

Complaint No. 104/2007/SIC

Sri S. Krishna Kumar,
Radha Vilasom,
Kurukkan Vilakam,
Valiyara, Vellanadu, Vellanad. } Petitioner

V/s

(1) The Director,
The Dale View,
Poonalal, Vellanadu. } Respondents
(2) The Director,
Mithranikethan. }

ORDER

The Complainant Shri S. Krishnakumar approached the Commission with a complaint on 22-1-2007. The facts leading to the complaint can be summarized as follows:

The complainant applied for some information to the Directors of The Dale View (Poonalal, Vellanadu) and Mithranikethan, Vellanad under the RTI Act. The complainant claims that the above two organizations viz. The Dale View and Mithranikethan have not disposed of his applications dated 12-9-2006 filed under section 6(1) of the RTI Act, 2005. He also requested Commission's intervention to get the information from the above two Non-Governmental organizations and also to proceed against the errant officers. Accordingly, the Commission had called for a report from the above organizations.

Both the Directors in their letters dated 2-3-2007 and 1-3-2007 conceded that they have been receiving financial assistance from the Governments (State and Central). The Commission carefully examined the complaint. The Commission found that access to information regarding public money cannot be denied to the members of the Public under any circumstances. The Public have an inalienable right to know how the Government money is spent and whether it is spent for the purposes for which it is provided and, if it is spent also the manner in which it is meant to be spent. Since these two institutions have been receiving public funds and since they both have been working as implementing agencies of Government's schemes and programmes, although for specific projects they have to be deemed to be Public Authorities u/s 2(h) (ii) of RTI Act to that extent. Therefore, respondents shall designate Assistant Public Information Officer, Public Information Officer and Appellate Authority to deal with the Public request/s for information received u/s 6(1) of the RTI Act.

In the circumstances, the respondents are directed to furnish the information as sought for by the complainant Sri S. Krishnakumar within a week from receipt of this order.

Pronounced this in the 26th day of November, 2007.