

Appeal dated 04.12.2021 by Smt.Arushi Jain ("Appellant") received on 13.12.2021 against the RTI reply dtd 16.11.2021 (the Reply) under Right to Information Act, 2005 ("Act")

ORDER

RTI appeal having no.NIL dated 04.12.2021 has been received through post on 13.12.2021 from the appellant against the RTI reply dated 16.11.2021.

On perusal of the RTI Application, the Reply & the Appeal, the following has been observed by the appellate authority;

- 1) Originally the applicant has applied for certain information vide application dated 21.08.2021 and the same had been rejected by the CPIO on the ground that the Postal Order submitted by the applicant has been rejected by the Postal Department due to the reason mentioned therein the RTI Reply dtd 08.09.2021 and requested the Applicant to submit the requisite fee as per the RTI Act.
- 2) The Applicant had neither submitted the requisite fees as sought by the CPIO nor filed any appeal in response to the subject RTI Application.
- 3) In response to the subject intimation given to the Applicant by the CPIO, the Applicant has filed a subsequent RTI Application vide application dtd 25.10.2021 seeking therein the following **a) copy of the documents submitted by CPIO to Postal Department for encashment of the subject Postal Order submitted along with the RTI Application dtd 21.08.2021. b) Copy of documents received from Postal Department in respect of the rejection of the subject Postal Order. c) Total number of the RTI Applications rejected by the CPIO of POWERGRID on the reason of the defaults in the Postal Orders or any other reasons. d) Name of the CPIO.**
- 4) In reply to the subsequent RTI Application dtd 25.10.2021, the CPIO had furnished a reply dated 16.11.2021 by rejecting the application with the reasons mentioned therein.
- 5) The CPIO has rejected the RTI Application on merit vide RTI Reply dated 16.11.2021.
- 6) It has been brought to the notice of the Appellate authority that altogether 10 nos RTI Applications had been filed by the Applicant during the year 2021.

**Findings:**

The First Appellate Authority has found that the CPIO has rightfully disposed of the "RTI Application" and found no reason to interfere with it. In addition to the above, the Appellate Authority has observed that the appellant has raised new queries & framed additional queries which are totally different from the original RTI Application

and has also approached this appellate authority as a Grievance Redressal Mechanism for securing the information for meeting her personal needs, which is not within the purview of RTI Act, 2005, as set out through judicial precedents. As per the provisions of the RTI Act and the judicial precedents in this regard, the authorities under RTI Act are not to be construed as any grievance Redressal mechanism rather those are specific mechanism for providing information from the available records, to the citizens.

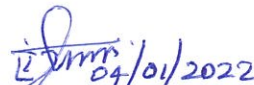
It is noted that the constant outpouring of RTI Applications on the public authority which are not having any larger public interest, would certainly be counter-productive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result into executive getting bogged down with the non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information, which has been settled down by the **Hon'ble Supreme Court vide its judgment in Civil Appeal No.6454 of 2011**. In addition to the above, it is noted by the Appellate Authority that the applicant has not made out any larger public interest which would justify the disclosure of any information.

It is relevant to mention here that the Hon'ble Chief Information Commissioner in various second appeals (**CIC/SG/C/2011/000760, CIC/SM/A/2011/000926/SG, CIC/SM/A/2011/001111/SG, CIC/SG/A/2011/002909 Dated 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2012**) have rightfully ordered that every repetition of RTI application which was earlier responded will be an obstruction to flow of information and defeats the very purpose of the RTI Act. The Hon'ble Chief Information Commission had further ordered that though the right to information is a fundamental right of the citizens, it cannot be used indiscriminately to fulfil the demands of one individual. In the present matter, it is noted that the Appellant is pursuing multiple litigation and the public authority is being asked to divert an extraordinarily disproportionate amount of resources just to respond to those RTI applications filed by the appellant.

On the above grounds, I do not find any reason to interfere with the RTI Reply and the "Appeal" filed by the "appellant" does not hold good and is liable to be rejected. With this order, the Appeal stands disposed of.

A copy of the Order may be sent to the Appellant.

Date: 04.01.2022.

  
04/01/2022

Executive Director  
First Appellate Authority  
Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd., Vadodara.