

HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE A. RAMALINGESWARA RAO

Writ Petition No. 42933 of 2017

Order:

The case of the petitioner is that he joined the service as Drugs Inspector in the year 1988 after getting selected by the Public Service Commission. Thereafter, he was promoted as Senior Drugs Inspector. It is his case that on the basis of circular dated 13.11.2017 issued by the second respondent, when he was discharging his duties and taking action against the retailers who are selling the drugs with substandard quality and spurious drugs, an order was passed on 12.12.2017 attaching him to the post of Drugs Inspector (Vigilance and Intelligence) under the control of the Deputy Director-I, Drugs Control Administration, Headquarter, Hyderabad, on administrative grounds in the public interest. Challenging the same, the present Writ Petition is filed.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the Director (FAC) who passed the impugned order dated 12.12.2017 is not competent and the order was passed as a measure of punishment.

Learned Government Pleader, on the other hand, submits that the Director is competent to pass the impugned order and though there are several complaints against the petitioner the punitive action is not taken, but he was attached to the post of Drugs Inspector (Vigilance and Intelligence) on administrative grounds only.

This Court verified the record produced by the learned Government Pleader and is of the opinion that the Head of Department should have sufficient freedom to take administrative decisions as is done in the instant case in the interest of administration. The impugned order cannot be

called as punitive order. In the circumstances, this Court is not inclined to interfere with the impugned order.

The Writ Petition is, accordingly, dismissed. There shall be no order as to costs.

As a sequel thereto, the miscellaneous petitions, if any, pending in this Writ Petition shall stand closed.

A. RAMALINGESWARA RAO, J

Date: 21.12.2017
Nsr

