

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

Case No. : SIC/JRT.2/2015

Complainant : Smt Ritamani Saikia

Respondent : The SPIO, O/o the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat

Date of hearing : 26.05.2016

Complaint heard by : Smt. Nilufer Alam Hazarika, IAS (Retd.)

State Information Commissioner, Assam

ORDER 26.05.2016

The petitioner Smt Ritamani Saikia is present.

The Public Authority is represented by Ms. Akashee Duwarah, SPIO & Asstt. Commissioner, O/o the D.C., Jorhat along with Sri Hemen Das, SPIO, O/o the Inspector of Schools, JDC, Jorhat.

The SPIO, Office of the Inspector of Schools submitted a written statement dated 25.05.2016 that information under the RTI Act, 2005 dated 15.07.2014 was already furnished to the petitioner Smt. Ritamani Saikia vide letter dated 12.08.2014, before her petition to the First Appellate Authority, that the replies were not satisfactory. He also enclosed a copy of information given to the Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat on 20.05.2016.

Ms. Akashee Duarrah, SPIO & A.D.C, Jorhat submitted a written statement dated 23.05.2016 that the First Appeal petition was transferred to Inspector of Schools, JDC, Jorhat as the matter relates to Education Department and she was directed to contact the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat for any further correspondence.

The petitioner during the hearing admitted that she had received a photocopy of the cancelled cheque of financial assistance to Jagduar Girls' High School which was not released on the ground of poor enrollment during the year 2012-13. She however complained of financial assistance released to other schools having same enrollment. The SPIO, office of the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat present denied to have released financial assistance to any such school and referred to his report dated 12.08.2014. The petitioner could not substantiate her claim by producing any such record. She however insisted that financial assistance was released to the aforesaid school, renamed as Jagduar Sankardev High School during the year 2013-14 inspite of low enrollment after she had submitted her resignation to the school managing committee on 18.03.2013 as per verbal instruction of the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat. In this regard, she furnished a copy of the letter no. PC/Sec/252012/23 dated 06.12.2012 issued by Director, Secondary Education, Assam that financial assistance should not be disbursed where enrollment is less than 25 in the highest class as per "The Assam Venture Educational Institution (Provincialization of Services) Act, 2011.

The SPIO, office of the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat stated that as per report of the school authorities enrollment of students during the year 2013-14 was 39 and that there was no record available with the Inspector of Schools, Jorhat regarding her resignation and she may contact the present school authorities in this regard. The petitioner insisted that the information on enrollment furnished by the Inspector of Schools was not correct and the financial assistance was released in 2013-14 inspite of low enrollment.

In view of the complaint of the petitioner during the hearing that the enrollment of Jagduar Girls' High School was not 39 and still financial assistance was released during the year 2013-14, the matter is remanded to the Inspector of Schools, JDC, Jorhat for verification of

school records on enrollment, in presence of the petitioner and disposal of her petition after hearing the petitioner, within 21 days from the date of receipt of this order.

With the above direction, the complaint petition dated 03.09.2014 is disposed of.

The petitioner will be at liberty to move this Commission with a Second Appeal petition, if she is aggrieved at the information furnished by the First Appellate Authority *i.e.* the Inspector of Schools, JDC, Jorhat or because of non-disposal of the petition dated 15.07.2014.

Sd/-Nilufer Alam Hazarika, IAS (Retd.) State Information Commissioner, Assam Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy

Sd/-Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No. SIC/JRT.2/2015/39 -A

Dtd. 26.05.2016

Copy to:

- 1. The SPIO, Office of the Inspector of Schools, JDC, Jorhat, PO- Jorhat, Dist- Jorhat, Assam, Pin-785001 for information and necessary action.
- 2. The First Appellate Authority/ Inspector of Schools, Jorhat, PO- Jorhat, Dist- Jorhat, Assam, Pin-785001 for information and necessary action.
- 3. The SPIO, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Jorhat, Assam, Pin-785001 for information
- 4. Smt. Ritamani Saikia, Jagduas Kakati Gaon, PO-Bonai, Marifat Jazi, Dist-Jorhat, Assam, Pin-785683 for information.
- 5. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 6. Office File.

Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission