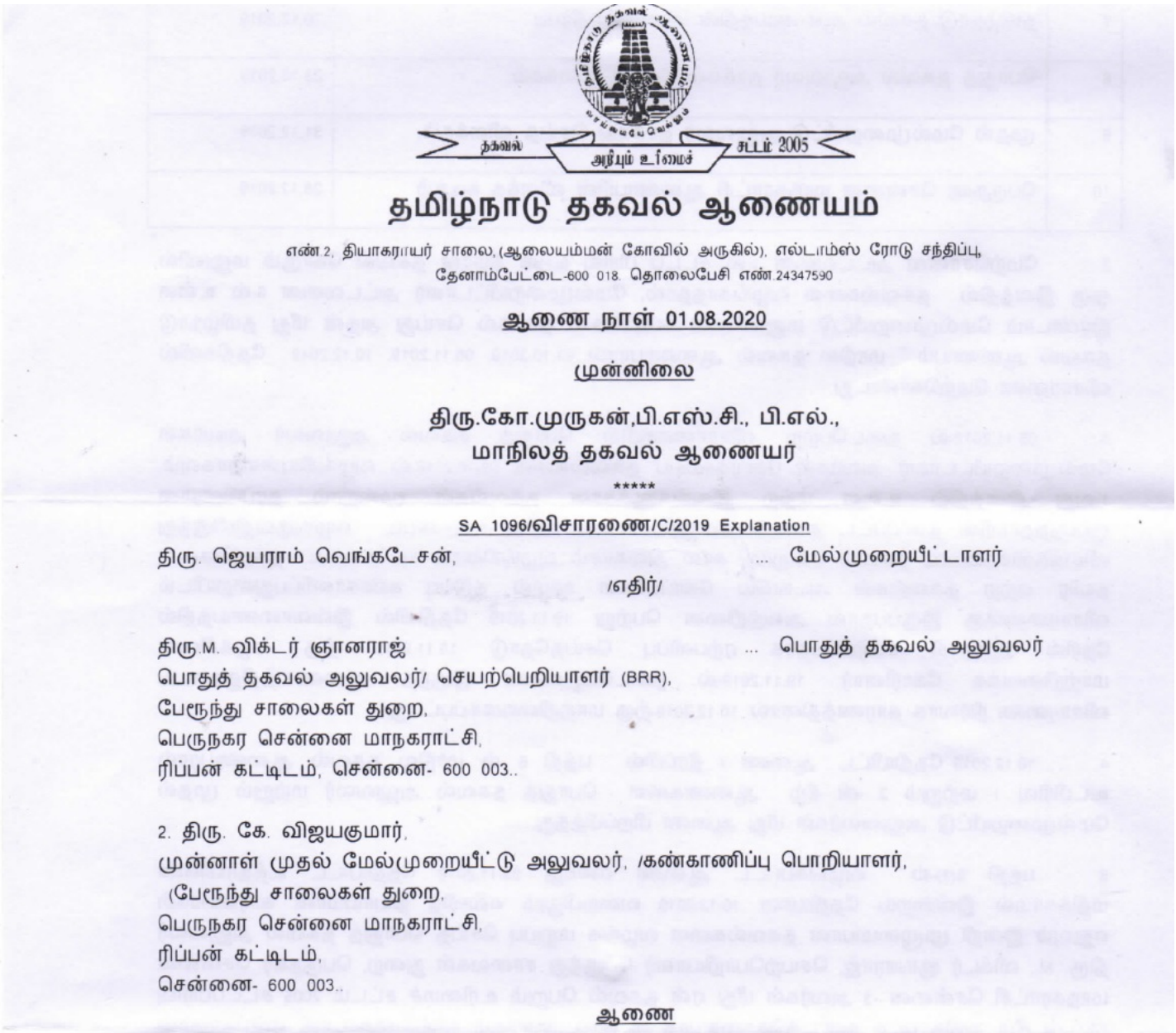
Twitter Thread by Jayaram Venkatesan

Jayaram Venkatesan
@JayaramArappor

Thread:Good news: TN Information Commission orders penalty of Rs 25000 to be deducted from Chennai Corp Exec Engr Victors salary & also orders Corp Comm to take disciplinary dept. action on Victor & Superintending Engr Vijaykumar for not furnishing info under RTI to Arappor



தகவல் அறியும் உரிமைச் சட்டம் 2005

தமிழ்நாடு தகவல் ஆணையம்

எண்.2, தியாகராயர் சாலை,(ஆலையம்மன் கோவில் அருகில்), எல்டாம்ஸ் ரோடு சந்திப்பு,
தேனாம்பேட்டை-600 018. தொலைபேசி எண்.24347590

ஆணை நாள் 01.08.2020

முன்னிலை

திரு.கோ.முருகன்,பி.எஸ்.சி., பி.எல்.,
மாநிலத் தகவல் ஆணையர்

*****

SA 1096/விசாரணை/C/2019 Explanation

திரு. ஜெயராம் வெங்கடேசன், ... மேல்முறையீட்டாளர்

/எதிர்/

திரு.M. விக்டர் ஞானராஜ் ... பொதுத் தகவல் அலுவலர்
பொதுத் தகவல் அலுவலர்/ செயற்பெறியாளர் (BRR),
பேரூந்து சாலைகள் துறை,
பெருநகர சென்னை மாநகராட்சி,
ரிப்பன் கட்டிடம், சென்னை- 600 003..

2. திரு. கே. விஜயகுமார்,
முன்னாள் முதல் மேல்முறையீட்டு அலுவலர், /கண்காணிப்பு பொறியாளர்,
(பேரூந்து சாலைகள் துறை,
பெருநகர சென்னை மாநகராட்சி,
ரிப்பன் கட்டிடம்,
சென்னை- 600 003..

ஆணை

While we shd be happy that this will act as a deterrent to many public information officers who refuse info under RTI, the ordeal behind this order will show how diff people get together to protect the corrupt. I filed a RTI on 31/07/2018 seeking information on a road tender

Application for Information under the Right to Information Act 2005

Dated: 31.07.2018

From
Jayaram Venkatesan,
Convenor – Arappor Iyakkam,
140A, Ground Floor, Marshalls Road,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

To
The Public Information Officer,
Bus Route Roadways Department,
Corporation of Chennai,
Ripon Buildings,
Chennai-600 003

Sir/Madam,

I am an Indian citizen and I seek the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I have affixed the fees of Rs.10 court fees stamp on this letter. I am also ready to pay any other charges that I am required to pay under the Act for photocopies etc. According to law 6(3), it is your duty to send the Information to the concerned department and also to intimate the applicant if it does not belong to you. And kindly provide the below information within 30 days as per the Act.

1. Provide the copy of the following documents for Tender package 10 (செ.சா.து.ந.க.எண் பி1/0348/2015)

- List of Roads
- Evaluation Statement for Bid
- Bill of Quotations for each bidder
- Comparative Statement
- After Negotiation Comparative Statement

Sincerely

Jayaram Venkatesan
Convener – Arappor Iyakkam

भारतीय डाक
India Post
RT181189973IN IWR:82841811899
RL EGMORE MDSO <600008>
Counter No:1,01/08/2018,15:24
To:THE PIO BUS R,ROADWAYS DEPT
PIN:600003, Park Town H.O
From:JAYARAM VENKATESAN,.
Wt:20gms
Amt:25.00(Cash)
<Track on www.indiapost.gov.in>
<Dial 1800 266 6868>

This tender was awarded to SP Builders whos said to be close to Min.S.P.Velumani. Velumanis close aide firm KCP Engrs & SP Builders compete in 3 tenders of Busroute roads in 2015 of which 2 were won by KCP& 1 by SP. Theres clear collusion btn the 2 firms on pricing & many factors

This tender was also caught redhanded by CAG in its audit report clearly showing that Rs 34 lakhs of loss to the exchequer has been incurred bcaz the Corporation raised the camber correction amt for SP Builders after award of the tender. Such a blatant act of violation!

