



A.P INFORMATION COMMISSION

(Under Right to Information Act, 2005)

1st Floor, MGM Capital,

Near NRI Hospital Cross Roads, Service road of NH-16,
Chinnakakani, Mangalagiri, Guntur Dist-522 508.

Email: sic-ap@gov.in, website: www.sic.ap.gov.in, Phone: 0863-2387314

COMMON ORDER

Dated 14-12-2023

Appellant

Sri K. Babu Prakash,

APT # 101, Vibhu Amruth Manor, Opp: IDBI
Bank, Sai Baba Road, Vidya Nagar 1st Line,
Guntur – 522007.

Respondents:

The Public Information Officer,

O/o The Mission Director,
Mission for Elimination of Poverty in
Municipal Areas (MEPMA), 4TH&5TH
Floors, Sri Lakshmi Narasimha
Constructions, NGH-5 Service Road,
Beside: D-Mart, Tadepalli, Guntur Dist-
522501

The Public Information Officer,

O/o Guntur Municipal Corporation,
Opp. Gandhi park, Guntur – 522003

The Public Information Officer,

O/o The Project Director
Mission for Elimination of Poverty in
Municipal Areas (MEPMA), Guntur
Collector Compound, Nagarampalem,
Guntur Dist-522204

The Public Information Officer,

O/o The Municipal Commissioner,
Chilikaluripeta Municipality,
Chilikaluripeta – 522616

The Public Information Officer,

O/o The Municipal Commissioner,
Ponnur Municipality,
Ponnur – 522316

The First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Mission Director,
Mission for Elimination of Poverty in
Municipal Areas (MEPMA), 4TH&5TH Floors,
Sri Lakshmi Narasimha Constructions, NGH-
5 Service Road, Beside: D-Mart, Tadepalli,
Guntur Dist-522501

The First Appellate Authority,

O/o Guntur Municipal Corporation,
Opp. Gandhi park, Guntur - 522003

The First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Project Director
Mission for Elimination of Poverty in
Municipal Areas (MEPMA), Guntur Collector
Compound, Nagarampalem,
Guntur Dist-522204

The First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Municipal Commissioner,
Chilikaluripeta Municipality,
Chilikaluripeta – 522616

The First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Municipal Commissioner,
Ponnur Municipality,
Ponnur – 522316

Brief facts of the case:

The appellant **Sri. K. Babu Prakash** has filed the 476 second appeals before the Commission on different dates, seeking certain information and action against the respondents. The Commission decided to take all cases together as the subject matter is pertaining to MEPMA department only. The Commission has taken up the cases and notices were issued to the appellant and respondents for hearing on 20-09-2023 and subsequently on 17-10-2023.

Hearing:

*** CASES FILED BEFORE THE PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER & FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY, O/O THE MISSION DIRECTOR, MISSION FOR ELIMINATION OF POVERTY IN MUNICIPAL AREAS (MEPMA) ARE LISTED BELOW:**

Sl. No.	Case No.	6(1) Dated	19(1) dated
1	7320/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
2	7320/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
3	7322/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
4	7323/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
5	7324/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
6	7326/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
7	7327/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
8	7328/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
9	7329/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
10	7331/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
11	7338/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
12	7335/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023
13	7333/SIC-IR/2023	01-02-2023	28-03-2023

- 1) The appellant is called present on 20-09-2023 and the representative of the appellant is called present on 17-10-2023, filed their affidavits, stated that the sought information was not furnished by both the Public Information Officer and First Appellate Authority and has requested the Commission to take necessary action as per provisions of RTI Act, 2005 for wilfully violating, misleading and suppressing information sought by him.
- 2) First Appellate Authority, **Sri S. Ramajaneyulu, Administrative Officer** and Public Information Officer, **Sri B. Rama Krishna, Assistant Director** are called present on 20-09-2023 and 17-10-2023, filed their affidavits. Public Information Officer stated that the appellant has filed 100 RTI applications earlier and the appellant was informed that to pay the requisite fees and get the sought information, but the appellant didn't turn up. He further stated that after receiving the 13 applications, the appellant was informed vide letter dated 22-02-2023, to pay the requisite fees and the get the sought information.

Further, the First Appellate Authority stated that the appellant not satisfied with the reply of the Public Information Officer has filed an appeal before him. He further stated

that the appellant was informed vide letter dated 24-04-2023, that the Public Information Officer has acted upon the applications and disposed off the appeal accordingly.

