



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Home Department – Disciplinary action –Lapses in POCSO case in Crime No.1492/2024 of Aranmula Police Station – Suspension of Sri.Rajappan.T, DySP and Sri.Sreejith.P, ISHO and Oral enquiry - Orders issued.

HOME (H) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Rt)No.1789/2025/HOME Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 02-06-2025

Read Letter No. G2/76373/2025/PHQ dated 23.04.2025 from the State Police Chief, Kerala

ORDER

A POCSO case in Crime No. 1492/2024 in which the victim is a 17-year-old girl was registered in Aranmula Police Station on 16/12/2024. The first accused, Mr. Noushad, served as a Government Pleader during the period from 2011 to 2016. The second accused, is the victim's paternal aunt. The victim's parents were estranged, and a divorce petition was pending before the court. The 1st Accused was the advocate representing the victim's father, in the said divorce case proceedings. As the father of victim was employed abroad, he executed a Power of Attorney in favor of his sister (the 2nd Accused in the aforementioned POCSO case), authorizing her to represent him in the divorce proceedings before the court. Although the second accused was duty bound to protect the victim, she actively assisted the first accused in intoxicating the victim and in committing repeated acts of penetrative sexual assault.

2. The victim in this case is also the complainant in Konni Police Station Crime No. 192/2022 which was registered for the sexual violence done towards the victim by her neighbour. In connection with that matter, the 2nd Accused introduced the victim to the 1st Accused. Subsequently, when the father of victim returned to India, he came across certain voice recordings stored on his mother's mobile phone. From these recordings, it became apparent that his daughter had been subjected to aggravated penetrative sexual assault by the 1st Accused,

with the active assistance of the 2nd Accused.

3. Subsequently, the father of victim submitted a complaint on 29.08.2024 to the District Police Chief, Pathanamthitta along with a pen drive containing voice recordings, alleging that his daughter had been sexually assaulted. In the complaint, he also named the victim's mother as the 3rd Accused, and Noorji Noushad (wife of the 1st Accused) as the 4th Accused. The petition was forwarded to the Station House Officer (SHO), Konni Police Station Sri. Sreejith P, for necessary action and report. Despite the serious and cognizable nature of the allegations, the Station House Officer did not register a First Information Report (FIR). Instead SHO assigned WCPO, Smt. Subi, and SI Vimal Ranganath to record the victim's statement. On 31.08.2024 they visited the victim's residence, where she stated that her father's complaint was false and that the voice recordings had been manipulated. She also submitted a written statement to this effect, and the statement was video recorded.

4. Thereafter, no further legal proceedings were initiated by the SHO, Konni Police Station or by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Konni Sri. Rajappan T, despite the gravity of the allegations disclosed in the complaint. Instead, on 02.09.2024, the SHO submitted a report stating that appropriate steps would be taken to arrange counseling for the victim through the Child Welfare Committee (CWC). However, no tangible progress was made in this regard thereafter.

5. On 03.12.2024, the victim contacted the Child Helpline and disclosed the circumstances she was facing. Pursuant to the directions issued by the Child Welfare Committee (CWC), and with the assistance of the police, she was rescued from her residence and subsequently transferred to the Nirbhaya Entry Home, Konni. Even though the CWC was aware of the matter through the complaint dated 29.08.2024 submitted by the father of the victim, the CWC forwarded a report regarding the incident to the Station House Officer, Konni Police Station only on 13.12.2024. Further, it came to light that on 05.12.2024, Accused Nos. 1 and 2 had visited the office of the Chairman of the Child Welfare Committee and attempted to influence or settle the matter. Since the victim was unwilling to compromise, the CWC officials, having no alternative, reported the matter to the police. This fact was corroborated through the analysis of the Call Detail Records (CDRs) of Accused Nos. 1 and 2, as well as the wife of the 1st Accused. The delay of ten days in communication from the CWC to the police appears to have provided an opportunity for the accused persons to tamper with evidence and interfere with the due course of justice by attempting an unlawful

compromise.

6. On 14.12.2024, the statement of the victim was recorded at the One Stop Centre, Kozhencherry, by WCPO, Smt. Sandhya T, of Konni Police Station, in the presence of case worker Smt. Jeeva Thomas. In the course of her statement, the minor victim disclosed that she had been taken from her residence at Payyanaman by the 2nd Accused and brought before the 1st Accused at Park Residency Hotel, Kozhencherry, where she was subjected to sexual assault by the 1st Accused. The location from which the victim was taken, Payyanaman falls within the jurisdictional limits of Konni Police Station. However, instead of registering a First Information Report (FIR) under the appropriate provisions including Section 366 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), the Station House Officer, Konni Police Station registered a Zero FIR and transferred the case to Aranmula Police Station without invoking Section 366 IPC.

7. From the above, it is revealed that there was gross dereliction of duty and procedural lapse on the part of the Station House Officer, Konni Police Station Sri. Sreejith.P, in the handling of the complaint dated 29.08.2024 and in the registration of the FIR dated 14.12.2024. Furthermore, the matter reflects a serious failure in supervisory responsibility and failure to exercise due diligence by the Deputy Superintendent of Police, Konni Sri. Rajappan T. The State Police Chief requested to take appropriate disciplinary action against Sri Sreejith P, SHO Konni PS and Sri Rajappan.T, DySP Konni.

8. Government have examined the matter in detail and it is prima facie revealed that grave supervisory lapses and failure to exercise due diligence and dereliction of duty had occurred on the part of Sri.Rajappan.T, DySP and grave dereliction of duty, procedural lapses and irresponsibility occurred on the part of Sri.Sreejith.P, ISHO and their act is quite unbecoming of police officers in handling a POCSO case. In the circumstances, Sri Sri.Rajappan.T, DySP and Sri.Sreejith.P, ISHO are suspended from service with immediate effect pending disciplinary action. An oral enquiry is also ordered against Sri.Rajappan.T, DySP and Sri.Sreejith.P, ISHO under KPDIP&A Rules,1958.

9. The delinquents will be eligible for subsistence allowance as per Rule 55 Part I KSRs.

10. The State Police Chief shall suggest a panel of competent officers for being appointed as enquiry officer to conduct the enquiry.

(By order of the Governor)
BEENA P S
ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

To:

The State Police Chief, Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram

Sri.Rajappan.T, DySP

(Through State Police Chief, Thiruvananthapuram)
Sri.Sreejith.P, ISHO

(Through State Police Chief, Thiruvananthapuram)

Home (A)Department
The Principal Accountant General(A&E/Audit)Thiruvananthapuram
Stock File/Office Copy.

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Section Officer