



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

Case No. : SIC/NGN.40/2014
Appellant : Md. Sheikh Abdullah.
Respondent : The SPIO, O/o the S.D.M & H.O., Dagaon PHC, Nagaon
Date of hearing : 18.06.2016
Second Appeal heard by : Shri Pinuel Basumatary,
State Information Commissioner, Assam

O R D E R
18.06.2016

The SPIO absent. However, a Written Statement dated 17.06.2016 received from the I/C, M & H.O.-I, Dagaon PHC, Nagaon.

The Appellant absent without information.

Perused the case record. It is seen that the Appellant had filed the Second Appeal being aggrieved at the demand for an amount of Rs. 19,328/- as cost of photocopying 1208 pages of documents containing the list of beneficiaries on the ground that the demand was made after 30 days of his Application. It is also seen that the date of the RTI Application was 26.11.2013, whereas the S.D.M. & H.O., Dagaon PHC had written the letter to the Appellant regarding the cost of photocopying on 10.02.2014.

Perused the W/S. It has been submitted that the RTI Application was received on 04.02.2014 from the Mission Director, NHM, Assam. Submitting that he had taken over as M. & H.O.-I, Dagaon PHC, Nagaon only recently, he has requested for 30 days of time to collect the information from 38 Sub-Centres under the Dagaon PHC and provide the same to the Appellant. From the W/S, it appears that the SPIO has referred to the date of receipt of the First Appeal instead of that of the RTI Application as the First Appeal had been received from the Mission Director, NHM, Assam to whom the Appeal had been submitted.

In view of the facts brought out above, the Commission is of the view that as the SPIO had failed to provide the information within 30 days from the date of Application, it was not in accordance with the RTI Act, 2005 to direct the Applicant to pay the cost of photocopying.

However, it appears that the documents to be photocopied and supplied to the Appellant are likely to be voluminous and it would involve a considerable amount for photocopying. The Commission therefore hereby orders that the SPIO shall offer the relevant records/documents containing the information for inspection by the Appellant on any working day during office hours within 10 days of receipt of this order, whereupon the Appellant shall inspect the records, take notes and indicate the documents whose photocopies would be required. As regards cost of photocopying, the SPIO shall provide upto a maximum of 50 copies free of cost and the rest shall be paid for by the Appellant. The entire exercise shall be completed within 3 days.

With this, the Second Appeal Petition is disposed of.

Sd/-

Pinuel Basumatary
State Information Commissioner, Assam
Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-

Deputy Registrar
Assam Information Commission

Copy to:

1. The SPIO, office of the Sub-Divisional Medical and Health Officer, Dagaon PHC, Nagaon, Dist- Nagaon, Assam for information and necessary action.
2. The First Appellate Authority/Joint Director of Health Services, Nagaon, Dist- Nagaon, Assam for information.
3. Md. Sheikh Abdullah, Vill- Singia Pather, P.O.- Dagaon, Dist- Nagaon, Assam, Pin- 782124 for information.
4. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
5. Office File.

Deputy Registrar
Assam Information Commission