

KARNATAKA LOKAYUKTA

No. Compt/Uplok/GLB-7654/2015/DRE-3 M.S. Building,
Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bangalore-560 001,
Date: 29.12.2016.

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

Sub: Making recommendation to provide fluoride free drinking water to the villagers of Gondadagi & 8 other surrounding villages by completing the project undertaken in the year 2012-13 under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission at the cost of Rs.355.85 lakhs - reg.

An investigation was taken up under Section 9 of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, in the complaint filed by Shri. Basavaraj S/o Bheemanna Kavali, Badihalla village, Yadagir Taluk & District (hereinafter referred to as 'complainant' for short), against Shri. Channabasappa, Executive Engineer, PRE Division, Yadagir (hereinafter referred to as 'respondent' for short).

2) The complainant Shri. Basavaraj S/o Bheemanna Kavali in his complaint filed before the Hon'ble Lokayukta during the camp held at Yadagir on 05.02.2015 has alleged that a project to provide safe drinking water to Gondadagi village and other 9 surrounding villages was undertaken in the year 2012-13 under

Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission at the cost of 325.30 lakhs. In spite of spending such amount, not even a drop of water is supplied to the villages.

3) During the camp, the Executive Engineer, Kalaburgi Electricity Supply Company, Yadagir Division has undertaken to provide 24 hours electricity within a period of 7 days. The Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Yadagir had undertaken to supply water to the said villages by attending the repairs of pipe lines wherever it is required within 3 months after power supply and both were to report compliance to the Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Yadagir. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Yadagir was required to report the progress and to ensure water supply by cooperating with the release of required funds. The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Yadagir has submitted report through letter dated 05.05.2015 stating that the power supply has been provided by GESCOM.

4) In view of the rejoinder of complainant stating there is no supply of drinking water, the matter was referred to Chief Engineer, Technical Audit Cell, Karnataka Lokayukta, Bengaluru to ascertain the factual progress of work. The I.O. in his report dated 29.03.2016 has stated that drinking water is not supplied to the villages.

5) Thereafter, a comprehensive report from Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Yadagir was sought with respect to redressal of grievance of the villages by providing safe drinking water.

6) The Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayath, Yadagir has submitted a letter dated 04/05.08.2016 along with the report of Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply Division, Yadagir reporting the factual situation of the project as on 01.08.2016.

7) The Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitary Division, Yadagir in his status report as on 01.08.2016 has stated about the delay in various level of execution of the project of supplying safe drinking water under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission to Gondadagi & other 8 villages. It is stated that there was delay in executing the project in view of changing the pipeline alignment, delay in obtaining permission from the railway department to lay pipeline through horizontal drilling under a railway crossing and also failure in supply of continuous power from the express feeder line. Further states that in view of the delay in execution of the project, the pipe lines laid beside the road were damaged by the farmers during their agricultural operations. The maintenance period of the project ended on 30.11.2014 & therefore the contractors have refused to carryout repairs. Further has stated that on 22.03.2016, the Secretary, RDPR in a video conference has asked them to submit a proposal with respect to the required repairs. Accordingly proposal will be submitted after thorough verification of the scheme.


8) The complainant vide his letter dated 05.11.2016 has stated that no fluoride free drinking water to the above said villages under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Project has been supplied inspite of spending 4.25 Crores.

9) Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Project has been undertaken with novel object to provide drinking water free from fluoride contamination to Gondadagi and other 8 villages of Yadagir Taluk which are situated on the bank of Bheema river.

10) The status report of the said project as on 01.08.2016 submitted by the Executive Engineer, Rural drinking water and sanitary division, Yadgir, the report of Technical Audit Cell dtd. 29.03.2016 of this institution and the letter of the complainant dated 05.11.2016 go to show that Gondadagi and other 8 villages have not been provided with fluoride free drinking water under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission Project.

11) Under such circumstances, acting under Sec. 12(1) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984, recommendation is made to provide fluoride free drinking water to the villagers of Gondadagi & 8 other villages by completing the project undertaken under Rajiv Gandhi National Drinking Water Mission for the year 2012-13 and action taken report by the Competent Authority to be intimated as required under Sec. 12(2) of the Karnataka Lokayukta Act, 1984 to this office within one month from the date of receipt of this report.

Connected records are enclosed.


(Justice N. Ananda),
Upalokayukta-1, 29/12
State of Karnataka.