Further, they stated the appellant alone has submitted **One Thousand one hundred and twenty-three (1123) Nos. of RTI Applications** U/s 6(1) of RTI Act, 2005 consisting **Six Thousand and thirteen (6013) No. of Questions to all the MEPMA Offices** i.e., HOD, District Offices, Municipalities & MA&UD Dept., in AP Secretariat and harassing the entire MEPMA Departmental Officers with his RTI applications. Further, they stated that the appellant has also filed dummy RTI applications duly enclosing the copy of White Ration Rice Card (in the name of his Benami Sri Kasukurthi Ravi Kumar but is using the same Mobile No.9848173063 of the appellant Sri Karlapudy Babu Prakash). He further stated that only after the General transfers of MEPMA employees got effected, the appellant has filed approximately (185) No. of RTI Applications consisting of (1000) No. of Questions per month from July, 2022 within a span of 6 months period.

Further, they stated that the appellant is threatening that the Guntur Municipal Corporation has to pay Rs 2,12,12,250/- as an amount for the penalty for 338 Appeals and Chilkaluripeta Municipality has to pay an amount of Rs 98,28,000/- as an amount for penalty for 54 Appeals and Head Office, MEPMA has to pay an amount of Rs 70,70,500/- towards the penalty for 77 Appeals, the total amount is about of Rs 3,81,10,750/-.

Further, he also stated that the appellant is demanding penalty of Rs 250/- per day from the Public Information Officers, Chilkaluripeta and Pidugurala Municipalities. He further stated the Public Information Officer of Chilkaluripeta Municipality has drawn the DD of Rs 14,750 /- (for the delay of 59 days) and Rs 2,250/- (for the delay in paying the penalty) in the favour of the appellant.

*** CASES FILED BEFORE THE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, O/O GUNTUR MUNICIPAL CORPORATION, GUNTUR ARE LISTED BELOW.**

SI. No.	Case No.	6(1) Dated	19(1) dated
1	5447/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
2	5822/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
3	5824/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
4	6042/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
5	6044/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
6	5959/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
7	5961/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
8	5917/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
9	5929/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
10	5921/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
11	5914/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
12	5927/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
13	5509/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
14	5498/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
15	5513/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
16	5501/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023

17	5518/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
18	5519/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
19	5499/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
20	5456/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
21	5457/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
22	5473/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
23	5462/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
24	5458/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
25	5459/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
26	5460/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
27	5496/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
28	5472/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
29	5464/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
30	5478/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
31	5480/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
32	5812/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
33	5847/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
34	5849/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
35	5850/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
36	5834/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
37	5836/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
38	5838/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
39	5841/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
40	5839/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
41	5853/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
42	5858/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
43	5865/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
44	5815/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
45	5782/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
46	5798/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
47	5806/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
48	5807/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
49	5794/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
50	5796/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
51	5774/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
52	5777/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
53	5769/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
54	5946/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
55	5947/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
56	5948/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
57	5966/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
58	5969/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
59	5976/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
60	5979/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
61	5984/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
62	5987/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
63	5937/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
64	5944/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
65	6029/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
66	6031/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
67	6034/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
68	6034/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
69	6035/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
70	6037/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
71	6038/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023

72	6025/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
73	6010/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
74	5453/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
75	5454/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
76	5463/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
77	5495/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
78	5497/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
79	5500/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
80	5958/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
81	5960/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
82	5913/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
83	5913/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
84	5915/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
85	5916/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
86	5918/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
87	5920/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
88	5922/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
89	5923/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
90	5924/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
91	5925/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
92	5926/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
93	5928/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
94	5510/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
95	5511/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
96	5512/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
97	5502/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
98	5503/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
99	5504/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
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101	5506/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
102	5507/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
103	5508/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
104	5514/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
105	5515/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
106	5516/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
107	5517/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
108	5450/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
109	5465/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
110	5466/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
111	5467/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
112	5468/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
113	5469/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
114	5474/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
115	5475/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
116	5476/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
117	5477/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
118	5461/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
119	5455/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
120	5483/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
121	5484/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
122	5452/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
123	5471/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
124	5470/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
125	5479/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
126	5494/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023

127	5481/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
128	5482/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
129	5485/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
130	5486/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
131	5487/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
132	5488/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
133	5489/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
134	5490/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
135	5491/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
136	5493/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
137	5492/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
138	5445/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
139	5446/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
140	5448/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
141	5449/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
142	5451/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
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145	5634/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
146	5635/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
147	5636/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
148	5637/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
149	5638/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
150	5639/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
151	5640/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
152	5641/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
153	5642/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
154	5643/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
155	5644/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
156	5645/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
157	5646/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
158	5647/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
159	5648/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
160	5649/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
161	5650/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
162	5651/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
163	5652/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
164	5653/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
165	5654/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
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168	5657/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
169	5658/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
170	5659/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
171	5660/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
172	5661/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
173	5662/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
174	5663/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
175	5664/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
176	5930/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
177	5931/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
178	5933/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
179	5934/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
180	5935/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
181	5936/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023

