

Public Service Commission, West Bengal

161A, S. P. Mukherjee Road, Kolkata-700026

Important Announcement

EXAMINATION FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF SUB INSPECTOR IN THE SUBORDINATE FOOD AND SUPPLIES SERVICE, GRADE-III, UNDER FOOD AND SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT, GOVT. OF WEST BENGAL, 2022 (ADVT NO.04/2023)

In compliance with the judgement passed by Hon'ble Justice Rajasekhar Mantha of High Court at Calcutta in the matter of Ankush Sarkar & Ors. Vs. the State of West Bengal & Ors. in W.P.A 9071 of 2024, the original copy of the judgement is published here.

By Order of the Commission

Assistant Secretary

WPA 9071 of 2024

Ankush Sarkar and others Vs. State of West Bengal and others

Mr. Samim Ahammed,

Mr. Arka Maiti,

Ms. Ambiya Khatun

... for the petitioners.

Mr. Sirsanya Bandopadhyay,

Mr. Ritesh Kumar Ganguly

... for the State.

Ms. Piyali Sengupta,

Mr. Victor Chatterjee

... for the P.S.C.

- 1. The petitioners are aggrieved by the examination conducted by the Public Service Commission (PSC) for the post of Sub-Inspectors in the Subordinate Food & Supply Services, Grade-III under the Food and Supply Department, Government of West Bengal. The advertisement is dated 22.08.2023 and the examination was held on 16th and 17th March, 2024. When examination got over, the petitioners found that examination paper had been leaked and was available in various Whatsapp groups.
- 2. Some candidates were seen writing answer scripts in open by referring to answers given on their mobile phones. Photographs of certain persons with answers written on their legs are also annexed to the

- writ petition. There are whatsapp messages offering jobs against payment of money.
- 3. The learned advocate for the PSC submits that pursuant to certain complaints received from certain quarters, the concerned districts where examination was conducted were asked to submit reports on any allegation of impropriety. Some districts reported certain malpractices in some area and about 60 FIRs have been registered. Further action is being initiated by the PSC in this regard.
- 4. Mr. Samim, learned advocate for the petitioners has filed a supplementary affidavit annexing some FIRs.
- 5. This Court is of the prima facie view that the recruitment process cannot be allowed to proceed any further. This Court therefore orders a stay of the recruitment process to the post of Sub-Inspectors in the Subordinate Food & Supply Services, Grade-III under the Food and Supply Department, Government of West Bengal conducted pursuant to advertisement dated 22.08.2023 published by the PSC, West Bengal until further orders.
- 6. Given the number of FIRs across the State, this Court is of the view that investigation in respect of these 60 odd FIRs and all further FIRs in respect of this recruitment process must be transferred to the C.I.D., West Bengal.

- 7. Let each of the FIRs registered in respect of the aforesaid recruitment process stand transferred for investigation by each and every police station in the State to the C.I.D., West Bengal.
- 8. The PSC shall publish this order on their website and also inform each officer in each district to communicate to the concerned police station to ensure compliance of transfer of FIRs and case diaries to the office of the C.I.D., West Bengal located in their districts. The C.I.D., West Bengal may in its discretion form any team of their officers to investigate and submit a report before this Court on the adjourned date.
- 9. The report of the PSC received from all districts and the instructions of the O.C, Tollygunge Police Station are taken on record.
- 10. List this matter on 22nd May, 2024 along with WPA 10541 of 2024.
- 11. All parties are to act on a server copy of this order duly downloaded from the official website of this court.

(Rajasekhar Mantha, J.)