

BRIEF CASE STUDIES FOR THE RTI TRAINING PROGRAMME FOR TOI FROM BANGALORE

1. Based on the complaints received from the residents of the Ragi Gudda Slum in Bangalore , they were guided to obtain all the information by themselves applying RTI applications on the construction of the alternate accommodation under JNNURM scheme by the Karnataka Slum Development Board .
2. Four residents came forward to apply for the information on different aspects of the project to accommodate 1500 residents of the slum .
3. We were not given the information within the specified period in spite of paying the money as communicated. We were provided partial information only after we went on first appeal.
4. On analysing the info received, the following TWO distinct cases of corruption and irregularities have emerged.

1. ISSUE OF BIOMETRIC CARD FOR THE BENEFICIARIES OF RESIDENTS OF SLUMS THROUGHOUT KARNATAKA:.

- a) A WORK ORDER HAS BEEN ISSUED TO one Winfoware for the supply of 35,000 biometric cards in different locations at a cost of about Rs. 55 Lakhs in Oct 2008 with a condition that the delivery should be done within SIX months.
- b) As per the work order the biometric card should be a contact type smart card embedded with 4 K microchip with all the data of the residents including their signature & the finger prints encrypted .
- c) On perusal of the biometric card issued to the residents of slum it is observed that the card issued is

NOT the one as envisaged , it is only ordinary plastic card without the 10 digit identification number as required nor the encrypted data.

d) It has also been observed that even after a lapse of ONE Year they have supplied only 12,750 cards and it is also observed that even though there is a penalty clause , KSCB has not enforced it.

e) Main & important thing is that due to this deficiency the identification of beneficiaries after the construction and allotment has large scale irregularities.

2 ALLOTMENT OF HOUSES

a) The contract for constructing houses has been awarded to THREE contractors ie 1100, 200 & 200.

b) Contract for 1100 houses have been issued in Dec 2009 at a cost of Rs. 23 crores with a mandate to complete the houses in 18 MONTHS , ie by June 2011. It is observed that the KSDB has failed to monitor the project with proper checks & balances which has resulted in the contractor delaying the project even though from the copies of 26 bills obtained, it shows that a sum of Rs. 20 crores has been paid till Jan 2013 , till date only 760 incomplete houses have been constructed.

c) From the information obtained it is observed that there is no standard procedure approved by the competent authorities either for the identification of the original beneficiaries or the process for the allotment of houses.

d) The residents have been told to occupy the half-completed buildings in March 2013 which are without electrical, sanitary and sewage connections.

e) It is also observed that about 103 houses have been allotted which as per the local residents have been sold by the so-called local leaders, which have no legal sanctity in the process of allotment.

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