

## **Jharkhand CM cancels the Recruitment Process for appointment of grade IV Policemen**

RANCHI: Chief minister Raghubar Das on Wednesday cancelled the entire recruitment process for the appointment of grade IV policemen in the Jharkhand Armed Police (JAP)-9 in Sahebganj and suspended commandant JAP-9 Harinarayan Ram Mahli for his involvement in irregularities and corruption. Das also ordered departmental proceedings against the officer. He has also directed the anti-corruption bureau to probe the entire selection process and death of Devendra Mishra, who was allegedly the key conspirator in the recruitment scam but died suddenly during the recruitment process.

The matter relates to recruitments being made against 269 vacant posts of washerman, barber, cook, water porter and others under JAP-9 in Sahebganj, advertisements for which was published in 2015. The selection commission was formed under the chairmanship of the Mahli commandant.

Soon after selection process was over, allegations of widespread irregularities and money being sought from the applicants came to light following which a case was registered as case number 56/16 in Borio police station. In the FIR lodged, commandant mentioned that his associates Devendra Mishra alias Dilip Mishra and Madan Pandey fraudulently extorted money from the applicants on behalf of the commandant.

The matter was then probed by police headquarters in which Mahli was found hand in glove with the conspirators.

It was found that the selection process was not transparent and the commandant had guided terms to suit his interests. "The commandant adopted a 100 point marking scale out of which he kept 60 point marks under his discretion whereas two other members of the commission were allowed to mark against 20 points each," the communique issued by CM secretariat reads. Mahli entered the marks during selection trial using pencil which was later overwritten by pen.

The police headquarters, during the probe, ascertained if Mahli was in touch with the applicants, which he had denied. "On verification of call details record it was established beyond doubt that the commandant remained in regular touch with the applicants," the official communique reads.