182	5945/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
183	5949/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
184	5950/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
185	5951/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
186	5954/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
187	5955/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
188	5956/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
189	5957/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
190	5965/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
191	5970/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
192	5974/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
193	5975/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
194	5978/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
195	5981/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
196	5983/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
197	5988/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
198	5990/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
199	5991/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
200	5938/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
201	5939/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
202	5940/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
203	5941/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
204	5942/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
205	5943/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
206	6022/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
207	6018/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
208	6041/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
209	6043/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
210	6030/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
211	6036/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
212	6040/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
213	6024/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
214	6002/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
215	6012/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
216	6008/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
217	6007/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
218	6046/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
219	5996/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
220	6005/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
221	6050/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
222	6049/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
223	6048/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
224	6047/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
225	5998/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
226	6015/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
227	6016/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
228	5997/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
229	6014/SIC-IR/2023	11-01-2023	01-03-2023
230	5823/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
231	5819/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
232	5835/SIC-IR/2023	14-01-2023	01-03-2023
233	5840/SIC-IR/2023	14-01-2023	01-03-2023
234	6020/SIC-IR/2023	13-01-2023	01-03-2023
235	5830/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
236	5962/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023

237	5963/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
238	5919/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
239	5844/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
240	5856/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
241	5859/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
242	5861/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
243	5860/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
244	5813/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
245	5814/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
246	5799/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
247	5801/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
248	5802/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
249	5792/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
250	5788/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
251	5784/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
252	5770/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
253	5932/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
254	5952/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
255	5953/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
256	5964/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
257	5967/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
258	5968/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
259	5971/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
260	5972/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
261	5973/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
262	5977/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
263	5980/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
264	5982/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
265	5985/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
266	5986/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
267	5989/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
268	5992/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
269	5993/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
270	5994/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
271	6021/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
272	6027/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
273	6019/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
274	6045/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
275	6026/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
276	6028/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
277	6032/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
278	6033/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
279	6039/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
280	6003/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
281	6011/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
282	6004/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
283	6000/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
284	6001/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
285	6009/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
286	6006/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
287	5995/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
288	5999/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
289	6017/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
290	6013/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
291	5825/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023

292	5826/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
293	5827/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
294	5828/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
295	5829/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
296	5831/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
297	5832/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
298	5833/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
299	5837/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
300	5848/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
301	5845/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
302	5846/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
303	5842/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
304	5843/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
305	5851/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
306	5852/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
307	5854/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
308	5854/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
309	5857/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
310	5862/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
311	5863/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
312	5864/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
313	5810/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
314	5811/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
315	5816/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
316	5817/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
317	5820/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
318	5800/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
319	5803/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
320	5804/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
321	5805/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
322	5808/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
323	5809/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
324	5780/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
325	5781/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
326	5791/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
327	5793/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
328	5795/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
329	5797/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
330	5785/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
331	5786/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
332	5787/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
333	5789/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
334	5790/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
335	5783/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
336	5775/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
337	5776/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
338	5778/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
339	5779/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
340	5771/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
341	5772/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
342	5773/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023
343	5821/SIC-IR/2023	12-01-2023	01-03-2023

- 3) The appellant is called present on 20-09-2023 and the representative of the appellant is called present on 17-10-2023. They stated that the sought information was not furnished by both the Public Information Officer and First Appellate Authority and requested the Commission to take appropriate action as per provisions of RTI Act, 2005 for wilfully violating, misleading and suppressing information sought by him.
- 4) For the hearing held on 20-09-2023, First Appellate Authority, **Smt. P. Roja, Additional Commissioner** is called present and Public Information Officer is called absent. For the hearing held on 17-10-2023, First Appellate Authority is called absent and Public Information Officer, **Sri K. Sambasiva Rao** and Deemed Public Information Officer, **Sri P. Venkata Narayana, Project Director, MEPMA** are called present, filed their affidavits, they stated that the appellant has filed 343 applications before the Public Information Officer seeking certain information pertaining to all ALF/ SLF in the Guntur Municipal Corporation as follows: a) copy of ALF/SLF Registration, b) Audit report of 2021-22, c) General body meeting resolutions, d) DCO returns for the year 2021-22, e) SLF Honorarium and month wise Government grant and f) Monthly honorarium proposals by the CMM. Public Information Officer stated that as appellant has sought vast and voluminous information, the appellant was informed to express the public interest in the applications filed by him within 7 days vide letter dated 19-01-2023. Further, he stated that the appellant was informed vide letter dated 15-02-2023, that the sought information cannot be furnished as appellant could not express any public interest in his applications.

