enquiry. "	
	From the perusal of the above, it is noted that	
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	
	there is a clear provision of the Rule to serve notice	
	stating the punishment proposed and the grounds which	
	is binding upon both the state respondents as well as the	
	applicant. But in the instant case, it seems that the	
	disciplinary authority has imposed the penalty without	
	any regular enquiry proceedings but only on the basis of	
	enquiry report of the State Vigilance Commission, which	
	is a preliminary enquiry report. Further no second Show	
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03	Cause Notice was also served as per Rule 10 (12).	
30.08.2018	Therefore, though we are not inclined to	
	quash the disciplinary proceeding at this stage. However,	
	we are constraint to quash and set aside the impugned	
	final order dated 16.04.2018 passed by the	
	Disciplinary authority for violation of provision of specific	
	Rules. The respondents is at liberty to take action as per	
	Rules as well as law. Accordingly the OA is disposed of	
	with the above observation and directions with no order	
	as to costs.	
	P. RAMESH KUMAR URMITA DATTA (SEN) MEMBER (A) MEMBER (J)	
SC		

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