



DECISION

Complaint No. : (i) POS/4367/TTA/14/2020 Dated: 02.11.2020
(ii) POS/NA/9188/2023 Dated 16.11.2023

Name and address of the complainant : Mr. Muhammad Usman Lothio,
Ward # 10, Jatoi Mohallah Sujawal,
Taluka & District Sujawal

Name of the Agency Complained against : Local Government Department

Name & Designation of Investigating Officer : Dr. Riaz Ahmed Siddiqui
Regional Director, Thatta

Vetted by : Fasihuddin Khan,
Advisor 'Z'

Subject : REQUEST FOR PAYMENT OF DUES PERTAINING TO THE WORKS DONE ON THE DIRECTIVES OF THE CHAIRMAN, TOWN COMMITTEE, SUJAWAL

THE COMPLAINT

These two identical complaints were filed on the same issue by Mr. Muhammad Usman Lothio, Government Contractor regarding alleged delay in the payment of dues for the development works done by him on the directives of the Chairman, Town Committee, Sujawal. Two cheques were issued in his favour by the Town Committee, Sujawal on 18.08.2020 and 10.09.2020 which were not encashed by the bank. He has been approaching the Town Committee, Sujawal to resolve his grievance but to no avail. Therefore, he sought our intervention in the matter to resolve his problem.

PROCEEDINGS

2. 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) after condoning the delay and receipt of the mandatory Affidavit on Form 'A'. The matter was referred to the Town Officer, Town Committee, Sujawal vide letter dated 17.02.2021 followed by several reminders.

3. After constant follow up and correspondence, the Town Officer, Sujawal informed vide his letter dated 25.01.2022 that in lieu of non-encashed cheques, payment to the complainant had been disbursed vide cheque No.31835145 for Rs.231,271/- dated 05.04.2021 and cheque No.32689101 for Rs.334,536/- dated 05.05.2021. As regards the payment of liabilities amounting to Rs.40,50,000/- as allegedly claimed by the complainant pertaining to the works done by him for the Town Committee, Sujawal in the year 2016, the Administrator, Town Committee, Sujawal reported on 30.05.2022, 18.10.2022, 23.10.2023 and 24.05.2024 that the Town Committee, Sujawal has approached the Additional

Chief Secretary, Local Government Housing & Town Planning Sindh to release the required funds. The Investigation Officer also wrote to the Additional Chief Secretary, Local Government and H.T.P Department to give permission for payment of old liabilities of the complainant after completion of all the codal formalities.

REJOINDER

4. The complainant appeared before the Investigating Officer on various dates and confirmed the receipt of payment in lieu of his non-encashed cheques with further request to get his old liabilities cleared for complete redressal of his grievance.

FINDING

5. The grievance of the complainant pertains to inaction of the concerned authorities on his complaints regarding delay in the payment of dues for development works done by him at Town Committee, Sujawal. Two cheques issued to him by the Town Committee were not encashed by the bank. These cheques were cancelled and new cheques were issued. Complainant received the payment of these cheques. For the remaining arrears, the agency reported that being old liability of the year 2016-17, the matter was referred to the office of Additional Chief Secretary, Local Government, Housing & Town Planning of Sindh for permission to pay and release an amount of Rs.13,48,113/- to resolve the issue. The Investigation Officer has also approached the Additional Chief Secretary, L.G. and H.T.P. Department to give permission to clear old liabilities of the complainant by the Town Committee, Sujawal.

CONCLUSION

6. In view of the above, the complaint is disposed of as partially redressed with directives to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government of Sindh, Local Government, Housing & Town Planning Department to address the matter in light of policy for clearance of old liabilities and take necessary action within 60 days hereof.

Given under my hand and seal of Office.



Sd /-
(MUHAMMAD SOHAIL RAJPUT)
Sitara-e-Imtiaz - PAS
Ombudsman, Sindh

Karachi, dated **24th** April, 2025