Audit Report (Local Bodies) for the year ended 31 March 2016

4.1.8.6 Excess expenditure on Camber correction work

The work of strengthening and relaying of seven BRR - Package 10 was entrusted (March 2015) to a contractor for ₹ 21.42 crore and work was completed (August 2016) at a cost of ₹ 16.62 crore. Scrutiny of tender documents revealed that the tender schedule included an item *viz*., "Providing and laying Dense Bituminous Macadam (DBM) upto 100 mm thickness Camber correction" for a total quantity of 2,396 cu.m. and the contractor quoted ₹ 7,000 per cu.m. for that item. After negotiation, the contractor reduced the rate to ₹ 6,000 per cu.m. However, agreement was entered (June 2015) into with the contractor for an amount of ₹ 20.92 crore after deleting the above item. Audit noticed that, in lieu of the deleted item, another item *viz*., "Camber correction work using Bituminous Macadam (BM) 50 mm thickness" was entrusted to the contractor as non-tendered item at the rate of ₹ 8,369.84 per cu.m. for a total quantity of 1,120 cu.m. As the contractor had quoted ₹ 6,000 per cu.m. for Camber correction with DBM during tender which was higher specification than BM[12], the GCC could have executed the Camber correction using the above item without deleting the same from the agreement. However, Camber correction for a total quantity of 1,440.241 cu.m. was executed using BM as a non-tendered item. Failure of GCC to make use of the lesser rates quoted by the contractor in Camber correction work had resulted in excess expenditure of ₹ 34.13 lakh[13].

GoTN replied (November 2016) that the excess expenditure of ₹ 34.13 lakh would be recovered from the contractor while making final payment.

As we probe info into this tender, Corp refuses to give info in RTI citing its private info. Second appeal b4 info commission comes up after an year of wait in Oct2019. In d next hearing held on 5/11/19, Info Commissioner Mr G.Murugan orders PIO Victor to give d data by 19/11/19

The next hearing comes up on 10/12/2019 & PIO Victor still did not give any info citing that d tender is already being investigated by DVAC. I argue that it doesnt preclude to be furnished under RTI & Info Comm Mr Murugan asks PIO to give me the info by 4 Pm same day.

At 4 Pm, PIO Victor did not turn up and he sent another staff saying that he met with an accident & is in hospital. The Info Commissioner thereafter issues a show cause notice to PIO Victor and Appellate authority Vijaykumar for penalty & disciplinary action with 15 days time

PIO, Appellate authority & Corp Comm have all sent their replies b4 end of December again refusing to part with information.However,no order was passed by Info Commissioner thereafter.When I meet Mr Murugan in another second appeal,I ask him what happened to d order in this case.

He told me that order must hv been passed.I asked him for a copy.He tells that its a matter of communication btn Info commision & Corp & that I cant get d order.I became furious hearing this & told him that its in my appeal that this order is being passed & Im entitled to d order

He tells me that iam not entitled but still he will give me. 'Generous'!! However I dont receive any. By 14/02/20, I file a RTI with info commission seeking copy of the order. I again meet Mr Murugan in another second appeal case arnd late feb/early March.

From

Jayaram Venkatesan, ARAPPOR IYAKKAM.
No-140A, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Salai,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008

14/02/2020



To

The Public Information Officer
Tamil Nadu State Information Commission,
No.2, Theagaraya Salai, Teynampet,
Chennai, Tamil Nadu 600018

Sub: Seeking Information Under Right to Information Act, 2005

Sir/Madam,

I am an Indian citizen and I seek the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I have affixed the fees of Rs.10 court fees stamp on this letter. I am also ready to pay any other charges that I am required to pay under the Act for photocopies etc. According to law 6(3), it is your duty to send the information to the concerned department and also to intimate the applicant if it does not belong to you. And kindly provide the below information within 30 days as per the Act

1. Provide the copy of all orders by the Information Commission in SA/1096/ விசாரணை/ சி/2019 issued after giving show cause to the Public Information Officer in the order dated 10/12/2019.

