

Minutes of the Meeting with Chairman-cum-Managing Director, Oriental Bank of Commerce in the Chamber of Secretary, NCST on 15.02.2008 at 1200 hrs.

The following were present :

NCST

Shri Wilfred Lakra, Secretary
Shri Vinod Aggarwal, Director
Shri R.P. Vashistha, Dy. Secretary
Shri N. Balasubramanian, RO

ORIENTAL BANK OF COMMERCE

Shri Allen CA Pereira, ED
Shri Sunil Dutt, DGM(HRD)

PETITIONER

Shri James B. Tigga

ISSUE

Harassment and unjust removal of Shri James B. Tigga, Son of Shri Joseph Tigga, R/o Orissa, an ST scale-II officer from service by Management of Oriental Bank of Commerce.

BACKGROUND

A representation dated 20.11.2005 was received in the Commission from Shri James B. Tigga regarding harassment and his unjustified removal from service by the Management of Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC).

He has stated that he joined OBC as PO at New Delhi on 02.12.1991 and worked at Bhubaneswar for three weeks at Bombay for three years and at Kolkata for six years. In the year 2001 he was promoted to scale-II and worked at Ranchi University Campus for eight months and then at Malda Branch for 10 months. He has further stated that he has not been given any training in loans and advances. He was posted as Branch Incharge to Ranchi University Branch. After eight months stay at Ranchi he was transferred to Malda Branch on 22.02.2002. He has received a show cause notice on 02.04.2002 which was replied to on 17.04.2002. On 19.12.2002 a letter of suspension was faxed to him, a charge-sheet was issued by the Bank to him on 17.07.2004 and as per the departmental report he was removed from the service on 23.08.2005.

According to him out of 526 borrowers only 4 borrowers are fraudulent persons, who were introduced by the loan officer Sh. M.N. Jha, all other loans have been adjusted. He further mentioned that during his tenure, branch made a profit of Rs. 104 lakhs against target of Rs. 75 lakhs. He had also mentioned some other service related grievances with the bank management. He has also mentioned that Sh. M.N.Jha, loan officer was not summoned for inquiry to bring out the truth.

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The representation of Sh. Tigga was sent to CMD, Oriental Bank of Commerce, New Delhi for their comments and factual report in the case. Bank Management have replied that inquiry was conducted as per Bank's laid down procedures and that Sh. Tigga had never made any request to produce any witness during the course of inquiry. The decision of disciplinary authority was upheld by the Appellate Authority and the Reviewing Authority. All other petty grievances of Sh. Tigga have been redressed as per Bank reply.

DISCUSSION

ED mentioned that he had assumed charge at Delhi only recently and therefore didn't know much about the case. Moreover, he was busy in interviews for the last 8-10 days. He assured to re-examine the case of Shri Tigga and to see if any injustice has been done to him as per the existing rules and regulations of the Bank.

Commission noted that there was an inordinate delay in serving the charge sheet after suspension of Shri Tigga. Also Shri M.N. Jha who was the Loan Officer was not summoned for interrogation during inquiry, even after demand by Shri Tigga as per his witness list. Commission mentioned that re-examination of case should be done, after considering the above facts.

DECISION

It was decided that the case of Shri J.B. Tigga to be re-examined by Oriental Bank of Commerce with a sympathetic and lenient view and its findings to be intimated to the Commission latest by 28.02.2008.
