

TELANGANA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

(Under Right to Information Act, 2005)

Samachara Hakku Bhavan, D.No.5-4-399, '4' Storied Commercial Complex,
Housing Board Building, Mojam Jahi Market, Hyderabad – 500 001.

Phone Nos: 040-24740665 (o); 040-24740592(f)

C.No. 4865, 6059, 6083, 8569, 6062, 6064, 6065, 6070, 6071, 8568, 6080, 6081, 6087, 6125, 6082, 8618, 6084, 6085, 6115, 8583, 6100, 6102, 6111,6112, 6107, 8585, 6109,6110, 6113, 6114, 6120 & 8619, 8575, 8584 /SIC-KSR/2020 Dated: 15-07-2021

- Complainant : Sri Mohd Ashraf, Sirpur- Kaghaznagar.
- Respondents :
- 1.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Koutala Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 2.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Dahegaon Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 3.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer,
MPP, Rebbana Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 4.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer,
MPP, Kaghaznagar Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 5.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer,
MPP, Kerameri Mandal, Komaram Bheem District.
 - 6.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Wankidi Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 7.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
The District Revenue Officer, O/o the District Collector,
Kumarambheem Asifabad District.
 - 8.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer,
MPP, Sirpur-T Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 9.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Sirpur-U Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 10.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Thiryani Mandal, Komaram Bheem District.
 - 11.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Jainoor Mandal, Komaram Bheem District.
 - 12.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Gram Panchayat Secretary, Asifabad Mandal,
Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 13.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP,
Asifabad Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District.
 - 14.The Public Information Officer (U/RTI Act, 2005) /**
O/o the Executive Engineer, Irrigation & CAD,
Mission Bhagiradha, Asifabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District

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ORDER

Sri Mohd Ashraf, Sirpur- Kaghaznagar has filed these Complaints dated 19-07-2020 which was received by this Commission on 28-07-2020 for not getting the information sought by him from the PIO / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Koutala Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-2 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Dahegaon Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-3 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Rebbana Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-4 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Kaghaznagar Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-5 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Kerameri Mandal, Komaram Bheem District PIO-6 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Wankidi Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-7 The District Revenue Officer, O/o the District Collector, Kumarambheem Asifabad District PIO-8 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Sirpur-T Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-9 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Sirpur-U Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO-10/ O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Thiryani Mandal, Komaram Bheem District PIO -11 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Jainoor Mandal, Komaram Bheem District. PIO- 12 / O/o The Gram Panchayat Secretary, Asifabad Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District PIO – 13 / O/o The Mandal Parishad Development Officer, MPP, Asifabad Mandal, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District. PIO-14/ O/o the Executive Engineer, Irrigation & CAD, Mission Bhagiradha, Asifabad, Komaram Bheem Asifabad District

The brief facts of the case as per the Complaints and other records received along with it are that the Complainant herein filed an applications dated **23-01-2020, 22-11-2019, 04-09-2020, 30-10-2019, 16-12-2019, 30-09-2019, 22-11-2019, 15-06-2020, 17-08-2020** before the PIOs under Sec.6(1) of the RTI Act, 2005.

The Public Information Officers has not furnished the information to the Complainant.

As the Complainant did not receive the required information from the PIOs even after 30 days of filing his applications, he preferred these Complaints before the Commission u/s 18(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 requesting to arrange to furnish the information sought by him.

The Complaints was taken on file and cases are posted for hearing on 15-07-2021.

On overview spread of COVID-19, the cases are heard over phone on 15-07-2021. The Complainant and the Public Information Officers are heard.

