

OFFICE OF THE ASSAM STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION JONAKEE COMPLEX, PANJABARI, GUWAHATI-781 037

Case No.	:JRT. 32/2013
Complainant/ appellant	:Sri Hemanta Saikia
Respondent	Joint Director, Health Services,, Jorhat
Date of hearing	: 24-02-2016
Complaint/ Second appeal heard by	: Shri H.S. Das, IAS (Retd) Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

<u>ORDER</u>

The petitioner Sri Hemanta Saikia is absent without information. He was absent on the previous 2 dates of hearing also, i.e., on 16-2-2015 and again on 25-1-2016. The public authority is represented by Dr. Udayan Kr. Baruah, CM&HO (CD) and SPIO, Jorhat.

In view of large number of cases pending before this Commission, the second appeal petition dated 5-11-2013 is taken up for consideration, on merit, ex-parte in the absence of the petitioner.

From perusal of the case records, it is seen that vide his RTI application dated 21-6-2013 the petitioner Sri Hemanta Saikia wanted various information regarding distribution of free Spectacles to BPL beneficiaries in the year 2008-09. The Joint Director, Health Services, Jorhat gave a reply to the petitioner on 29-6-2013 informing him that there was discrepancy between the name of the applicant and the names mentioned in the BPL card , which the petitioner furnished. On the same date, the petitioner wrote to the Joint Director, asking him to clarify what further information/ proof he has to furnish to establish that he is a member of the family of BPL card holder. On 2-7-2013 the Joint Director replied to the petitioner that since the petitioner is an adult, therefore, the BPL card should be in his own name. In reply, the petitioner vide his letter dated 6-7-2013 wanted to know under what law he is required to have a separate BPL card.

From the above, it appears that the petitioner and the public authority was engaged in a debate regarding the validity of the BPL card rather than the information sought for vide his application dated 21-6-2013.

As already mentioned, the substantive issue in the petition dated 21-6-2013 is distribution of free spectacles to BPL families.

This Commission, therefore, directs the CM&HO (CD), and SPIO, Jorhat to allow the petitioner to inspect the following documents/ records, during office hours on any working day and take notes thereof and also allow to take photo copies of relevant documents free of cost up to 25 copies and thereafter, on payment of Rs. 2/- for every additional page of photo copy, within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.

The documents/records to be allowed for inspection , are as below:

- (a) Order/ Notification constituting the Tender Committee for distribution of free spectacles to BPL families in Financial Year 2008-09 indicating the authority with whose approval the Notification was issued.
- (b) Medium through which the NIT was published.
- (c) Copies of the tender documents received.
- (d) Recorded reasons in respect of the tenders which were not accepted.
- (e) List of BPL beneficiaries who received the free spectacles with their names, addresses and payees' receipt signatures.
- (f) Composition of the Committee who selected the beneficiaries.

With the above order, the second appeal petition dated 5-11-2013 is disposed of.

Sd/-(H. S. Das) Assam State Chief Information Commissioner, Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy. Sd/-

Secretary & Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No JRT.32/2013 / -A

Dtd. 24-2-2015

Copy to:,

- 1. Dr. Udayan Kr. Baruah, CM&HO (CD) and SPIO, Jorhat.for information and necessary action, as ordered above.
- 2. Sri Hemanta Saikia, Borigaon, Khajuriguri, Jorhat, for information.
- 3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 4. Office File.

Secretary & Registrar Assam Information Commission