

Telangana State Information Commission

(Under Right to Information Act, 2005)
D.No.5-4-399, Samachara Hakku Bhavan (Old ACB Building),
Mojam-jahi-Market, Hyderabad – 500001.
Phone: 24740155 Fax: 24740592

Appeal No: 3089/SIC-SK/2022

Date: - 26-09-2022

Appellant : Sri Ramesh Vodnala,
Karimnagar District.

Respondents : Public Information Officer
(U/RTI Act, 2005)
The Gram Panchayat Secretary,
Thadikal Village, Shankarapatnam
Mandal, Karimnagar District.

First Appellate Authority
(U/RTI Act, 2005)
O/o the Mandal Parishad Development
Officer, Shankarapatnam Mandal,
Karimnagar District.

Order

Sri Ramesh Vodnala, Karimnagar District has filed 2nd appeal dated: 05-02-2022 which was received by this Commission on 07-03-2022 for not getting the information sought by him from the PIO / Gram Panchayat Secretary, Thadikal Village, Shankarapatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District and 1st Appellate Authority / O/o the Mandal Parishad Development Officer, Shankarapatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District.

The brief facts of the case as per the appeal and other records received along with it are that the appellant herein filed an application dated: 25-09-2021 before the PIO requesting to furnish the information under Sec. 6(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, on the following points mentioned in his application:

1. గ్రామ పంచాయతీకి కేంద్ర రాష్ట్ర ప్రభుత్వాల నుండి వివిధ రూపాలలో వచ్చినటువంటి నిధులు వివరాలు ఇవ్వగలరు.
2. గ్రామపంచాయతీ లో ఏ ఏ పథకాల క్రింద ఎన్ని నిధులు వచ్చాయో తెలుపగలరు మరియు ఈ పథకాలకు ఎంత ఖర్చు చేశారో తెలుపుతూ ఈ పథకాలకు లబ్ధిదారుల వివరాలు ఇవ్వగలరు.
3. గ్రామీణ ఉపాధి హామీ కి సంబంధించిన పనులు ఎన్ని మంజూరు అయినవి ఎన్ని పూర్తి అయినవి ఎంత నిధులు ఖర్చు అయినవి వివరాలు ఇవ్వగలరు.
4. గ్రామపంచాయతీ లో గ్రామసభ జరిపిన తేదీలు గ్రామసభకు వాజరైన ప్రజాప్రతినిధులు ప్రభుత్వ అధికారులు గ్రామస్తులు సంతకాలు చేసినటువంటి జిరాక్స్ కాపీలు ఇవ్వగలరు.
5. గ్రామ పంచాయతీ కి ఏ ఏ రూపాలలో ఎంత పన్ను వచ్చిందో పూర్తి సమాచారం ఇవ్వగలరు మరియు ఈ పన్నులను ఏ రకంగా ఖర్చు చేశారో పూర్తి సమాచారం ఇవ్వగలరు. దేని దేనికి ఖర్చు చేసినారు పూర్తి సమాచారం ఇవ్వగలరు.
6. కేంద్ర ప్రభుత్వం నుండి మంజూరు అయినవి ఎన్ని ఎంత మందికి పంపిణీ చేసినారు ఎంత నిధులు ఖర్చు అయినవి వివరాలు ఇవ్వగలరు.

Stating that the appellant did not receive the information from the PIO, the appellant filed 1st appeal dated: 18-12-2021 before the 1st Appellate Authority requesting him to furnish the information sought by him u/s 19(1) of the RTI Act.

Stating that the appellant did not get the information from the PIO / 1st Appellate Authority even after 30 days of filing his 1st appeal, he preferred this 2nd appeal before this Commission requesting to take action against the PIO and 1st Appellate Authority for not furnishing information sought by him and also to arrange to furnish the information sought by him u/s 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

In view of the above, the 2nd appeal was taken on file and Notices issued to both the parties for hearing on 26-09-2022 at 12.00 P.M.

The case is called on 26-09-2022. The appellant is present and filed his affidavit stating that the PIO has not furnished the information. The PIO / Sri Ch. Samma Rajeshwar, Panchayat Secretary, Thadikal Village, Shankarapatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District is present and filed his affidavit stating that information was furnished to the appellant on 26-08-2022 and filed copy of the covering letter and the postal receipt before the Commission.

The First Appellate Authority / Sri Md. Khaja Basheeruddin, Mandal Panchayat Officer, Shankarapatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District is present and filed his affidavit stating that vide letter No: MPO/173/2021 dated: 18-12-2021 directed the PIO / Panchayat Secretary, Thadikal Village, Shankarapatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District to furnish the information to the appellant.

Heard both the parties and perused the material papers available on record and observed that the appellant through his 6(1) application dated: 25-09-2021 is seeking information on 21 points which is huge and voluminous and as per the orders issued by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Central Board of Secondary Education and Anr. Vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay and Ors in Civil Appeal No. 6454 OF 2011 (arising out of SLP(C) No: 7526/2009) wherein in it is stated that:

“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 the 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 the Public Authorities spends 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing the information to the appellants instead of discharging their regular duties. The treat of penalties under the RTI Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of Public Authorities prioritizing ‘information furnishing’ at the cost of their normal duties.”

Keeping in view of the above Supreme Court decision, The Commission directs the PIO to furnish the consolidated point wise reply the appellant within One (1) Week from the date of receipt of this order through Registered post with acknowledgement due and to report compliance to the Commission.

With the above direction, the appeal is closed.

SYED KHALEELULLAH
STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

Authenticated by:

Section Officer
Copy to: SO / SF / OC