

Ref.No.1/2/SGO/2011-PANDM:/327.

the 22nd June 2022

To

Shri N. Biren Singh,
Hon'ble Chief Minister, Manipur.

Subject: Request for removal of Superintending Engineer / Chief Engineer-in-charge of the Education Engineering Wing (EEW) of Education (S) Department, Govt of Manipur for flouting Service Rules, committing forgery and misuse of power.

Hon'ble Sir,

I, the undersigned, have the honor to lay down a few lines for your kind perusal and necessary action. Through this representation, we take the opportunity to appreciate you for your move for a free corruption state. We sincerely believe that the strong anti-corruption campaign of your government will be able to clean our rotten society to the core. We know that the Central and the State Governments have been implementing a number of schemes and projects for enhancing educational infrastructures in the State. However, these schemes and projects cannot be fully implemented due to rampant corruption, favoritism, nepotism and irregularities prevalent within the Education Engineering Wing of Education (s) Dept.

It may be recalled that the Central Government had sanctioned a sum of Rs. 96 crores in 2011-2012 for construction of Government Polytechnic in the 8 districts of Manipur; Imphal East, Bishnupur, Thoubal, Chandel, Ukhrul, Tamenglong, Churachandpur and Senapati. Although the Centre had released 50% of the sanctioned amount in this respect, the higher authorities of the Education Engineering Wing (EEW) of Education (S) Department could not send the Utilization Certificate (UC) in time. As a result the remaining sanctioned amount for the construction has not been released by the Centre and all the construction activities have halted mid-way.

On conducting a spot inquiry by the undersigned Civil Society Organizations about the work progress of the buildings and other infrastructures under the above mentioned project, a huge disparity was found between the works being executed and the amount sanctioned for the same. Besides the quality of the works remained far from satisfactory as there was no quality control. This might be the reason why the Engineering Wing of Education (S) has not been able to provide the utilization certificate and complete the works within the stipulated timeframe. It is in stark contrast to what is happening in the neighboring state of Nagaland, which had reportedly started conducting classes and churning out a number of degrees and diplomas, although the above project for the state of Nagaland was also received/sanction in the same year as that of Manipur.

This is due to the corruptness and incompetence of the Chief Engineers whose service has utilized on deputation to the Engineering Wing of Education (S). At this stage we would like to quote some of the service records of the former Chief Engineer of EEW. Shri Ch. Gojen Singh who was deputed as the Chief Engineer in the Engineering Wing in 2014 was involved more than 242 crore scandal when he was the LDA Project Director. He was later suspended in Education Engineering Wing on charges of corruption. Again Kh.Sarat Singh, who had for a long time remained under suspension on corruption charges in Education Engineering Cell

It is learnt from the investigation that, L.Saratchandra Singh was allegedly involved in a series of corruption charges, his subordinates sued against him in the Courts. While he served under DRDA Chandel. The Supreme Court ultimately gave its judgement by which it was directed to return him to his parent department (LDA). Consequently, the Deputy Commissioner/Executive Director DRDA Chandel issued an Order dt. 28th June, 2016 sending him back to the LDA as Assistant Engineer (AE). However, the irregularities in the administration reached its highest peak when L.Saratchandra Singh was again appointed as Superintending Engineer on deputation to the Education Engineering Wing of Education (S) Department on 5th August 2020 though he is holding the substantive post of AE and then subsequently designated him as the Chief Engineer-in-charge.

In fact, he is the cousin brother of Shri Laishram Nandakumar Singh the present Director of Education (S) who had issued the following orders while he was the Joint Secretary, Education (S) Dept. in 2020 vide orders No. 4/17/2017-SE(S)EEW(PT-1). Dated 5 August 2020, The Governor of Manipur is pleased to order the appointment of Shri Laishram Saratchandra Singh **Executive Engineer of the office of LDA/DRDA, Chandel, Manipur** as Superintending Engineer of Engineering Wing, Education (S) Department, Manipur on deputation for a period of 3 (three) years and extendable by another 2 years in the scale of Executive Engineer plus such allowances admissible under rules from time to time and under the existing term and condition of deputation under the government of Manipur vide D.Ps OM 7/10/81-DP(A) dated 18th August 1982 with immediate effect and until further orders."

Further "Corrigendum dated 6th August 2020; No. 4/17/2017/SE(S)EEW(pt): Order No. 4/17/2017/SE(S)EEW(pt) dated 05-08-2020 regarding the appointment of Shri Laishram Saratchandra Singh, Superintending Engineer, Education Engineering Wing Education (S), Manipur on deputation for a period of 3 (three) years and extendable for another 2 (two) years in the scale of Executive Engineer is **modified as for a period of 2 (two) years and extendable for 3 (three) years** in the scale of Executive Engineer plus such allowances admissible under rule from time to time and under the existing term and condition of deputation under the Government of Manipur vide DP's OM 7/10/81-DP(A) dated 18th August 1982 with immediate effect and until further orders."