Further, First Appellate Authority stated that the appellant not satisfied with the information furnished by the Public Information Officer has filed an appeal before her. Further, she stated that as the sought information is not maintained in their office and the same application was transferred to the Deemed Public Information Officer, O/o Project Director, MEPMA vide letter dated 25-03-2023.

Further, Deemed Public Information Officer stated that the appellant was informed vide letter dated 03-04-2023, that the information sought by the appellant in points 1 to 4 pertains to the certain ALF / SLF, which are registered under the AP Cooperative Society Act and they do not have any jurisdiction over them, as they are independently maintained and further the sought information is not maintained in their office. Further, he also informed the appellant to pay the requisite fees and get the sought information pertaining to point nos. 4 & 5.

*** CASES FILED BEFORE THE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, O/O PROJECT DIRECTOR, MEPMA, GUNTUR DISTRICT ARE LISTED BELOW:**

SI. No.	Case No.	6(1) Dated	19(1) dated
1	2742/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
2	2855/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	26-09-2022
3	2722/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022

4	2852/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	26-09-2022
5	2732/SIC-IR/2023	26-07-2022	21-09-2022
6	2733/SIC-IR/2023	26-07-2022	21-09-2022
7	2735/SIC-IR/2023	26-07-2022	21-09-2022
8	2739/SIC-IR/2023	26-07-2022	21-09-2022
9	2743/SIC-IR/2023	11-07-2022	21-09-2022
10	2744/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
11	2745/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
12	2843/SIC-IR/2023	10-08-2022	26-09-2022
13	2844/SIC-IR/2023	10-08-2022	26-09-2022
14	2851/SIC-IR/2023	10-08-2022	26-09-2022
15	2858/SIC-IR/2023	10-08-2022	26-09-2022
16	2845/SIC-IR/2023	15-08-2022	26-09-2022
17	2846/SIC-IR/2023	25-07-2022	21-09-2022
18	2856/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	26-09-2022
19	2848/SIC-IR/2023	19-08-2022	26-09-2022
20	2849/SIC-IR/2023	25-08-2022	28-09-2022
21	2850/SIC-IR/2023	10-08-2022	26-09-2022
22	2853/SIC-IR/2023	14-08-2022	26-09-2022
23	2854/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	21-09-2022
24	2857/SIC-IR/2023	15-08-2022	26-09-2022
25	7325/SIC-IR/2023	24-07-2022	Not Filed
26	7330/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	Not Filed
27	7332/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	Not Filed
28	7334/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	Not Filed
29	7336/SIC-IR/2023	11-07-2022	Not Filed
30	7337/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	Not Filed
31	848/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
32	849/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
33	851/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
34	853/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
35	856/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
36	857/SIC-IR/2023	07-11-2022	09-12-2022
37	2132/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	11-09-2022
38	2134/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	11-09-2022
39	2496/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	11-09-2022
40	2133/SIC-IR/2023	24-07-2022	07-09-2022
41	2370/SIC-IR/2023	11-08-2022	09-09-2022
42	2491/SIC-IR/2023	26-07-2022	11-09-2022
43	2492/SIC-IR/2023	08-07-2022	13-09-2022
44	2493/SIC-IR/2023	02-08-2022	11-09-2022
45	2494/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	13-09-2022
46	2495/SIC-IR/2023	30-07-2022	09-09-2022
47	2497/SIC-IR/2023	11-07-2022	17-09-2022
48	2498/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	17-09-2022
49	2499/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	09-09-2022
50	2500/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	15-09-2022
51	2501/SIC-IR/2023	18-07-2022	17-09-2022
52	2502/SIC-IR/2023	14-07-2022	17-09-2022
53	2726/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
54	2728/SIC-IR/2023	25-07-2022	21-09-2022
55	2729/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
56	2847/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
57	2731/SIC-IR/2023	25-07-2022	21-09-2022
58	2737/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022

59	2738/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
60	2730/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
61	2734/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
62	2736/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
63	2740/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022
64	2741/SIC-IR/2023	10-07-2022	21-09-2022

5) The representative of the appellant is called present on 17-10-2023 and stated that the sought information was not furnished by both the Public Information Officer and First Appellate Authority and requested the Commission to take appropriate action as per provisions of RTI Act, 2005 for wilfully violating, misleading and suppressing information sought by him.

