Pu Tuikhuahtanga, Desk Editor, Zozam Weekly, Congress Bhavan, Treasury Square, Aizawl. ... Complainant

Vrs

SPIO, Soil & Water Conservation, Serchhip Division, Mizoram. ... Respondent

ORDER

This complaint has been filed by the complainant Pu Tuikhuahtanga, Desk Editor, Zozam Weekly, Treasury Square, Aizawl. against Memo No. G. 29016/2/2006-07/RTI/S&WC(S)426 dated 31.10.2006 issued to the complainant by the respondent SPIO, Soil & Water Conservation, Serchhip.

The short facts of the case are that the complainant applied to SPIO, Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation, for certain information which also relates to Serchhip Division of the Department. The SPIO, Serchhip Division, has directed the complainant to deposit charges of computer print out amounting to Rs. 20/- at Treasury, Serchhip. The complainant made the amount of Rs. 20/- available to the SPIO. The SPIO wanted to deposit the amount of Rs. 20/- into Government Treasury at Serchhip by Treasury challan. Treasury challan in TR. 6 has a column - “Name by whom tendered” with a space for signature. The dispute relates to this signature. The SPIO, Serchhip, directed the complainant to go to Serchhip to sign in this column of challan form. It is against this direction that the present complaint has been filed.

The SPIO has been heard. The complainant did not appear on the date of hearing.

The SPIO, Serchhip, accepted that the information cost of Rs. 20/- had already been submitted by the complainant who has also been given the required information; that the dispute is as to who should sign on the first column of Treasury form. He admitted that he is not clear as to who should sign on the first column of the Treasury challan. He has also admitted that since the amount of Rs. 20/- has been deposited by the complainant to him, it is he, the SPIO, Serchhip, who is going to deposit the amount of Rs. 20/- to Treasury.
On the above facts, it is clear that the amount of Rs. 20/- which was deposited by the complainant, was being deposited into the Treasury by the SPIO, Serchhip, who becomes the person tendering the amount of Rs. 20/- to the Treasury. Accordingly, it is the SPIO, Serchhip, who should sign on the first column of the Treasury challan. Accordingly, the SPIO should tender the challan to Treasury at Serchhip and the complainant need not be asked to sign on the first column of the Treasury challan.

Ordered accordingly.

(Passed on 21.11.2006)

(ROBERT HRANGDAWLA)
Chief Information Commissioner