

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: 4600/SIC-SK/2022

Date: - 26-08-2022

Appellant : Sri Vodnala Ramesh,
Karimnagar District.

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

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

Order

Sri Vodnala Ramesh, Karimnagar District has filed 2nd appeal dated: 06-04-2022 which was received by this Commission on 07-04-2022 for not getting the information sought by him from the PIO / Gram Panchayat Secretary, Tadikal Village, Shankarpatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District and 1st Appellate Authority / O/o the Mandal Parishad Development Officer, Shankarpatnam 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 హాజరైన 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. క్రామపంచాయతీ మురుగుదొడ్డు మంజూరు అయినవి ఎన్ని ఎంత మందికి పంపిణీ చేసినారు ఎంత నిధులు ఖర్చు అయినవి వివరాలు ఇవ్వగలరు.

and more few points.

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 26-08-2022 at 10.30 A.M.

The case is called on 26-08-2022. The appellant is present and filed his affidavit stating that the PIO has not furnished the information. The PIO / Sri Ch. Sannarejeshwar, Panchayat Secretary, Tadikal Village and the First Appellate Authority / Sri Md. Khajabasheeruddin, Mandal Panchayat Officer, Shankarpatnam Mandal, Karimnagar District are present and filed their affidavits stating that the information sought by the appellant is huge and the same is gathered and brought to the Commission and is ready to be furnished to the appellant.

Heard the PIO 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 & voluminous information.

The Commission is of the view that 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.”

The PIO submitted that he has sent the information to through RPAD on 26-08-2022 and filed copy of the postal receipt before the Commission. The Commission took a serious view against the PIO for not furnishing the information to the complainant within the stipulated period of 30 days as per Section 7(1) of the RTI Act 2005. The Commission warns the PIO not to repeat such lapses in future and strictly adhere to the provisions of the RTI Act 2005.

With the above warning, the appeal is closed.

SYED KHALEELULLAH
STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER

Authenticated by:

Section Officer
Copy to: SO / SF / OC