



The State Information Commission, Kerala

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CP.No. 531/2007/SIC

Adv. T. Asaf Ali
(President, People's Council for
Civil Rights)
Pleasant Chateau,
Near District Court
Thalasserry- 670 101.



Requester

Vs

Public Information Officer
KSEB, Vydhuthi Bhavan
Pattom, Thiruvananthapuram.



Respondent

ORDER

Mr. T. Asaf Ali the requester, in this case is absent. The Public Information Officer, Vydhuthi Bhavan, Pattam, Thiruvananthapuram, Sri. T.K. Yohan, Director, MIS is present. Ext.A1 was a request preferred by Adv. Asaf Ali under section 6(1) of the Right to Information Act. The same was reproduced below. There were 5 questions in the request, and they are :-

1. സംസ്ഥാനത്ത് ഗാർഹികേതര വൈദ്യുതി ഉപഭോക്താക്കളിൽ നിന്നും 2006 ഡിസംബർ 31 വരെയുള്ള കാലയളവിൽ എത്രരൂപ വൈദ്യുതി ചാർജ്ജ് ഇനത്തിൽ കുടിശ്ശികയായി പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാനുണ്ട്.?

2. 5 ലക്ഷവും അതിൽ കൂടുതലും തുക വൈദ്യുതി ചാർജ്ജ് ഇനത്തിൽ കുടിശ്ശികയായി അടച്ചു തീർക്കാനുള്ള വൈദ്യുതി ഉപഭോക്താക്കളുടെ പേരുവിവരവും സംഖ്യയും ജില്ല തിരിച്ചുള്ള കണക്ക് അറിയിച്ചു തരിക.
3. മേൽ സംഖ്യ പിരിച്ചു കിട്ടാൻ എന്ത് നടപടി സ്വീകരിച്ചു.
4. 2006 മെയ് 18 തൊട്ട് 2006 ഡിസംബർ 31 വരെ സംസ്ഥാനത്ത് Anti-Power Theft squad കണ്ടെത്തി പിടികൊണ്ടു വൈദ്യുതി മോഷണ കേസുകൾ ഏതെല്ലാം ? അപ്രകാരം കണ്ടെത്തിയ കേസുകളിൽ ഉൾപ്പെട്ട ഉപഭോക്താക്കളോട് പിഴ അടക്കം എത്ര രൂപ അടക്കാൻ ആവശ്യപ്പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടായിരുന്നു. അപ്രകാരം എത്ര രൂപ പിരിഞ്ഞു കിട്ടി. എത്ര രൂപ ഇനിയും അടഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാനുണ്ട് ? പിരിഞ്ഞുകിട്ടാൻ ബാക്കിയുള്ളവരുടെ പേരും സംഖ്യയും അറിയിച്ചു തരിക?
5. Anti-Power Theft Squad കണ്ടെത്തി പിടികൊണ്ടു എത്ര കേസുകളിൽ പ്രോസിക്യൂഷൻ നടപടി എടുത്തു. എത്ര പേർക്കെതിരെ പ്രോസിക്യൂഷൻ സ്വീകരിച്ചില്ല. വിശദമായ വിവരങ്ങൾ

On 19.2.2007 Ext.A1 request preferred on 22.1.2007.

On 19.2.2007, a reply was sent to Asaf Ali in which all the questions except item number 2 was answered. For furnishing item number 2 a cost of Rs. 62/- was also demanded. Asaf Ali had furnished the fee by Money Order. Further information regarding item number 2 was despatch only on 8.10.2007. The forwarding letter was marked as Ext.A3.

The question that arises for consideration is whether the information sought was furnished within the stipulated time and is there any delay caused in furnishing the information ?

All the 5 questions require collection of data from sub offices. Even then vide reply dated 19.2.2007 (Ext.A2) satisfactory answers for 4 items were furnished. The first item was answered giving the figure that the actual arrears pending for collection was Rs. 1638.89 crores. Item number 3,4 and 5 were also answered reasonably. Question number 2 was a lengthy information running about 31 pages. Therefore, Rs. 62/- was demanded by way of cost. Question number 2 was details of defaulters whose arrear amounts exceeded 5 lakhs or more. This was an information to be collected from all the sub offices of Kerala State Electricity Board.

According to the requester he had remitted the amount by Money Order. But the same was not received in the Board Office. However, an enquiry was conducted with regard to the remittance of the money, receipt of the money etc. and finally Board came to a conclusion that the Money Order was received in the KSEB office after verification of the account. Asaf Ali, the requester, had sent the Money Order, copy of the Money Order receipt was also produced and from the Money Order receipt Ext. A4, it could be seen that the same was received in the Board Office on 5.3.2007. Item number 2, information was badly delayed. It was furnished only on 8.10.2007. This is an information of public importance. On going through the details it could be seen that there are thousands of customers who had defaulted payment and firms, individuals, factories and so on and so forth had failed to remit the amount of current charges to the Board. An improper and inefficient method of realization of

arrears had driven the State to a deplorable condition. However, the information with regard to four questions was disseminated within 30 days. Only one item of the information was delayed and the delay was due to the collection of the details from all the sub offices of the Board, and also due to the confusion of receipt of cost sent by Money Order. However, the explanation submitted for non furnishing of only one item of information is excused due to the volume of work and energy that are required for collection, compilation and tabulation of the same by the Board. However, a final information of public importance had been formulated and the Public Information Officer is directed to disseminate such information periodically in the website for the sake of transparency and information. Therefore, this petition is closed.

Dated this the 21th day of November 2007

Authenticated copy

Secretary to Commission