LOKPAL OF INDIA Plot No.6, Institutional Area, Phase-II Vasant Kunj, New Delhi - 110070

Complaint No.

178/2024 (arising out of Dy. No. 1782024)

Date

09.08.2024

Coram

Shri Justice A.M. Khanwilkar

Chairperson

Shri Justice L. Narayana Swamy

Judicial Member

Shri Justice Sanjay Yadav

Judicial Member

Shri Sushil Chandra

Member

Shri Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi

Judicial Member

Shri Pankaj Kumar

Member

Shri Ajay Tirkey

Member

<u>ORDER</u>

1. The Registry has put up the complaint before the Full Bench. The scrutiny has pointed out certain defects which are condoned.

- 2. The complaint is against the Senior Manager and Manager of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL). The complainant has alleged that RINL has failed to release his payments for the goods supplied under Government e Marketplace (GeM). Despite fulfilling the order in three batches and generating the necessary Consignee Receipt and Acceptance Certificate, the company has delayed payments, citing various reasons, including non-recognition of the MSME status and internal processes. It is further alleged that the payments of first and second batches were overdue by 165 and 158 days, respectively, and the third batch was rejected despite providing all necessary documents. The complainant has requested the Lokpal to analyse the facts and to instruct buyers to release payment without any delay with interest and penalty charges for the harassment.
- 3. We have considered the contents of the complaint and find that there is no discernible allegation of corruption against the alleged public servants which constitute an offence punishable under The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. The grievance of the complainant seems to be a contractual dispute. Therefore, considering the provisions of the Lokpal Act this complaint is not maintainable and therefore no further action is required.
- 4. Accordingly, the complaint is disposed of.

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5. However, the complainant is at liberty to pursue the matter at appropriate forum for redressal of his grievance.

Sd/-(Justice A.M. Khanwilkar) Chairperson

Sd/-(Justice L. Narayana Swamy) Judicial Member

Sd/-(Justice Sanjay Yadav) Judicial Member

Sd/-(Sushil Chandra) Member

Sd/-(Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi) Judicial Member

Sd/-(Pankaj Kumar) Member

Sd/-(Ajay Tirkey) Member

(Court Master)

(SK)