6) For the hearing held on 17-10-2023, First Appellate Authority, **Sri P. Venkata Narayana, Project Director** and Public Information Officer, **Smt. A. Usha Kiran, Administrative Officer** are called present, filed their affidavits. Public Information Officer stated that the appellant has sought certain information and the reply was sent to the appellant as per the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

Further, First Appellate Authority stated that the appellant not satisfied with the information furnished by the Public Information Officer has filed an appeal before him. Further, he stated that hearing was held on different dates and available information was furnished to the appellant accordingly.

* **CASES FILED BEFORE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, O/O CHILKALURIPETA MUNICIPALITY ARE LISTED BELOW:**

SI. No.	Case No.	6(1) Dated	19(1) dated
1	3430/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
2	3431/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
3	3432/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
4	3433/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
5	3434/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
6	3435/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
7	3436/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
8	3437/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
9	3438/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
10	3439/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
11	3440/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
12	3441/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
13	3442/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
14	3443/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
15	3444/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
16	3445/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
17	3446/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
18	3447/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
19	3448/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
20	3449/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
21	3450/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
22	3451/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022

23	3452/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
24	3453/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
25	3454/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
26	3455/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
27	3456/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
28	3457/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
29	3458/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
30	3459/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
31	3460/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
32	3461/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
33	3462/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
34	3463/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
35	3464/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
36	3465/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
37	3466/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
38	3467/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
39	3468/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
40	3469/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
41	3470/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
42	3471/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
43	3472/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
44	3473/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
45	3474/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
46	3475/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
47	3476/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
48	3477/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
49	3478/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
50	3479/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
51	3480/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
52	3481/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
53	3482/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022
54	3483/SIC-IR/2023	26-11-2022	29-12-2022

- 7) For the hearing held on 20-09-2023, The appellant is called present, filed his affidavit, stated that the sought information was furnished by the Public Information Officer, but is not satisfied with the same and requested the Commission to take appropriate action as per provisions of RTI Act, 2005 for wilfully violating, misleading and suppressing information sought by him.
- 8) First Appellate Authority, **Sri Ch. Govinda Rao, Municipal Commissioner** and Public Information Officer, **Smt. K. Malathi, CMM** are called present, filed their affidavits. They stated that the appellant has filed 54 applications before the Public Information Officer seeking certain information pertaining all ALF/ SLF in the Chilkaluripeta Municipality as follows: a) copy of ALF/SLF Registration, b) Audit report of 2021-22, c) General body meeting resolutions, d) DCO returns for the year 2021-22, e) SLF Honorarium and month wise Government grant and f) Monthly honorarium proposals by the CMM. Public Information Officer stated that the appellant has sought the information pertaining to ALF/ SLF in the municipality and as all the ALF and SLF are registered under the MACS Act, 1995 and they do not maintain any records as they are independent maintained by the societies themselves and the same was informed to the appellant vide letter dated 24-12-

2022. She further stated that all the ALF/ SLF has conducted a meeting and passed a resolution, that the information sought by the appellant cannot be furnished.

Further, First Appellate Authority stated that the appellant was informed vide letter dated 28-01-2023, that the information sought pertains to third party and the same cannot be furnished with the permission of third party.

Further, First Appellate Authority stated that hearing was held before him on 06-01-2023 and the appellant, Public Information Officer were called present. The appellant stated that the Public Information Officer has not furnished the certified copies and as there is delay of 59 days in furnishing the information, the appellant has sought penalty of Rs 14,750/- (Rs 250/- per day). He further stated that as the Public Information Officer accepted to pay the said amount and the resolution was passed accordingly. Further, he stated that the Public Information Officer has drawn the DD ('814248' & '077961') of Rs 14,500/- and Rs 2,250/- in the favour of the appellant.

*** CASES FILED BEFORE THE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY & PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER, O/O PONNUR MUNICIPALITY ARE LISTED BELOW:**

SI. No.	Case No.	6(1) Dated	19(1) dated
1	850/SIC-IR/2023	08-11-2022	09-12-2022
2	855/SIC-IR/2023	08-11-2022	09-12-2022

8) For the hearing held on 20-09-2023, the appellant is called present, filed his affidavit, stated that the sought information was furnished by the Public Information Officer, but is not satisfied with the same. Further, he requested the Commission disposed off the case as per the merits and take action against the Public Information Officer and First Appellate Authority U/s 19(1)(b) and 20 of RTI Act, 2005 for wilfully violating, misleading and suppressing information sought by him.

