

**KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA**

No.COMPLT/LOK/BCD/2186/2016/ARE(2)

M.S.Building,  
Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi,  
Bengaluru, Dated: 05.07.2021.

**REPORT UNDER SECTION 12 (1) OF KARNATAKA  
LOKAYUKTA ACT, 1984**

SUB:- Complaint of Sri. Siddalingegowda S/o Late Bairegowda, Mavinakere Village, Turuvekere Taluk, Tumkur District – grievance about dilapidated condition of Morarji Desai Residential School situated at Ramasagara, Hospete, Bellary.

REF:- Complaint No.LOK/BCD/2186/2016/ARE (2).

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Complainant Sri.Siddalinge Gowda of Mavinakere Village, Turuvekere Taluk, Tumkur District has filed this complaint against (1) Sri.Hiremutt, KAS, Executive Officer, Vasathi Shikshana Samsthegala Sangha, Sheshadripuram, Bengaluru (2) Sri.Anjaneya, Hon'ble Minster for Social Welfare, Vidhana Soudha, Bengaluru and (3) Sri.Ramegowda, District Social Welfare Officer, Bellary making grievance that the Morarji Desai Residential School situated at Ramasagara, Hosapete, Bellary District is situated nearly 3½ Kilometres away from the City. The children/students studying in the said school are not placed with proper basic infrastructure. The school building is in dilapidated condition, the compound wall of the said school is broken down. There is completely insecurity to the children studying in the said



school. The said school building is situated in the midst of forest area and as such there is a likelihood of the children being attacked by wild animals.

2. The respondent No.2 is no longer the Minister for Social Welfare Department.

3. After receipt of complaint, comments were called from the respondents 1 and 3.

4. The respondent No.1 has stated in his comments that he collected information from the Principal, Morarji Desai Residential School in respect of incident that occurred on 24.08.2016. Immediately they have taken action and emergency treatment was given to the respective children and all the children are cured from ailment. The grievance regarding toilets, repair of compound walls are executed and all basic amenities are provided to the hostel.

5. The respondent No.3 in his comments has stated that he has been transferred from Vijayapura to Bellary as Deputy Director of Social Welfare Department on 15/08/2017. During the month of August 2017 proper medical treatment was given to 15-20 students out of 250 students who were suffering from cold, cough and fever. He has visited the school on 28.08.2017 and inspected the same. Medical test was conducted to all the students with the assistance of Local Health Officers. all precautionary measures were taken as per rules. The studying materials such as Books, Uniforms, and Stationary items were provided to all the students and not committed any dereliction of duty.

6. On perusal of complaint, comments, it is observed that some of the children/students had suffered ill health on 24.08.2016 for which action has been taken and medical treatment was given to the needy children/students.

7. As observed by me earlier, the grievance made in the complaint is with regard to the dilapidated condition of the school building and the compound wall of the school has been broken. Under the circumstances, the safety of the children is under jeopardy and there is lack of basic amenities which are required to be extended to the young school going children/students. The material on record shows that the children are in the age group of 15 and below. Therefore it is needless to point out that the conducive atmosphere is required to be provided to the children/students so that they may get quality education. At present, though the children/students are not residing in the school due to pandemic covid-19, it is the right time for the Government/Social Welfare Department to renovate the said residential school building so that conducive atmosphere is provided for study and safety of the children/students before the institution reopens. It is also necessary to make a strict rule/condition that the warden/at least one staff member of all the residential school should compulsorily reside in the hostel and they should not leave the Headquarters without any other alternative arrangements.

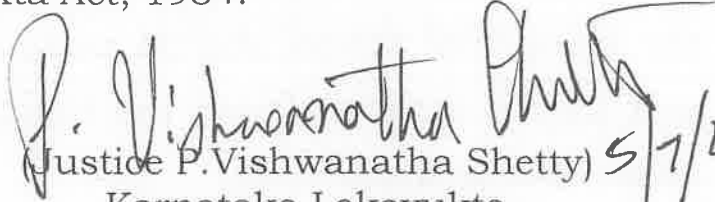
8. In the light of the discussion made above, I am of the view, it is in the interest of the safety and welfare of the children/students of the Morarji Desai Residential School to



make a direction herein below in exercise of the power conferred on me under section 12(1) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act directing the State Government/Social Welfare Department;

- i). The respondents and the concerned authorities of the State who are in charge of Morarji Desai Residential School to take all necessary and effective steps to redress the grievances point out by the complainant in his complaint and referred to in this order, more particularly with regard to the condition of the school building and repair of the compound wall and to provide all other necessary infrastructure required by the school for the benefit of the children/students who are studying in the residential school.
- ii). to ensure that the warden or at least one staff of the school resides in the hostel and
- iii). to ensure that the children/students are provided with nutritious food, medical facilities, proper drinking water, basic accommodation to study as per the guidelines laid down by the Government/Department in the interest of the children/students.

The authorities concerned are directed to send a report setting out the action taken in the light of this report within a month from the date of receipt of this report in terms of section 12(2) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984.

  
(Justice P. Vishwanatha Shetty) 5/7/2021  
Karnataka Lokayukta.