

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

Case No. :BNG.11/2014

Complainant/ appellant :Sri Narendra Nath Sharma

Respondent : District Agriculture Officer, Barpeta

Date of hearing :17-03-2016

Complaint/ Second : Shri H.S. Das, IAS (Retd)

appeal heard by Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

ORDER

The petitioner Sri N. N. Sharma is absent. The public authority is represented by Sri Bijoy Prakash Konwar, Assistant Director of Agriculture and SPIO in the office of the District Agriculture Officer, Barpeta.

In view of the large number of the large number of cases pending before this Commission, the second appeal petition dated. 16-12-2013 is taken up for consideration exparte, on merit, in the absence of the petitioner.

From perusal of the case records, it is seen that the petitioner Sri N. N. Sharma vide his RTI petition dated 20-9-2013 filed before the DAO , Barpeta requesting for detailed information about Technology Mission, National Food Security Mission and all other Schemes implemented by DAO, Nalbari in a 11 column format prescribed by the petitioner himself.

The SPIO and Assistant Director, Agriculture, Barpeta (DL) in the office of District Agriculture Officer, Barpeta has sent a written submission dated 16-3-2016 stating that the exact date of receipt of the RTI petition and the first appeal petition were 29-3-2013 and 4-11-2013 respectively. But his predecessors neither furnished the information nor took hearing of the first appeal petition. The present SPIO has now sought time to furnish the information as his office and staff are pre-occupied with NRC and election duties at present.

This Commission observes that the information sought for by the petitioner is voluminous and will put undue burden on the resources of the office of the DAO, Barpeta to compile and furnish the information to the petitioner in the 11 column format prescribed by the petitioner himself

This Commission, therefore, directs the DAO, Barpeta to allow the petitioner to inspect the relevant documents and take photo copies thereof on payment of Rs. 2/- per copy, between 20th May, 2016 and 5th June, 2016 that is, after completion of the election process. If the petitioner fails to turn up for inspection of documents, as ordered above, then the matter will be treated as closed.

This Commission, further, directs the SPIOs and First Appellate Authorities from 20-9-2013 to show cause as to why appropriate action under Section 20 of the RTI Act, 2005 shall not be taken against them for their failure to furnish the sought for information to the petitioner within the stipulated time. DAO, Barpeta is directed to communicate this order to them for submission of their written statement **by 5th June, 2016** before this Commission.

Sd/-

(H. S. Das)
Chief Information Commissioner, Assam
Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy. Sd/Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No.SIC/BNG.11/2014 / -A

Dtd. 17-3-2016

- 1. Sri Bijoy Prakash Konwar, SPIO and Assistant Director of Agriculture, (D.L), Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Bar[eta, for information and necessary action.
- 2. Sri N. N. Sharma, Vill & P.O & PS- Abhayapuri (Ward No.-3), near PWD Mechanical Workshop, Abhayapuri, Dist- Bongaigaon, Assam for information and necessary action.
- 3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 4.` Office File.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission