



DECISION

Complaint No. : POS/378/KHE/18

Name and Address of the Complainant : Mr. Ayub Gabol, R/o L-167/B, Block-3, Gulshan-e-Iqbal, Karachi.

Name of the Agency Complained against : Mines and Mineral Department

Name & Designation of Investigation Officer : Syed Farrukh Habib
Director, Regional Office, Karachi (East)

Subject :- **ALLEGED NON-RENEWAL AND ILLEGAL CANCELLATION OF MINING PERMITS OF THE COMPLAINANT.**

THE COMPLAINT

Mr. Ayub Gabol, in his complaint dated 04.09.2018, stated that he is engaged in the business of mining since long. He was granted mining permits of Silica Sand under File No. DMD/S/MP-Silica Sand (120) for 135.75 acres near Goth Pir Patho, Thatta, and other File No. DMD/S/MP-Silica Sand (139) for 102.07 acres near Jafar Jamandar Farm, Thatta for the period of two years with the validity upto 2011 with the condition that the same would be renewed if applied for further renewal. The complainant stated that, he applied for renewal of both mining permits to the Director General and Secretary Mines & Minerals and also visited their offices multiple times but instead of renewing the permits he was kept on false hopes that whenever meeting of the mines committee will be convened, his mining permits would be renewed. He further stated that in the year 2017-18, meeting of the mines committee was convened but his cases were not placed before the committee for further renewal. He, therefore, solicited intervention in the matter.

PROCEEDINGS

2. After admission of complaint by condoning delay under Section 10 of the Establishment of the Office of Ombudsman for the Province of Sindh Act, 1991, (amended up to date), as well as after receiving mandatory Affidavit on Form "A" and other relevant documents, report was called from the Agency. In response Director (Title & License), Director General Mines & Mineral Development, Karachi vide letter dated 18.03.2019 stated that the complainant, had been accorded two Silica Sand mining permits in 2008 covering areas near Jaffar Jamadar and Pir Patho, Thatta. These permits were issued with validity till 2011. The complainant later applied for renewal; however, such renewal was refused in 2018 on account of violations of Sindh Mining Concession Rules, 2002. Moreover, the agency also observed that the original permits were granted by an authority which was not recognized under the rules. The Agency further reported that there are outstanding dues against the complainant amounting to Rs. 18,387/- and Rs. 13,925/- for the two permits, including penalties. Additionally, no production dispatch returns were submitted during the validity period, which also constituted a violation of Terms & Conditions.

(2)

3. The complainant vide his rejoinder dated 08.08.2019 vehemently denied allegations that he failed to complete codal formalities. He further alleged that his renewal was refused solely because he did not pay bribes as demanded by officials, asserting existence of a system of fixed bribe rates preventing permit renewal without payment. The complainant also denied allegations of any outstanding dues, stating he never received any notice or reminder regarding payments. He requested that the Directorate be directed to renew his mining permits according to procedure.

4. The matter was again taken-up with the Agency. In response the Directorate General, Mines and Mineral Development, reiterated its earlier submissions dated 18.03.2019, denying the complainant's bribery allegations as baseless. It maintained that the complainant violated the terms and conditions of the permits as well as Sindh Mining Concession Rules, 2002, and was a defaulter of government dues amounting to Rs. 18,387 and Rs. 13,925 (including penalties).

FINDINGS

5. I have examined the case file and perused correspondence, reports and rejoinders etc., and observed that:

- i. The complainant was granted two mining permits for mining of Silica Sand in 2009, which expired in 2011.
- ii. He applied for renewal of these permits, which were refused in 2018 by the Mines Committee due to alleged violations of terms and conditions of previous permit as well as Sindh Mining Concession Rules, 2002, in addition to nonpayment of outstanding dues.
- iii. No case of mal-administration, is established on part of the Agency.

DECISION

6. In view of above the complaint is rejected.

Given under my hand and seal of the office



Sd/-
(Muhammad Sohail Rajput)
Sitara-e-Imtiaz. PAS
Ombudsman Sindh

Karachi, dated 23-10 - 2025