

Government of Jammu and Kashmir Higher Education Department Civil Secretariat, J&K

Subject:- OA No.965/2023 titled Ahjaz Qureshi Vs UT of J&K & Ors.

Government Order No. 185 -JK (HE) of 2024
Dated: 14 .03.2024

Whereas, applications were invited through online portal for effecting transfers of Assistant Professors, Associate Professors, Physical Tanning Instructors and Librarians. Detailed instructions were issued for applying through online Portal.

Whereas, the applicant Mr. Ahjaz Qureshi, Assistant Professor in Environmental Science applied through online portal and he was transferred from Government Degree College, Ganderbal (Zone B) to Government Degree College, Gurez (Zone D) vide Government Order No. 346-JK(HE) of 2023 dated 30.11.2023;

Whereas, the applicant being aggrieved of the Government Order No. 346-JK(HE) of 2023 dated 30.11.2023 filed OA No. 965/2023 titled Ahjaz Qureshi Vs UT of J&K &Others before the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Srinagar praying for following reliefs:-

a. allow the instant Original Application;

b. Quash impugned order No 346 JK(HE) of 2023 Dated 30-11-2023 (qua the applicant), whereby and where under applicant has been transferred from the post of Assistant Professor EVS Subject Govt. Degree College Ganderbal and Transferred to Govt. Degree College Gurez prematurely Direct the 'the respondents to allow the applicant to perform his duties at his present place of posting.

c. Restrain the respondents from going ahead with implementation of impugned transfer order No 346 JK(HE) of 2023 Dated 30-11-2023 qua the

"applicant;

d. ANY other order or direction which this Hon'ble Court may deem fit or proper in the facts and circumstances of the case;

Whereas, the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal after hearing the applicant disposed of the OA by passing order dated 05.12.2023, the operative part of which is reproduced as under:

"In view of the limited prayer made by the Learned Counsel for the applicant, the respondents are directed to consider the representation to the applicant dated 01.12.2023, and decide the same, within a period of six weeks from today, especially taking inito account the health condition of his daughter, by passing a speaking and reasoned order. In the meantime, the applicant shall not be relieved from his present place of posting till the final decision of the representation.

With this, O.A. No. 965/2023 is disposed of."

Whereas, in terms of Rule 27 of J&K Classification Control and Appeal Rules, 1956, a member of a service or class of a service may be required to serve in any part of the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on any post borne on the cadre of such service or class;

Whereas, the issue of transfer and postings has been considered time and again by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, and the entire law is settled by catena of decisions of the Apex Court. It is settled law that transfer of a Government servant appointed to a particular cadre of transferable post from one place to the other is an incident of service. No Government servant, therefore, has any legal right for being posted at any particular place. Moreover transfer from one place to another is necessary in public interest and exigency in public administration as held in "Gujrat Electricity Board Vs Atma Ram SugomalPoshani", AIR 1989 SC 1433, which reads as under:-

"An employee holding a transferable post cannot claim any vested right to work on a particular place as the transfer order does not affect any of his legal rights and Court cannot interfere with a transfer/posting which is made in public interest or on administrative exigency."

"...transfer of a government servant appointed to a particular cadre of transferable posts from one place to the other is an incident of service. No government servant or employee of Public Undertaking has legal right for being posted at any particular place. Transfer from one place to other is generally a condition of service and the employee has no choice in the matter. Transfer from one place to other is necessary in public interest and efficiency in the public administration. Whenever, a public servant is transferred he must comply with the order but if there be any genuine difficulty in proceeding on transfer it is open to him to make representation to the competent authority for stay, modification or cancellation of the transfer order. If the order of transfer is not stayed, modified or cancelled the concerned public servant must carry out the order of transfer. In the absence of any stay of the transfer order a public servant has no justification to avoid or evade the transfer order merely on the ground of having made a representation, or on the ground of his difficulty in moving from one place to the other. If he fails to proceed on transfer in compliance with the transfer order, he would expose himself to disciplinary action under the relevant rules'.