9) FAA, Sri CMA. Nayeem Ahmed, Commissioner and PIO, Smt. MM. Jothsna, CMM are called present, filed their affidavits, stated that the appellant has filed his two 6(1) applications on 08-11-2022 and sought certain information pertaining to 140 SHGs in the Municipality. They further stated that the Public Information Officer has informed the appellant vide letter dated 09-12-2022, that the SHGs are registered under MACS Act, 1995 and they do not maintain any records as they are independent maintained by the societies themselves and further stated that the part of the available information was furnished to the appellant.

Decision:

10) On perusal of the records available with Commission, it is observed that the appellant has filed numerous RTI applications before the O/o Main Office, MEPMA, O/o Project Director, MEPMA, Guntur District and the available information was furnished to the appellant. It is observed that the appellant also filed numerous RTI applications before the O/o Guntur Municipal Corporation, O/o Chilkaluripeta Municipality and O/o Ponnur

Municipality and sought information pertaining to ALF/SLFs and concerned Public Information Officers have informed the appellant that all the ALF and SLF are registered under the MACS Act, 1995 and they don't maintain any records of those societies and further the said records are independently maintained by the societies themselves.

- 11) Facts fetched during the course of hearing are that the appellant is seeking ALF/SLF information in Guntur Municipal Corporation & Chilkaluripeta and Ponnur Municipalities. Further, it is observed that a Self-Help Group (SHG) is formed with 10 to 15 women and 20 to 25 such groups will form a Slum Level Federation (SLF) and all the SLFs in the town is formed in to Town Level Federation (TLF). Further, it is observed that SLFs are formed and registered under Andhra Pradesh Mutually Aided Cooperative Society Act, 1995 (MACS Act) and the SLFs are maintained by the President and Secretary who are chosen among the group members. Further, it is observed that the Resource person will be monitoring all the functions of the SLFs. Further, it is also observed that Resource Persons are only the supervising authority on the SLFs and the records of the said societies are maintained by the societies only.
- 12) The Commission refers the judgement of the **Hon'ble Supreme Court of India** in Case no. 9017 of 2013 between "*Thalappalam Ser. Coop. Bank Ltd. & ... vs State of Kerala & Ors*" dated 07-10-2023

"54. We, therefore, hold that the Cooperative Societies registered under the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act will not fall within the definition of "public authority" as defined under Section 2(h) of the RTI Act and the State Government letter dated 5.5.2006 and the circular dated 01.06.2006 issued by the Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Kerala, to the extent, made applicable to societies registered under the Kerala Co-operative Societies Act would stand quashed in the absence of materials to show that they are owned, controlled or substantially financed by the appropriate Government. Appeals are, therefore, allowed as above, however, with no order as to costs".

- 13) In the view of the above decision of the Hon'ble Apex Court, the Commission is of the opinion that the SLFs are registered under APMACS Act, 1995 and are not substantially funded by the Government and thus do not fall under the definition of "Public Authority" as defined under section 2(h) of RTI Act, 2005.
- 14) Further, the Commission also observed that the appellant has filed bulk applications before the MEPMA offices and seeking repeated, vast and voluminous information and even after informing the appellant to pay the requisite fees and get the information, the appellant didn't turn up. Further, it is observed that the appellant has filed **One Thousand one Hundred Twenty-Three (1123) applications** U/s 6(1) of RTI Act, 2005 consisting **Six Thousand and thirteen (6013) No. of Questions to the above MEPMA Offices** within a

short span of time along with the dummy applications (duly enclosing the copy of White Ration Rice Card in the name of his Benami Sri Kasukurthi Ravi Kumar, using the same Mobile No.9848173063 of the appellant Sri Karlapudy Babu Prakash), which definitely attracts section 7(9) of RTI Act, 2005.

“Sec 7 (9): An information shall ordinarily be provided in the form in which it is sought unless it would disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority or would be detrimental to the safety or preservation of the record in question”

15) Dealing with the point in issue, the **Hon’ble Supreme Court** in the case of **“CBSE vs Aditya Bandopadhyaya”** taking a serious note of the problem of voluminous information causing diversion of resources had made the following observations: -

“37..... 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 113 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 prioritising ‘information furnishing’, at the cost of their normal and regular duties.”

16) However, the point which goes against the appellant clearly is that, the information which is sought is a) voluminous b) repetitive and c) clogging the entire administrative machinery of the Public Authorities concerned. This cannot be allowed under the provisions of the RTI Act, the meaning of which has been amplified in a crystal-clear fashion by the Hon’ble Apex Court in the case of CBSE vs Aditya Bandyopadhyay as quoted above.