The above two Orders revealed that corruption, nepotism and misuse of power is at its peak stage apart from wrongly appointing somebody who is not qualified for the said post. The first order is inherent with full of contradictions. For instance, the designation **"Executive Engineer of LDA/DRDA"** mentioned in order dated 5-8-2020 is highly misleading which borders on forgery. In other words, his substantive post is only AE. By the time he had been deputed as Superintending Engineer to the Engineering Wing of Education (S) Department, he was only an Assistant Engineer in the LDA. As such, it appears that deputation of an AE to the post of SE is against the Service Rules. It is also a clear case of committing forgery with criminal intention to mislead the concerned authorities and the public by mentioning that L.Saratchandra Singh as Executive Engineer of the LDA or the DRDA in the above cited Order. **Lastly, the second Order i.e. the "Corrigendum" that was issued the next day was a ploy to cover up the case of forgery as evident in the first Order.**

From the above, it is clear that the deputation of L. Saratchandra Singh as Superintending Engineer and later on given the charge of Chief Engineer in the Engineering Wing of the Education (S) Department flouted all norms contained in the Service Rules. In this connection, it is worth to mention that all the officers who had accorded sanction and conveyed to the orders of dated 5th August 2020 and the Corrigendum of dated 6th August 2020 should be held solely accountable for issuing the highly disputable Orders in favor of **L. Saratchandra Singh**. The deputation of **L. Saratchandra Singh**, (who is holding Diploma (civil) Engineering) who is not eligible in all aspects and who is only an Assistant Engineer in the service as Superintending Engineer and then elevating him to the post of Chief Engineer-in-

same Department, but a huge amount was withdrawn by him falsely, claiming that it was done by hiring a firm known as BCS Architecture. The scandal was widely reported in the media.

Education Engineering Wing, Education(S) arose its top post that is the post of chief engineer were filled up by officials on deputation/ by promotion allowing to act as Chief Engineer who had various records of corruption in their respective previous services. Naturally Education (S) has become the last refuge of the scoundrels. To cite further, there have been lots of irregularities in the appointment and deputation of the current Superintending Engineer/ Chief Engineer-in-charge Shri L. Saratchandra Singh. It is pertinent to state that L. Saratchandra Singh is not eligible even for the post of Superintending Engineer, if he wants to serve on deputation as Chief Engineer-in-charge he should possess the degree in engineering, but he holds only Diploma in Civil Engineering. Besides his service carrier is marked by a series of controversies and court cases mainly because of his own corrupt practices.

It may be recalled that L. Saratchandra Singh was appointed as Section Officer (SO) on 21st May, 1996 on the work-charge basis in the Loktak Development Authority (LDA). On 29th August, 1998, his service was regularized as Section Officer (SO) and on 30th June 1999 he was promoted to the post of Assistant Engineer (AE). On 20th January 2003, the Commissioner (RD & PR), Government of Manipur appointed him to the DRDA, Chandel on deputation for 4 years as Executive Engineer (EE). He stayed there for about 13 years after obtaining periodic extension in flagrant violation of the Service Rules. It is surprising that Shri L. Saratchandra Singh served 13 years on deputation under DRDA, Chandel. His service record demonstrates how he managed to reach the highest post through manipulation and misuse of power and position.

Service Record of L. Saratchandra Singh

Year	Service Records
1996	Appointed as Section Officer (SO) on work-charge basis in the LDA
1998	Regularized as Section Officer (SO) in the LDA
1999	Promoted to Assistant Engineer (AE) in the LDA
2003	On deputation to DRDA, Chandel as Executive Engineer (EE)
2016	Returned to LDA as Assistant Engineer (AE) following a Supreme Court Judgement
2020	On deputation to Engineering Wing of Education (S) as Superintending Engineer dated 5-8-2020 & as Chief Engineer (-in-charge) vide order dt. 2-12-2020.

charge is against the whole established norms. The entire process of his deputation to the Engineering Wing of Education (S) Department is a mockery of Service Rules and an affront to your Government's concerted effort to usher in clean administration in the State.

In the light of the facts cited above, we would like to draw your kind attention to consider the following demands:

1. To remove Shri L. Saratchandra Singh from the post of Superintending Engineer and Chief Engineer-in-charge as he is not eligible for the said post.
2. To institute a **Special Inquiry Committee** to look into the implementation of all schemes and projects under the Education Engineering Wing, Education (S) Department.
3. Before starting the inquiry mentioned above Shri L. Nandakumar Singh Director, Education (S) (who is a cousin brother) and Shri L. Saratchandra Singh in-charge Chief Engineer of Education Engineering Wing shall put under suspension.

Therefore, we earnestly request you to kindly peruse the above cited facts and logic and initiate immediate necessary measures to rectify the anomalies which have come to define the Education Department. Your prompt action is highly called for in order to save the Department of Education (S) from the morass of corruption and nepotism. Without your timely intervention, all the schemes and projects sanctioned by the Central and State Government will go down in the drain. The ultimate loser will be the student community in particular and the state of Manipur in general.

With regards.

Sincerely yours,

(YUMNAMCHA DILIPKUMAR)

President

Peoples' Action for National Democratic Movement.
(PANDM)

Encl:-

1. As mentioned above.

Copy to:-

1. The Hon'ble Minister of Education, Manipur. --- for kind information & necessary action.
2. The Chief Secretary, Govt of Manipur. -- do --
3. The Commissioner (Education), Govt of Manipur. -- do --
4. The Commissioner (Vigilance), Govt of Manipur. --- do --
5. The Director of Education(S), Govt of Manipur. --- do --

(YUMNAMCHA DILIPKUMAR)

President

Peoples' Action for National Democratic Movement.
(PANDM)