





























**Form No. 4**  
**{See rule 11(1)}**  
**ORDER SHEET**  
**ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL, REGIONAL BENCH, LUCKNOW**  
**Court No.1 (E. Court)**

**O.A. No. 290 of 2017 with M.A. No. 45 of 2021**

**Rajendra Singh**  
By Legal Practitioner for the Applicant

Applicant

**Versus**

**Union of India & Others**  
By Legal Practitioner for Respondents

Respondents

Notes of the Registry	Orders of the Tribunal
	<p><b><u>04.02.2021</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava, Member (J)</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve, Member (A)</u></b></p> <p>On the case being taken up for hearing Shri Veer Raghav Chaubey, Ld. Counsel for the applicant and Shri Rajiv Pandey, Ld. Counsel for the respondents are present.</p> <p><b><u>M.A. No. 45 of 2021</u></b></p> <p>It is submitted by the Ld. Counsel for the applicant that applicant has moved the amendment application as per direction contained in order dated 03.10.2018.</p> <p>We have gone through the order and we find that amendment is necessary for decision of the Original Application. \</p> <p>Amendment Application is, therefore, <b>allowed</b>.</p> <p>Let amendment be carried out within a week.</p> <p><b><u>O.A. No. 290 of 2017</u></b></p> <p>Supplementary Counter Affidavit to the amended pleadings maybe filed within two weeks.</p> <p>List on <b>05.03.2021</b>.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve)</b> Member (A)</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>(Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava)</b> Member (J)</p> <p>AKD/-</p>

























**Form No. 4**  
**{See rule 11(1)}**  
**ORDER SHEET**  
**ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL, REGIONAL BENCH, LUCKNOW**  
**Court No.1 (E. Court)**

**O.A. No. 335 of 2017**

**Tomy Varghese (IAF)**  
By Legal Practitioner for the Applicant

Applicant

Versus

**Union of India & Others**  
By Legal Practitioner for Respondents

Respondents

<b>Notes of the Registry</b>	<b>Orders of the Tribunal</b>												
	<p><b><u>04.02.2021</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Mr. Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava, Member (J)</u></b> <b><u>Hon'ble Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve, Member (A)</u></b></p> <p>Heard Shri Birendra Prasad Singh, learned counsel for the applicant and Shri Asheesh Agnihotri, learned counsel for the respondents.</p> <p>1. The applicant has filed this application under Section 14 of the Armed Forces Tribunal Act, 2007 and has sought the following reliefs:-</p> <p>(i) Issue an order or direction to the respondents quashing the impugned order dated 16.12.2016 together with order dated 29.06.2017 as contained in Annexure No 1 and 2 to the instant original application, and/or</p> <p>(ii) Issue an order or direction to the respondents hereto ignore the impugned order of punishment and restore the reputation of applicant in the service documents while considering the candidature of the applicant for promotion etc. and/or</p> <p>(iii) Issue an appropriate order or direction which this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case including an order of awarding damages as well as cost of the instant application in favour of the applicant and against the respondents, hereto.</p> <p>2. Brief facts of the case are that the applicant, while posted strength of 45 Wing had travelled by train in the year 2013 and claimed Rs 1,035/- for journey performed by him and his family from Sirsa to Delhi and back. Accordingly leave travel concession claim was forwarded. Details of journey performed are appended below:-</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"><thead><tr><th style="text-align: center;"><u>Date</u></th><th style="text-align: center;"><u>From</u></th><th style="text-align: center;"><u>To</u></th><th style="text-align: center;"><u>Mode of conveyance</u></th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td style="text-align: center;">16.02.2013</td><td style="text-align: center;">Sirsa</td><td style="text-align: center;">Delhi</td><td style="text-align: center;">By train</td></tr><tr><td style="text-align: center;">07.05.2013</td><td style="text-align: center;">Delhi</td><td style="text-align: center;">Sirsa</td><td style="text-align: center;">-do-</td></tr></tbody></table> <p>3. During audit, the PCDA found that the tickets enclosed alongwith bill did not</p>	<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Mode of conveyance</u>	16.02.2013	Sirsa	Delhi	By train	07.05.2013	Delhi	Sirsa	-do-
<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>Mode of conveyance</u>										
16.02.2013	Sirsa	Delhi	By train										
07.05.2013	Delhi	Sirsa	-do-										

match with PNR Number and they raised observation. The applicant was issued 'show cause notice' and on receipt of reply from applicant, he was awarded reproof i.e. warning in terms of para 712 of Regulations for the Air Force, 1964. Against award of punishment, the applicant submitted an application to Chief of Air Staff for redressal of his grievance, which was rejected vide speaking and reasoned order dated 29.06.2017. Feeling aggrieved, applicant has filed present O.A.

4. Learned counsel for the applicant submitted that applicant and his family consisting of wife and two daughters performed journey on 16.02.2013 and 07.05.2013 by train in chair car, though he was entitled to air conditioned first class and paid Rs 1035/- for onward and return journey which were claimed through leave travel concession bill for the year 2013. Further submission of learned counsel for the applicant is that railway tickets were purchased from window and the same were enclosed alongwith the claim. Learned counsel further submitted that PCDA, based on a purported PNR enquiry report, had raised observations which were not authenticated. Learned counsel for the applicant contended that keeping in view applicant's service profile punishment awarded on trivial and fake ground be set aside and justice awarded to him.

5. On the other hand, learned counsel for the respondents submitted that as per PCDA, tickets and PNR numbers enclosed alongwith claim belong to some other persons and fraud was substantiated. Applicant was awarded lenient punishment as per service norms, which is justified and as per law. His further contention is that the competent authority after taking into the account the relevant rules and regulations has taken action to proceed against applicant, hence it does not suffer from any illegality. He pleaded the O.A. to be dismissed.

6. We have perused the records.

7. We find that the applicant had submitted a leave travel concession claim for the year 2013 with which it is alleged that false tickets and PNR Numbers were enclosed which belonged to some other persons. On verification it was established that the details of journey quoted by the applicant were not in consonance with the details of journey undertaken against the verified PNR numbers. The class of journey as brought out in the PNR enquiry report was also sleeper class, as against

chair car quoted by the applicant in his claim. The applicant was awarded 'reproof' by the Air Officer Commanding in Chief, Western Air Command in terms of Air Force Order 03/2008 for his misconduct of financial impropriety.

8. We are of the view that punishment awarded by the competent authority is as per rules and regulations and deserves no interference at this stage.

9. In view of the above, O.A. is devoid of merit and liable to be rejected. It is accordingly, **rejected**.

10. No order as to costs.

11. Pending applications, if any, are disposed off.

**(Vice Admiral Abhay Raghunath Karve)**  
**Member (A)**

**(Justice Umesh Chandra Srivastava)**  
**Member (J)**

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