

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

Complaint No. : 68/2025

Date : 04.04.2025

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

Shri Justice L. Narayana Swamy
Member

Shri Justice Sanjay Yadav
Member

Shri Sushil Chandra
Member

Shri Pankaj Kumar
Member

Shri Ajay Tirkey
Member

ORDER

1. Vide Order dated 21.03.2025, the Bench of the Lokpal of India directed the complainant to cure the defects stated in the order within two weeks in the complaint filed by him.
2. In compliance with the above Order, the complainant vide communication dated 25.03.2025 has cured the defects.

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3. The complainant Shri XXXXX (name and designation redacted) posted as Divisional Accounts Officer in the office of Rural Engineering Service (RES) Block in one of the districts of Madhya Pradesh and claims himself as a whistleblower, has filed this complaint against two senior officials working in the Office of Principal Accountant General (Accounts & Entitlement)-1 [in short, PAG (A&E)-1], Madhya Pradesh. He has alleged that continued inaction and deliberate suppression of financial irregularities by these senior officials make them liable for action under the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988, warranting immediate investigation by the Lokpal of India.
4. The Bench has perused the complaint and the various documents attached with the complaint.
5. The complaint pertains to various acts of commission and omission by these senior officials in relation to several financial irregularities reported to them through audit reports pertaining to the working of the RES Block office where he was posted, viz., failure to act on corruption complaints, allowing unauthorized signatures on financial documents, non-reporting of corruption to Lokayuktas and Economic Offences Wing, failure to prevent harassment of a whistleblower and encouraging the misuse of authority by the Executive Engineer. He further alleged that due to his efforts in exposing corruption, he has been subjected to severe harassment at the workplace, including the illegal withholding of his salary since December, 2024. From the documents enclosed, it is seen that the complainant has sought information under RTI from the Office of PAG (A&E)-1 to know the



status of his complaint filed and the same was replied to by the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO).

6. The thrust of the grievance in this complaint is about the inaction of the higher authorities in responding to the intimation given by the complainant herein regarding the irregularities and illegalities committed in the concerned office, for the reasons best known to the higher authorities.
7. Ostensibly, this allegation would give an impression that the higher authorities are not wanting to take any action for extraneous consideration or to favour someone. However, on close examination of the complaint and accompanying documents, it appears that in the RTI response, the department has already taken a position that the issues pointed out by the complainant are being looked into and will be dealt with appropriately in the Audit Report, as when occasion arises. In other words, it is not a case of complete inaction to favour someone, but one of following proper procedure to address the issues raised by the complainant.
8. Suffice it to observe that the fact situation of the present case does not warrant a finding that the act of commission and omission of the higher authorities is one of indulging in corruption within the meaning of Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988.
9. Thus, this complaint is disposed of, being devoid of merit.
10. At the same time, it is made clear that the assurance given in the RTI response to the complainant must be fulfilled and taken to its



logical end; and a Report be submitted in that regard in the Registry of the Lokpal in due course.

11. Copy of the order be also forwarded to Accountant General, Gwalior, Bhopal, for information and necessary action.

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

Sd/-
(Justice L. Narayana Swamy)
Member

Sd/-
(Justice Sanjay Yadav)
Member

Sd/-
(Sushil Chandra)
Member

Sd/-
(Pankaj Kumar)
Member

Sd/-
(Ajay Tirkey)
Member


(Court Master)

/RR/