The Public Information Officer/ O/o. The Executive Engineer, I&CAD, Asifabad submitted that vide letter No. AB/RTI/2020 dated 10-03-2020, available information was furnished to the complainant.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. MPDO, Kowthala Mandal submitted that vide letter No.M1/56/2019 dated 15-02-2020, sought information was furnished to the complainant through RPAD.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. MPDO, Dahegon Mandal submitted that vide letter No.MPO/RTI/Dahegon/2019 dated 05-12-2019, the complainant was asked to pay an amount of Rs.12594/- towards xerox charges for furnishing the information.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The MPDO, Rebbena Mandal submitted that vide letter No.M1/30/RTI Act/2020 dated 14-07-2021, available information was furnished to the complainant.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The MPDO, Kagaznagar Mandal submitted that vide letter No.M1/65/123/2015 dated 13-01-2020, the complainant was asked to pay an amount of Rs.400/- towards xerox charges for furnishing the information.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The MPDO, Wankidi submitted that vide letter No.M1/47/2019 dated 05-12-2019, a reply was given to the complainant.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. MPDO, Sirpur-T Mandal submitted that vide letter No.RTI/GPS/2019 dated 28-01-2019, the complainant was asked to pay an amount of Rs.44913/- towards xerox charges for furnishing the information.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. MPDO, Sirpur-U submitted that vide letter No.M2/RTI/2019 dated 10-02-2020, the complainant was called for inspection of records on 25-02-2020, but there was no response. He also submitted that vide letter No.M2/RTI/2020 dated 22-09-2020, the complainant was asked to pay an amount of Rs.916/- towards xerox charges for furnishing the information.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The MPDO, Thiryani Mandal submitted that vide letter No.M1/RTI/06/2020 dated 25-02-2020, available information was furnished to the complainant.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The MPDO, Jainoor Mandal submitted that vide letter Nos.P1/RTI Act/2019 dated 18-12-2019, 13-01-2020 and 03-12-2019, the complainant was asked to pay an amount of Rs.4512/-,11216/- and 9774/- respectively towards xerox charges for furnishing the information.

The Public Information Officer/O/o. The Gram Panchayat Secretary, Asifabad Mandal submitted that vide letter No.A2/06/2020 dated 17-02-2020, information was furnished to the complainant.

The Public Information Officer /O/o. The MPDO, Asifabad Mandal submitted that vide letter No.A2/98/2019 dated 17-12-2019, available information was furnished to the complainant.

During the hearing, the Public Information Officers submitted that the information sought in respect of these RTI applications was very large and voluminous in nature and it tantamount to diverting the meager resources of the Public Information Officer thereby impacting the normal functioning of its activities.

In this context, the Commission also referred to the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Central Board of Secondary Education and Anr. Vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay and Ors, SLP(C) NO. 7526/2009 wherein it was held as under:

“Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under RTI Act for disclosure of all and sundry information (unrelated to transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counter-productive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result in the executive getting bogged down with the non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information. The Act should not be allowed to be misused or abused, to become a tool to obstruct the national development and integration, or to destroy the peace, tranquility and harmony among its citizens. Nor should it be converted into a tool of oppression or intimidation of honest officials striving to do their duty. The nation does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spends 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharging their regular duties. The threat of penalties under the RTI Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of a public authorities prioritizing 'information furnishing', at the cost of their normal and regular duties.”

The Commission observed from the perusal of facts on record that information sought in the RTI Application(s) is largely unspecific and is required to be gathered from voluminous records which may entail disproportionate diversion of resources as per Section 7(9) of RTI Act and advised the complainant to seek specific information in particular matters of public interest so that the same could be identified and furnished and also the formatted applications and demanding voluminous information will not be entertained hereafter.

Keeping in view the facts of the case and submissions made by both the parties, the Commission notes that information as per available record is provided by the Public Information Officers against these RTI applications.

The Commission directed the Public Information Officers to call the complainant for inspection of records to their office and furnish the available information to the complainant, within two weeks from the date of receipt of this order and to report compliance to the Commission.

With the above direction, these complaints are closed.

Katta Shekar Reddy
State Information Commissioner

Authenticated by:

Section Officer
Coy to: - IT Section/SF