



DECISION

Complaint No. : POS/2005/2024/SGR-73

Name and address of the complainant : Mr. Gul Muhammad Dahri,
R/o. Shahpur Chakar, District Sanghar
Food Department

Name of the Agency Complained against : Fazal Muhammad Shaikh,
Regional Director, Sanghar

Name & Designation of Investigating Officer : Syed Hashim Raza Zaidi
Advisor-S

Vetted by :

Subject : **COMPLAINT AGAINST DFC SANGHAR FOR ALLEGED UNJUST CHANGE / SHIFTING OF FOOD CENTRE FROM SHAHPUR CHAKAR AND SULEMAN DAHRI TO SHAHDADPUR CAUSING DIFFICULTIES TO LOCAL GROWERS, ETC.**

COMPLAINT:

Mr. Gul Muhammad Dahri filed a complaint dated 16.04.2024 against DFC, Sanghar for alleged unjust change / shifting of Food Centre from Shahpur Chakar and Suleman Dahri to Shahdadpur causing difficulties to local growers, etc. The complainant had frequently approached the concerned agency for redressal of his grievance, but to no avail. Aggrieved by that, he solicited the intervention of this Institution.

PROCEEDINGS:

2. The complaint was admitted under Section 10 of the Establishment of the Office of Ombudsman for the Province of Sindh Act, 1991 (amended upto date), after receiving mandatory Affidavit on Form "A" and other relevant documents.
3. This office issued notice to the District Food Controller, Sanghar vide letter dated 13.05.2024 for report followed by multiple reminders. In response, District Food Controller, Sanghar has submitted his report vide letter dated 12.06.2024 that the reason for non storage of wheat at the above center is that no Govt. facility (Godowns) is available at the above wheat procurement centre and wheat is stored at rented private plot, whereas, the Food Department, Govt. of Sindh has not allocated funds for payment of rent to private facility. He has further added that according to Para-VI of Wheat Policy 2023-24, the priority in storage of wheat is to be given to Govt. Godowns for safety and security. He enclosed the photocopy of notification dated 18.03.2024 as an evidence. He further requested that as sufficient space for storage of wheat is already available at Shahdadpur Godowns, it is being utilized for storage of wheat purchased from Suleman Dahri and Shahpur Chakar. He requested that keeping in view the above stated position the complaint may kindly be filed in the interest of justice.
4. The report of agency alongwith enclosures was sent to complainant vide this office letter dated 12.06.2024 for filing of his rejoinder / comments on it. Subsequently, the complainant appeared before the investigation officer on 20.06.2024 and confirmed the report of agency. He further requested that in the interest of Local Growers, the said Food Centre for procurement of wheat may be retained at Shahpur Chakar. He further requested that as the wheat procurement process has already been closed by the Govt. of Sindh, Food Department, so further proceedings on his complaint may be closed with the request that necessary directions may be issued to competent authority for retention of Food Centre at Shahpur Chakar in the interest of justice.

FINDINGS:

5. The complainant has highlighted a policy issue, which needs to be considered by the government.

DECISION:

6. In view of above and in exercise of powers vested in me under Section-11 of Establishment of the Office of the Ombudsman for the province for Sindh Act 1991 (amended upto date), I hereby direct the Secretary, Food Department, Govt. of Sindh to consider the request of complainant on merit and take a decision in the wider public interest.

Given under my hand and seal of this office.



Sd /-
(MUHAMMAD SOHAIL RAJPUT)
Sitara-e-Imtiaz. PAS
Ombudsman Sindh
Karachi, Dated: /4/ January, 2025