Signature of the Applicant

Jayaram Venkatesan



As I enter,Mr Murugan tells me that d order has been mailed & that I shd get it anytime. Still there r no signs. I filed first appeal & then a second appeal seeking penalty on Info Commission by Info Commission. Info Commission instead of ensuring transparency was all out to hide

I receive a reply letter to my FA dated 10/06/20 but with seal 26/08/20 stating that I cant get copy of the order since its a matter of communication btn Corp and Commission. Info Commission stooped to such low level of brazen violation of d RTI act to reject a public document.

RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT-2005

TAMILNADU INFORMATION COMMISSION

No.2, Thiyagaraya Road, Teynampet, Chennai - 600 018.
Phone No. 24347590

Letter No. 12480 /PIO/2020 Dated 10.06.2020

From
G. Sathyanarayana, B.Sc., B.L.,
First Appellate Authority / Registrar,
Tamil Nadu Information Commission,
Chennai – 600 018.

To
Thiru. Jayaram Venkatesan,
Arappor Iyakkam,
No.140A, Rukmani Lakshmipathy Salai,
Egmore, Chennai – 600 008.

Sir,

Sub : Right to Information Act, 2005 –Information – Regarding.

Ref: Your First Appeal dated 20.03.2020 (received 06.05.2020).

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With reference to your First Appeal cited, Your request for Information is rejected as the information relating to correspondence between the PIO and the Commission has been requested.

