

पावर ग्रिड कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड
POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम 2005 के अंतर्गत आपीलीय अधिकारी
APPELLATE AUTHORITY UNDER THE RTI ACT, 2005
केन्द्रीय कार्यालय , सौदामिनी, प्लॉट नं.2, सैक्टर- 29, गुड़गांव , हरियाणा-
122001
CORPORATE CENTRE, 'SAUDAMINI', PLOT No.2, SECTOR-29, GURGAON,
HARYANA- 122001

Ref: C/CP/AA/RTI Act, 2005

Date: 23rd November, 2020

Appellant: Sh. Chandan Kumar, resident of AT-BARAHAT PO-ISHIPUR, DIST-BHAGALPUR, S/O-LATE GOPAL PRASAD, Pin:813206

Public Authority: POWERGRID

Respondent: Chief GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.

ORDER

Grounds of Appeal

The appellate authority has received an appeal bearing ref. no. **FA/2020-21/394** from Sh. Chandan Kumar, resident of Barahat, Po- Ishipur, Dist-Bhagalpur, S/O-Late Gopal Prasad, Pin:813206 on 25th October 2020, through email. Appellant had earlier submitted RTI ref RTI/2020-21/19684 dated 08.10.2020 under RTI Act, 2005 seeking information regarding appointment of auditor GST audit. The instant appeal has been preferred on the ground that the CPIO has not provided the requisite information in his reply dated 22.10.2020.

Decision:

On receipt of the appeal, information provided by the CPIO and other relevant papers were perused. The CPIO vide its reply dated 22.10.2020 had provided the information regarding the appointment of the audit firm.

In his appeal the appellant has raised a specific issue regarding the suitability of the firm doing audit for the organization. Further he has also sought information regarding TA and DA reimbursed to the firm.

It is pertinent to mention that as per the Act, the authority concern is required to provide the information. The authority is not required to provide answers to the queries raised. This being the case, I do not find any force in contention of the appellant that an elaborate reply should be given to him in this regard. The other point raised by the appellant is regarding TA and DA given to the firm. This information being third party information a notice as required under section 11 (1) was given to M/S Rajnish Singh & Co, for making submissions on the issue. The firm has specifically asked not to divulge details related to TA and DA. This being the case the information related to TA and DA cannot be provided.

However, it can be seen that the address of the firm has not been provided. CPIO is directed to provide the same to the appellant. Further, it can be seen that the CPIO in its reply related to statutory auditors has mentioned that the same can be accessed through website of POWERGRID. The appellant has specifically asked for the details (name of the audit firms), which should have been provided. CPIO is directed to provide the name of the firms with year in which they were engaged.

The appellant has also sought the information related to method/manner in which the GST auditor was appointed apart from the information regarding the appointing authority. The same has also not been provided. CPIO is directed to provide the same. However, the information related to rates at which the audit firms were engaged cannot be provided as it would harm the competitive position of a third party. The same is exempted from disclosure under section 8 (1) (d) of the Act.

The CPIO is directed to provide information mentioned herein above within seven days from the date of this order.

The appeal is accordingly disposed of.



(B N De Bhowmick)

ED (TD) & Appellate Authority

To : Sh. Chandan Kumar, resident of AT-BARAHAT PO-ISHIPUR, DIST-BHAGALPUR,
S/O-LATE GOPAL PRASAD, Pin:813206 client.barahat@gmail.com

Copy to : Chief GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.