



DECISION

Complaint No. : POS/7027/ROK-205/(Khp)/2023

Name and address of the complainant : M/s Zahid Hussain Siming & Others,
R/o Village Wada Siming, P.O Khairpur,
Taluka & District Khairpur.

Name of the Agency Complained against : Public Health Engineering Department

Name & Designation of Investigating Officer : **AHMED BAKHSH GHUMRO,**
Consultant/Incharge, Regional Office Khairpur

Vetted by : **Mr. Muhammad Misbah Tunio, Advisor-J**

Subject : **INACTION ON COMPLAINT MADE AGAINST
SUB-STANDARD WORK OF DRAINAGE LINES IN
VILLAGE OF THE COMPLAINANTS DUE TO
MISAPPROPRIATION OF FUNDS.**

COMPLAINT

M/s Zahid Hussain Siming, & others, filed a joint complaint on 07-09-2023 alleging that work of open surface drainage scheme in their village was defective and incomplete. They also alleged misappropriation of funds by Public Health Engineering Officers viz. Executive Engineer Rizwan Ahmed Phul, Assistant Executive Engineer and Sub Engineer Tanveer Ahmed Buriro. They, therefore, sought intervention of this Institution.

PROCEEDINGS

02. The complaint was admitted u/s 10 of the Establishment of the Office of Ombudsman for the Province of Sindh Act, 1991 (amended up to date), by condoning the delay in filing it and subject to submission of copies of relevant documents, an Affidavit on Form "A" and by condoning delay.

03. After completing codal formalities, the matter was taken up with Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering Division-I, Khairpur, on 06-10-2023 for comments / report. In response, the Assistant Executive Engineer, P.H.E Sub Division-I, Khairpur, submitted report on 13-11-2023 that work of said Drainage and Paver Block schemes have been completed. He also submitted Photographs of the scheme.

04. Said report was shared with complainants on 15-11-2023 for rejoinder, if any. In response, the complainants filed rejoinder on 23-11-2023 claiming that surface drainage scheme was not yet completed and urged for visiting the site.

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05. In order to ascertain on-ground position, the Investigating Officer visited site on 05-12-2023 in presence of complainants and other villagers along with AEN Mr. Abdul Waheed Shaikh & his staff. During said visit, it was observed that, instead of facilitating / benefitting, the open surface drainage scheme had become the source of constant nuisance to the villagers. The villagers pointed out some defective portions of said scheme and drainage water, instead of flowing to its disposal, was flowing in to houses of residents of area. So AEN Mr. Abdul Waheed Shaikh undertook and committed to get the defective portions of said surface drainage scheme rectified within a fortnight. But Mr. Abdul Waheed Shaikh did not get defective work rectified despite persuasion by the Investigating Officer and passage of more than five months. Resultantly, complainants have been approaching this Institution for redressal of their grievance.

FINDINGS

06. The expenditure involved in the scheme complained against is Rs. 5.870 million. But instead of benefiting the villagers, it has become source of constant nuisance and pain as drainage water is flowing into houses of poor inhabitants of the area. It is also not understood as to why open surface drainage scheme was constructed when concealed sewer pipe line was already available in the village. Further, the said Open Surface Drainage Scheme has made the main drain artery of village congested which again is posing problems to the villagers. So this matter needs a thorough probe. Nonetheless, the above act of P.H.E.D Khairpur officers / officials tantamounts to maladministration as defined under section 2 (i) & (ii) of the Establishment of office of Ombudsman for the Province of Sindh Act 1991 (amended up to date).

ORDER/DECISION

07. In view of the above, I, in exercise of powers vested in me under section 11 of the Establishment of office of the Ombudsman Province of Sindh Act 1991 (amended up to date), hereby direct the Secretary, Public Health Engineering Department, Government of Sindh, Karachi, to enquire into the matter, fix responsibility on officers / officials who planned and executed defective work. The Secretary, P.H.E.D, is also directed to take disciplinary action against delinquents for wasting public money amounting to Rs.5.870 million so as to serve as deterrent for others. He is also directed to ensure redressal of complainants' grievance by getting the defects in the scheme rectified. Report of action taken in this regard be submitted to this Institution within 90 days.

“Given under my hand and seal of office”



Sd /-
(Muhammad Sohail Rajput)
Sitara-e-Imtiaz. PAS
Ombudsman, Sindh
Karachi, dated 3rd March, 2025