

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

	ΟΡΡΕΡ
Complaint heard by	: Shri Pinuel Basumatary, State Information Commissioner, Assam
Date of hearing	: 18.04.2016
Respondent	: The SPIO/Principal, Uttar Barpeta College, Barpeta
Complainant	: Md. Ramjan Ali
Case No.	: SIC/BPT.41/2014

<u>O R D E R</u> 18.04.2016

The Public Authority is represented by Dr. Jaher Ali, Principal, Uttar Barpeta College, Barpeta. A Written Statement dated 18.04.2016 has been submitted by the Principal which is taken on record.

The Appellant present.

Perused the case records. It is seen that the Commission had taken a hearing and issued an order on 13.01.2016 to the effect that the SPIO should offer the relevant records for inspection of the Appellant on 20.01.2016 and provide photocopies of relevant documents up to 50 (fifty) pages, free of cost, and rest would be at the Appellant's own cost. The Complainant submitted his complaint dated 18.02.2016 stating that on compliance with the Commission's order he had visited the SPIO's office on 20.01.2016 but no documents were provided to him.

It is seen that the letter dated 22.01.2016 had been received from the Principal of the said college apprising the Commission that 50 copies of records had been supplied to the Petitioner and that the latter had verified all "other records" relating to the RTI Application in presence of some lecturers and some other colleagues.

Deposing before the Commission, the Appellant/Complainant stated that although he had put his signature on the acknowledgment of receipt of 50 copies of records, he had actually not received the same and that no covering letter listing the documents or mentioning the information had been received by him.

A perusal of the RTI Application in question indicates that the information sought for by the Complainant is fairly simple and straightforward and is such that the College Authorities should be able to provide without strain on its resources.

Through his personal deposition, the Principal of the said College admitted that no covering letter listing the 50 copies of documents with reference to the RTI Application had been given to the RTI Applicant. It was added that although the rest of the information/documents had been offered for inspection, the Applicant did not inspect them.

In view of the facts brought out above, the Commission hereby orders that the reply with specific reference to each of the items in the RTI Application shall be provided by the Principal, Uttar Barpeta College, Barpeta to the RTI Applicant/Complainant, free of cost, by post, within a period of 10 days of receipt of this order.

Further, it is seen that there is no evidence of disposal of the First Appeal dated 19.08.2014 by the First Appellate Authority/Director of Higher Education, Assam. This is inspite of the Commission's order dated 13.01.2016, a copy of which had been sent to that authority.

It is ordered that the FAA/Director of Higher Education, Assam shall consider and dispose of, with a speaking order, the said First Appeal, within a period of 15 days from the date of receipt of this order.

A copy of the RTI Application, First Appeal and the Commission's order dated 13.01.2016 may be sent to the FAA along with a copy of this order.

With this, the Complaint case is hereby disposed of.

Sd/-

Pinuel Basumatary State Information Commissioner, Assam Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No. SIC/BPT.41/2014/ -A

Dtd. 18.04.2016

Copy to:

- 1. The SPIO/Principal, Uttar Barpeta College, Dhanbandha, PO- Sonkuchi, Dist- Barpeta, Assam, Pin- 781301 for information and necessary action.
- 2. The First Appellate Authority/Director of Higher Education, Kahilipara, Guwahati, Assam, Pin-781019 for information and necessary action.
- 3. Md. Ramjan Ali, S/o Late Abdul Halim, Vill- Deurikuchi, (Uttar Barpeta), PO- Sonkuchi, Dist-Barpeta, Assam, Pin- 781314 for information.
- 4. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 5. Office File.

Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission