Sr. No. 28

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
AT JAMMU

SWP No.397/2016
Date of pronouncement: 20.12.2025
Uploaded on : .12.2025

Santosh Devi, Age 42 years W/o Sh. Satish Kumar R/o Village Khelaya, Tehsil and District Doda
And seven others ..... Petitioner(s)

Through :- None

v/s

1. State of Jammu and Kashmir, through Commissioner/Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Govt. of J&K, Civil Secretariat, Srinagar/Jammu.
2. The Director Social Welfare Department, Jammu
3. State Mission Director, ICDS, J&K Government, Jammu.
4. The District Programme Officer, ICDS, Doda
5. Child & Development Project Officer, Marmat, District Doda.

.....Respondent(s)

Through :- Mr. Ravinder Gupta, AAG

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV KUMAR, JUDGE

ORDER
20.12.2025

1. The petitioners were temporarily engaged as Anganwari Workers/Helpers on adhoc basis. Their appointment was not according to the Rules but was only a stop gap arrangement to make the Anganwari Centres functional. The petitioners were, later on, disengaged by the Mission Director, ICDS, J&K vide order dated 22.04.2015. The disengagement was made on the ground that they were continued despite having been appointed only on a stop gap arrangement without following any process of law. It is this order of the Mission Director, ICDS, J&K, which has been called in question by the petitioners in this petition.

2. This petition came up for consideration on 29.02.2016, when this Court while issuing notice to the respondents for filing objections, directed the parties to maintain status quo. Indisputably, the petitioners were disengaged on 22nd April, 2015, whereas the interim direction was passed on 29th February, 2016. We are not sure whether the petitioners are continuing in service or not.

3. Mr. Gupta, learned counsel for the respondents submits that the order impugned in this petition i.e. Order No.13-SMD of 2015 dated 22.04.2015 was quashed by the learned Single Judge in SWP No.1222/2015 and other clubbed matters, which judgment of the learned Single Judge has been upheld by the Division Bench vide its judgment dated 24th August, 2023 passed in LPA No.140/2021 and other connected matters. It is submitted that that since the order impugned in this petition stands quashed, as such, this petition has been rendered infructuous.

4. Be that as it may, having regard to the submission made by Mr. Gupta, learned AAG, this petition is disposed of in terms of the judgment dated 24.08.2023 passed in LPA No.140/2021 and clubbed matters.

(Sanjeev Kumar)
Judge

HIGH COURT OF JAMMU & KASHMIR AND LADAKH
सत्यमेव जयते

JAMMU
20.12.2025
Vinod.

Whether order is speaking: Yes/No
Whether order is reportable: Yes/No

Vinod Kumar
2025.12.23 13:10
I attest to the accuracy and
integrity of this document