17) Further, the Commission observed that First Appellate Authority, O/o Chilkaluripeta, Municipality held a hearing before him on 06-01-2023. Both the appellant and the Public Information Officer were present. At the time of hearing before the First Appellate Authority, the appellant demanded a penalty as per section 20 of RTI Act, 2005 amounting to Rs 14,750/- (Rs 250/- per day). Further, the Public Information Officer has drawn the

DD ('814248' & '077961') of Rs 14,500/- and Rs 2,250/- in the favour of the appellant after the appellant insisted to do so.

18) Further, section 20 of RTI Act, 2005 states

“(1) Where the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be, at the time of deciding any complaint or appeal is of the opinion that the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, has, without any reasonable cause, refused to receive an application for information or has not furnished information within the time specified under sub-section (1) of section 7 or malafidely denied the request for information or knowingly given incorrect, incomplete or misleading information or destroyed information which was the subject of the request or obstructed in any manner in furnishing the information, it shall impose a penalty of two hundred and fifty rupees each day till application is received or information is furnished, so however, the total amount of such penalty shall not exceed twenty-five thousand rupees: Provided that the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before any penalty is imposed on him: Provided further that the burden of proving that he acted reasonably and diligently shall be on the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be.

(2) Where the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be, at the time of deciding any complaint or appeal is of the opinion that the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, has, without any reasonable cause and persistently, failed to receive an application for information or has not furnished information within the time specified under sub-section (1) of section 7 or malafidely denied the request for information or knowingly given incorrect, incomplete or misleading information or destroyed information which was the subject of the request or obstructed in any manner in furnishing the information, it shall recommend for disciplinary action against the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, under the service rules applicable to him”.

18) The above section clearly states when the Public Information Officer, as the case may be, without any reasonable cause, refused to receive an application or not furnished any information within time, malafidely denied the information, knowingly giving incorrect information, the Commission can impose a penalty of an amount of Two Hundred and Fifty rupees each day till information is furnished and the total amount of penalty shall not exceed Rs 25,000/- only. The above penalty is levied by the Commission only after giving

a reasonable opportunity to the Public Information Officer of being heard. The said penalty amount shall be deposited to the specified Government Head of Account and not to the appellants account. However, the Commission observed that the appellant is claiming huge amounts (Rs 3,81,10,750/-) as penalty and compensation from the Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities directly to his account.

- 19) The Right to Information (RTI) is a cherished right. Information and Right to Information are intended to be formidable tools in the hands of responsible citizens to fight corruption and to bring in transparency and accountability.

The Hon'ble High Court of Madras in the case of **Public Information Officer, Registrar (Administration) Vs B Bharathi [WP No. 26781/2013 dated 17-09-2014]** has also given its opinion about such vexatious litigation crippling the Public Authorities and held as follows:

“...The action of the second respondent in sending numerous complaints and representations and then following the same with the RTI applications; that it cannot be the way to redress his grievance; that he cannot overload a public authority and divert its resources disproportionately while seeking information and that the dispensation of information should not occupy the majority of time and resources of any public authority, as it would be against the larger public interest...”

In an appeal filed before the **Central Information Commission** in case of **Amar Kumar vs Indian Army** held that:

“The Appellant appears to be doing so despite the express knowledge of the fact that he is pursuing a matter of no larger public interest, rather concerning only his perceived personal grievance. It is appalling to note that the public authority is being unabashedly harassed by filing umpteen vexatious RTI Applications. It is also not clear as to what kind of information will satisfy the Appellant as it appears he is merely intending to compel the public authorities into addressing his grievances. This being the ulterior motive is manifest from the bare perusal of the queries of these RTI Applications.”

- 20) The larger issue then here is the repetitive nature of these RTI Applications and the motivated attempt at putting the Public Authority as well as the Commission to test. To highlight this larger issue, it is imperative to refer to certain observations of the Commission in this regard.

File No.s :CIC/SG/C/2011/000760, CIC/SM/A/2011/000926/SG, CIC/SM/A/2011/001111/SG, CIC/SG/A/2011/002909 decided on 17-10-2012

"...though the right to information is a fundamental right of the citizens, it cannot be used indiscriminately to fulfil the demands of one individual...The Commission is also conscious of the fact that it is financed by the poorest man in this country who may be starving to death. The complainant by repeatedly filing similar RTI applications and appeals with the respondent public authority and the Commission, is wasting public resources "

The Hon'ble Delhi High Court in the case of Shail Sahni vs Valsa Sara Mathew and Ors dated 19-01-2016 held that:

"Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under the RT/ 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 counterproductive 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, tranquillity 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 RT/ Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of a public authorities prioritising "information furnishing", at the cost of their normal and regular duties."