Yours faithfully,

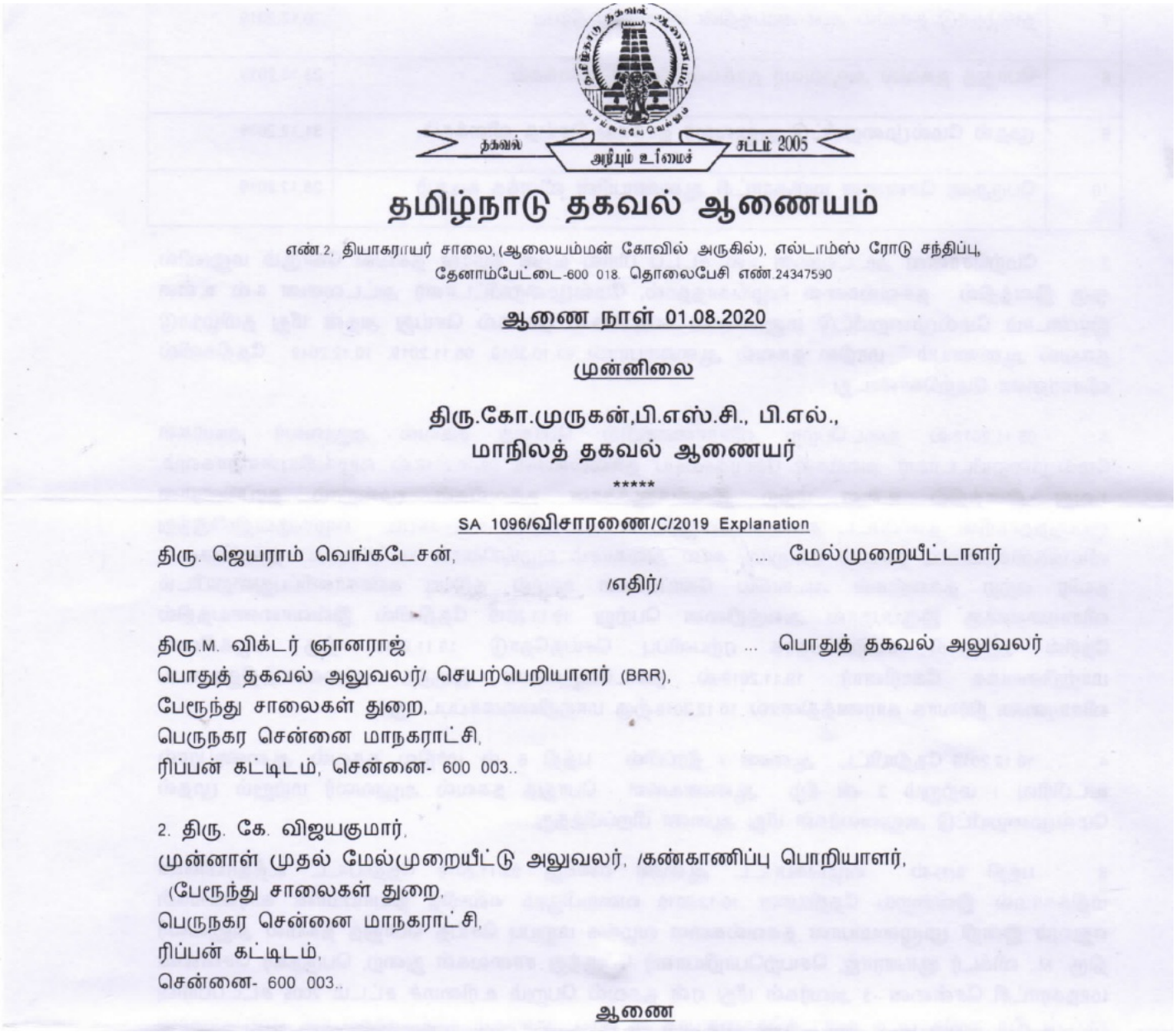
G. Sathyanarayana

FAA / Registrar

29/6

26 AUG 2020

As I wait for d second appeal hearing to penalize Info Commission by Info Commission,I received an order last week which is dated 01/08/20 & seal date 16/12/20. d order finally penalizes the Corp Engineers. Mr Murugan passes order just b4 he retires out of Info Commission in Aug



தகவல் அறியும் உரிமைச் சட்டம் 2005

தமிழ்நாடு தகவல் ஆணையம்

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தேனாம்பேட்டை-600 018. தொலைபேசி எண் 24347590

ஆணை நாள் 01.08.2020

முன்னிலை

திரு.கோ.முருகன், பி.எஸ்.சி., பி.எல்.,
மாநிலத் தகவல் ஆணையர்

*****

SA 1096/விசாரணை/C/2019 Explanation

திரு. ஜெயராம் வெங்கடேசன், ... மேல்முறையீட்டாளர்

/எதிர்/

திரு.M. விக்டர் ஞானராஜ் ... பொதுத் தகவல் அலுவலர்
பொதுத் தகவல் அலுவலர்/ செயற்பெறியாளர் (BRR),
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ரிப்பன் கட்டிடம்,
சென்னை- 600 003..

ஆணை

So Info Comm has been trying to avoid d order itself for so long. d order was typed 8 months later & reaches me 1 yr after d show cause notice & 2.5 yrs after d RTI. This after filing second appeal on Info Comm itself to penalize themselves. Such abysmal functioning of Info Comm.

This case study shows how there were many players trying to protect d Corrupt. All the information we sought shd hv been on Corp website as per Section 4 of the RTI. Even thou its mixed feelings, such penalty & disciplinary action r important on PIOs

We hope this will be a lesson to many more PIOs who r refusing information. We need to get Prakash IAS to follow this order now. We also need to get Info Commission to work independently, act faster & protect the RTI act instead of the corrupt. Lets do it!

The video of this RTI story can be seen here https://t.co/dG3oILugrc

@threadreaderapp unroll