Whereas, I n E. P. Royappa v. State of Tamil Nadu AIR 1974 SC555, it has been held that:-

"...Transfer of a Government servant appointed to a particular transferable post from one place to another place is an incidence of service and does not affect or alter his terms and conditions of service. The Government has power to transfer its employees from one post to another carrying equivalent pay scale and grade."

In Rajendra Singh &Ors. v. State of U.P. &Ors., (2009) 15 SCC 778 it has been held that:-

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"... It is well settled that transfer is an exigency of service. An employee does not have any indefeasible right to remain posted at a particular place adinfinitum or seek a posting of his choice. It is also no longer res integra that orders of transfer can only be interfered with by courts if the same are questioned on the ground of malafides or lack of jurisdiction or if the same is otherwise contrary to statutory rule governing such transfers. (J&K Central Non-Gazetted Electrical Employees Union, Rajouri v. State of J&K &Ors 2017 (6) JKJ[HC] 431 See & Shanti Kumari v. Regional Deputy Director, Health Services, Patna Division, Patna &Ors. (1981) 2 SCC 72).

In National Hydroelectric Power Corpn. Ltd. v. Shri Bhagwan, (2001) 8 SCC 574, it has been held that:-

"... No government servant or employee of a public undertaking has any legal right to be posted forever at any one particular place or place of his choice since transfer of a particular employee appointed to the class or category of transferable posts from one place to other is not only an incident, but a condition of service, necessary too in public interest and efficiency in the public administration. Unless an order of transfer is shown to be an outcome of mala fide exercise or stated to be in violation of statutory provisions prohibiting any such transfer, the Courts or the Tribunals normally cannot interfere with such orders as a matter of routine, as though they were appellate authorities substituting their own decision for that of the employer/ management, as against such orders passed in the interest of administrative exigencies of the service concerned..."

In Syed HilalAhamd&Ors. v. State 2015 (3) JKJ[HC] 398; 2015 SLJ it has been held that:-

"...transfer is an incidence of service and a Government Servant is subject to orders of transfer on administrative exigencies and a Government Servant cannot insist that he is entitled to continue in a particular station/post for a definite period."

In A. D. Manhas (Dr) v. State &ors 2005 JKJ (HC) (1) 314, it has been held that:-

"...transfer is an exigency of service and it is the prerogative of the employer to see at what place the service of an employee can be utilized properly in the larger public interest. An employee holding transferable post has no right to insist that he should be allowed to serve at a particular place for a particular period. Simply because he has been transferred against the higher post, does not mean that he would have to perform the duties of that post. The only purpose of his transfer against the post appears to be that his pay etc shall be drawn against said post..."

Whereas, the case of the applicant was examined in light of the statement adduced by the applicant as well as the standing Rule position and it has been found that with regard to modification of his transfer it is to state that post of Assistant/Associate Professor being a UT cadre post and the applicant was transferred

to GDC Gurez after a stay of 06 years, 04 months, keeping in view the needs of the college in particular and students in general.

Now therefore, in view of the above stated facts and circumstances, the claim of the applicant has been considered in light of the directions passed by the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Srinagar on 05.12.2023 passed in OA No.965/2023 titled Ahjaz Qureshi Vs UT of J&K &Ors and the same has been found not tenable under rules and is hereby rejected. The applicant is further directed to immediately join at Government Degree College, Gurez, without any further delay, failing which strict disciplinary action shall be initiated against him under Rules.

By order of the Government of Jammu and Kashmir.

Sd/(Alok Kumar), IRS
Principal Secretary to the Government

No: HED-LEG/177/2023-04 (7361089)

Dated:- 14 .03.2024

Copy to the:-

- 1. Joint Secretary (J&K) Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India.
- 2. Director Colleges, J&K.
- 3. Nodal Principal, Srinagar.
- 4. Principal _____
- 5. Concerned for information/compliance.
- 6. Private Secretary to Principal Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department.
- 7. ALO, Higher Education Department for information.
- 8. I/c website.

9. Government Order Register/Monday Return (w.2.s.c).

(Sanjay Kumar Tickoo)

Under Secretary to the Government