" this Court deems it appropriate to refuse to exercise its writ jurisdiction. Accordingly, present petition is dismissed. This Court is also of the view that misuse of the RTI Act has to be appropriately dealt with; otherwise the public would lose faith and confidence in this "sunshine Act ". A beneficent Statute, when made a tool for mischief and abuse must be checked in accordance with law. A copy of this order is directed to be sent by the Registry to Defence and Law Ministry, so that they may examine the aspect of misuse of this Act, which confers very important and valuable rights upon a citizen."

In the case ICAI vs Shaunak H. Satya at Hon'ble Supreme Court [2011] held that:

"This Court is also of the view that misuse of the RTI Act has to be appropriately dealt with otherwise the public would lose faith and confidence

in this "sunshine Act". A beneficent Statute, when made a tool for mischief and abuse must be checked in accordance with law"

- 21) In the view of the above facts, the Commission is of the opinion that the information sought by the appellant by filing multiple applications (**One Thousand one Hundred Twenty-Three (1123) applications** U/s 6(1) of RTI Act, 2005 consisting **Six Thousand and thirteen (6013) No. of Questions to the above MEPMA Offices**) attracts section 7(9) of RTI Act, 2005 and further the appellant too has failed to prove any larger public interest in his application. Further, the Commission opines that the information sought by the appellant about the Societies under MEPMA are registered under AP MACS Act, 1995 and Societies do not come under definition of Public Authority U/s 2(h) of RTI Act, 2005. In the present circumstances, the Commission cannot give further directions to furnish the sought information to the appellant.
- 22) Further, the Commission observed that the appellant is seeking huge amounts in form of penalty to be deposited into his account which is much against the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. The Commission warns the appellant to desist from such malicious activities. The Commission also takes this opportunity to inform all the Public Information Officers and First Appellate Authorities under this appropriate government, that U/s 20 of RTI Act, 2005, the Central / State Information Commission only is empowered to levy penalty following provisions of RTI Act, 2005 and the Public Authorities should deposit the penalty if any imposed by the Commission to the CFMS account only as prescribed in the GO.
- 23) The Spl. Chief Secretary, GAD, AP Govt., is directed U/s 19(8)(a) of RTI Act, 2005 to ensure that the copy of this order is served on all District Collectors across the state for timely compliance.
- 24) Further, the Commission opines that Public Authority cannot waste public money by responding to repeated RTIs, filed with malicious intention. The appellant does not deserve any information from the Public Authority under RTI Act on these aspects. The appellant has sufficiently used the RTI Act for his personal interest without any public interest for his personal vengeance against the Public Authority.
- 25) ***This Commission finds this as the fit case to "ADMONISH" the appellant Mr. K. Babu Prakash, warns him to desist this kind of harassment and if repeated the same will be rejected in public interest to pursue the prescribed objective of RTI Act.***
- 26) ***The Commission further recommends the Mission Director, MEPMA and Spl.***

Chief Secretary to Govt., MAUD Dept., to attach this order and display at the prominent place in office and also put on official website under the heading of "MISUSE OF RTI". The Commission also recommends to institute appropriate proceedings, if he even files a single RTI application in this subject matter against the above authorities.

27) In the view of the above the Commission disposes off all the above appeals / complaints filed by the appellant as dismissed.

**ILAPURAM RAJA
STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**

Authenticated by:

Asst. Registrar

Copy to: - The SO / SF



Copy to: 1) The Spl. Chief Secretary to Govt., General Administration Dept., for necessary action and compliance.

2) The Spl. Chief Secretary to Govt., Municipal Administration Dept., for necessary action and compliance.

3) The Mission Director, MEPMA for necessary action and compliance.

Section 6(1) of the Act;

A person, who desires to obtain any information under this Act, shall make a request in writing or through electronic means in English or Hindi or in the official language of the area in which the application is being made, accompanying such fee as may be prescribed.

Section 19(1) of the Act;

Any person who, does not receive a decision within the time specified in sub-section (1) or clause (a) of sub-section (3) of section 7, or is aggrieved by a decision of the Public Information Officer, as the case may be, may within thirty days from the expiry of such period or from the receipt of such a decision prefer an appeal to such officer who is senior in rank to the Public Information Officer as the case may be, in each public authority.

Section 19(3) of the Act;

A second appeal against the decision under sub-section (1) shall lie within ninety days from the date on which the decision should have been made or was actually received, with the State Information Commission.

Section 18(1) of the Act;

Subject to the provisions of this Act, it shall be the duty of State Information Commission, as the case may be, to receive and inquire into an appeal from any person.