



FACULTY OF JURIDICAL SCIENCES

Course : BALLB , 3rd Semester

Subject : Administrative Law

Subject code : BAL306

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ADMINISTRATIVE LAW

UNIT I

- Definition, Nature and Scope of Administrative Law, Conceptual Objections to the growth of administrative Law
- Rule of Law, Separation of Powers
- Administrative discretion: Meaning, Need, and Judicial Control

UNIT II:

- Legislative Power of Administration: Necessity, Merits and Demerits,
- Constitutionality of Delegated Legislation; Legislative and Judicial Control of delegated
- Legislation

UNIT III:

- Principles of Natural Justice and their Exceptions Rule against Bias, Concept of Fair hearing
- Judicial review of administrative action through writs;
- Judicial control through suits for damages, injunction and declaration
- Administrative Tribunals: Need and reasons for their growth, characteristics, jurisdiction and procedure of administrative Tribunals.

UNIT IV:

- Liability of the administration: Contractual liability, tortious liability. Public Undertakings, their necessity and Liabilities, governmental Control, Parliament Control, Judicial Control
- Ombudsman: Lokpal and Lokayukta
- Right to information ACT, 2005 (S.1-S.20)
- Government Privilege to withhold evidence in public interest

Books

1. Wade, Administrative Law (VII Ed.) Indian Print, Universal
2. M.P.Jain, Principles of Administrative Law, Universal Delhi
3. I. P. Massey: Administrative law

LECTURE 25



ADMINISTRATIVE ADJUDICATION AND ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS

Here are a large number of laws which charge the Executive with adjudicatory functions, and the authorities so charged are, in the strict scene, administrative tribunals. Administrative tribunals are agencies created by specific enactments. Administrative adjudication is term synonymously used with administrative decisionmaking. The decision-making or adjudicatory function is exercised in a variety of ways. However, the most popular mode of adjudication is through tribunals.

The main characteristics of Administrative Tribunals are as follows:

- Administrative Tribunals is the creation of a statute.
- An Administrative Tribunals is vested in the judicial power of the State and thereby performance quasi-judicial functions as distinguished form pure administrative functions.

- Administrative Tribunals is bound to act judicially and follow the principles of natural justice.
- It has some of the trapping of a court and are required to act openly, fairly and impartially
- An administrative Tribunal is not bound by the strict rules of procedure and evidence prescribed by the civil procedure court. Let us now study the evolution of the Administrative Tribunals with special reference to Central Administrative Tribunal, State and Joint Administrative Tribunals, their jurisdiction, powers and authority. The composition of the Tribunal and its functioning will also be dealt with.

ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNALS – EVOLUTION The growth of Administrative Tribunals both in developed and developing countries has been a significant phenomenon of the twentieth century. In India also, innumerable Tribunals have been set up from time to time both at the center and the states, covering various areas of activities like trade, industry, banking, taxation etc. The question of establishment of Administrative Tribunals to provide speedy and inexpensive relief to the government employees relating to grievances on recruitment and other conditions of service had been under the consideration of Government of India for a long time. Due to their heavy preoccupation, long pending and backlog of cases, costs involved and time factors, Judicial Courts could not offer the muchneeded remedy to the government servants, in their disputes with the government. The dissatisfaction among the employees, irrespective of the class, category or group to which they belong, is the direct result of delay in their long pending cases or cases not attended properly. Hence, a need arose to set up an institution, which would, help in dispensing prompt relief to harassed employees who perceive a sense of injustice and lack of fair play in dealing with their service grievances.

This would motivate the employees better and raise their morale, which in turn would increase their productivity. The Administrative Reforms Commission (1966-70) recommended the setting up of Civil Service Tribunals to function as the final appellate authority, in respect of government orders inflicting major penalties of dismissal, removal from service and reduction in rank. As early as 1969, a Committee under the chairmanship of J.C. Shah had recommended that having regard to the very number of pending writ petitions of the employees in regard to the service matters, an independent Tribunal should be set up to exclusively deal with the service matters. The Supreme Court in 1980, while disposing of a batch of writ petitions observed that the public servants ought not to be driven to or forced to dissipate their time and energy in the courtroom battles.

