

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

Complaint No. : 256 / 2024

Date : 18.03.2025

Coram : **Shri Justice A.M. Khanwilkar**
Chairperson

Shri Justice L. Narayana Swamy
Member

Shri Justice Sanjay Yadav
Member

Shri Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi
Member

Shri Pankaj Kumar
Member

Shri Ajay Tirkey
Member

ORDER

1. The complaint is against a retired Assistant Director (Programme), Akashvani, Agra, Uttar Pradesh.



2. Allegations levelled by the complainant are as follows:-

- (i) The named RPS was involved in financial irregularities, violated rules by failing to occupy the quarters earmarked for him and inappropriately claimed House Rent Allowance (HRA), during his tenure, causing financial loss to the Government.
- (ii) Major maintenance work of the radio colony at Agra was neglected, seemingly to justify non-occupation of the quarters.

3. Vide Order dated 03.01.2025, the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) was directed to conduct a Preliminary Inquiry into the allegations and submit Preliminary Inquiry Report. After availing extension of time, CVC submitted the Preliminary Inquiry Report vide letter dated 27.02.2025 and forwarded the comments of the Competent Authority vide letter dated 10.03.2025.

4. As far as allegation (i) stated in Para 2 supra, the Preliminary Inquiry Report has concluded that:-

"....the staff quarters at Radio Colony Agra became dilapidated due to declining occupancy by staff at the station and lack of adequate repairs. Keeping in view the condition of the staff quarters at Agra which are found to be in dilapidated condition, it does not appear justified to hold Shri XXXXX (name redacted for confidentiality) responsible for not occupying the earmarked quarter for Head of Programme during his tenure."



Regarding allegation (ii) stated in Para 2 supra, it has been stated in the Preliminary Inquiry Report that:-

".... as per documents provided, there were annual expenditures on repairs and maintenance of the staff quarters and efforts are being made to conduct large scale maintenance and repairs as required. Presently, structural audit of the staff quarters at Akashwani Agra is required as pre-requisite for repair work and CCW is preparing estimates for the same. Therefore, the complainant's allegation that maintenance was deliberately neglected to avoid allotment of earmarked quarters cannot be established."

5. The comments furnished by the Competent Authority state that:-

"..... it is observed that due to lack of repair and continuous shrinkage of staff (officers and officials both) at Prasar Bharati, staff quarters remained unoccupied across the years. Considering the dilapidated condition of the staff quarters which require major repairs, structural audit is under process. Therefore, the allegation that non-repairing of the staff quarters was deliberate is baseless and unsubstantiated."

6. The CVO, Prasar Bharati has recommended that:-

"The matter of non-occupation of earmark quarters by the officers concerned is an administrative issue. The complainant has cited various circulars of Prasar Bharati regarding occupation of earmarked quarters by the station heads. The administration may be requested to analyze the availability and habitability condition of staff quarters in light of the corresponding circulars and issue necessary instructions accordingly."



7. Having perused the Preliminary Inquiry Report and the comments of the Competent Authority, we find that both allegations are not substantiated. We are of the considered opinion that there is no need to proceed further in the matter and therefore, this complaint deserves to be disposed of.
8. However, the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Prasar Bharati may look into the recommendations of the CVO, as detailed in Para 6 supra, and take appropriate action. The action taken report be submitted to the Lokpal in due course.
9. With the above directions and observations, the complaint is disposed of.

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

Sd/-
(Justice L. Narayana Swamy)
Member

Sd/-
(Justice Sanjay Yadav)
Member

Sd/-
(Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi)
Member

Sd/-
(Pankaj Kumar)
Member

Sd/-
(Ajay Tirkey)
Member


(Court Master)