The Civil Service Tribunals should be constituted which should be the final arbiter in resolving the controversies relating to conditions of service. The government also suggested that public servants might approach factfinding Administrative Tribunals in the first instance in the interest of successful administration. The matter came up for discussion in other forums also and a consensus emerged that setting up of Civil Service Tribunals would be desirable and necessary, in public interest, to adjudicate the complaints and grievances of the government employees.

The Constitution (through 42nd amendment Article 323-A). This Act empowered the Parliament to provide for adjudication or trial by Administrative Tribunals of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and constitutions of service of persons appointed to public service and posts in connection with the affairs of the union or of any state or local or other authority within

the territory of India or under the control of the government or any corporation owned or controlled by the government. In pursuance of the provisions of Article 323-A of the Constitution, the Administrative Tribunals Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha on 29th January 1985 and received the assent of the President of India on 27th February 1985.

STRUCTURE OF THE TRIBUNALS The Administrative Tribunals Act 1985 provides for the establishment of one Central Administrative Tribunal and a State Administrative Tribunal for each State like Haryana Administrative Tribunal etc; and Joint Administrative Tribunal for two or more states. The Central Administrative Tribunal with its principal bench at Delhi and other benches at Allahabad, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras was established on 1st November 1985. The Act vested the Central Administrative Tribunal with jurisdiction, powers and authority of the adjudication of disputes and complaints with respect to recruitment and service matters pertaining to the members of the all India Services and also any other civil service of the Union or holding a civil post under the Union or a post connected with defense or in the defense services being a post filled by a civilian. Six more benches of the Tribunal were set up by June, 1986 at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Jodhpur, Patna, Cuttack, and Jabalpur. The fifteenth bench was set up in 1988 at Ernakulam. The Act provides for setting up of State Administrative Tribunals to decide the services cases of state government employees. There is a provision for setting up of Joint Administrative Tribunal for two or more states. On receipt of specific requests from the Government of Orissa, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Tamil Nadu, Administrative Tribunals have been set up, to look into the service matters of concerned state government employees. A joint Tribunal is also to be set up for the state of Arunachal Pradesh to function jointly with Guwahati bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal.

COMPOSITION OF THE TRIBUNALS Each Tribunal shall consist of Chairman, such number of Vice-Chairman and judicial and administrative members as the appropriate Government (either the Central Government or any particular State Government singly or jointly) may deem fit (vide Sec. 5.(1) Act No. 13 of 1985). A bench shall consist of one judicial member and one administrative member. The bench at New Delhi was designated the Principal Bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal and for the State Administrative Tribunals. The places where their principal and other benches would sit specified by the State Government by Notification (vide Section 5(7) and 5(8) of the Act).

QUALIFICATION FOR APPOINTMENT In order to be appointed as Chairman or Vice-Chairman, one has to be qualified to be (is or has been) a judge of a High Court or has held the post of secretary to the Government of India for at least two years or an equivalent-pay-post either under the Central or State Government (vide Sec. 6(i) and (ii) Act No. 13 of 1985). To be a judicial member, one has to be qualified for appointment as an administrative member, one should have held at least for two years the post of Additional Secretary to the Government of India or an equivalent pay-post under Central or State Government or has held for at least three years a post of Joint Secretary to the Govt. Of India or equivalent post under Central or State Government and must possess adequate administrative experience.

APPOINTMENTS The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and every other members of a Central Administrative Tribunal shall be appointed by the President and, in the case of State or joint

Administrative Tribunal(s) by the President after consultation with the Governor(s) of the concerned State(s), (vide Section 6(4), (5) and (6), Act No. 13 of 1985). But no appointment can be made of a Chairman, vice-chairman or a judicial member except after consultation with the Chief Justice of India. If there is a vacancy in the office of the Chairman by reason of his resignation, death or otherwise, or when he is unable to discharge his duties / functions owing to absence, illness or by any other cause, the Vice-Chairman shall act and discharge the functions of the Chairman, until the Chairman enters upon his office or resumes his duties.