



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

Case No. : **KP(M).488/2014**

Complainant/ appellant : **Sri Pradip Kalita**

Respondent : **Directorate of Panchayat & Rural Development**

Date of hearing : **18-06-2016**

Complaint/ Second : **Shri H.S. Das, IAS (Retd)**
appeal heard by **Chief Information Commissioner, Assam**

O R D E R

The petitioner Sri Pradip Kalita is absent. However, he has sent a written submission dated 18-6-2016 stating that he is unable to attend today's hearing due to his illness. By his written request he has authorized Sri Dhiren Baishya, Joint Secretary of Assam Krishak Shramik Unnayan Parishad to represent him in today's hearing before the Commission.

His prayer is granted. The public authority is represented by:- (1) Sri Amarendra Sarma, Assistant Development Commissioner and APIO of the Commissionerate of Panchayat and Rural Development, and (2) Shri Bharat Ch. Kalita, Superintendent of the same office.

The second appeal petition dated 18-7-2014 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.

From perusal of the case records, it is seen that the petitioner Sri Pradip Kalita submitted an RTI petition dated 6-5-2014 before the SPIO of the Directorate of P&RD, seeking detailed informations about the funds received by the Directorate from the State Government and the Central Govt. against various schemes during the period 2010 to 2014, including details like name of districts, development blocks and locations where the schemes were implemented together with the names of beneficiaries. The information for the same period were also sought for by the petitioner in respect of individual beneficiary schemes for tree plantation and also under ENREGA HARIALI schemes.

The Joint Director of the office of the Commissionerate of P&RD, Govt. of Assam has made a written submission dated 16-6-2016 stating that most of the informations sought for by the petitioner are field level informations and, therefore, the RTI petition was transferred to the CEOs and Project Directors of all the Zilla Parishads and DRDAs in the State. Most of the Block Offices and G.P Offices have reportedly furnished the sought for information to the petitioner, directly. Some copies of which were enclosed with the written submission.

This Commission observes that the scope of the RTI petition dated 6-5-2014 was vast and omnivorous in nature involving informations held by a large number of public authorities in the field. The RTI Act, 2005 does not envisage that any public authority should devote themselves to collect and compile such huge volume of information as it would disproportionately divert its resources as mentioned under Section 7(ix) of the RTI Act, 2005.

The correct course of action for the SPIO of the Commissionerate of P&RD would have been to provide the information available with the Directorates of Commissionerate within the stipulated period of 30 days and advise the petitioner about the names and addresses of field level public authorities. It was not necessary for the SPIO of the Commissionerate of P&RD to take on themselves the task of transferring the RTI petition to such a large number of field functionaries.

In view of the above, this Commission directs the SPIO of the Commissionerate of P&RD to furnish the information relation to year-wise fund received from the Central Govt. and State Govt. against various schemes along with the names of districts and

development Blocks where they were implemented mentioning the district-wise allocation of fund within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order.

For the remaining field level information the petitioner is directed to file separate applications before the concerned public authorities, if he is still in need of the information.

With the above order, the second appeal petition dated 18-7-2014 is disposed of.

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

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-
Registrar
Assam Information Commission

Memo No.SIC/KP(M) 488/2014/32-A

Dated. 17-6-2016

Copy to:

1. Sri Amarendra Sarma, Assistant Development Commissioner and APIO of the Commissionerate of Panchayat and Rural Development for information and necessary action.
2. Sri Pradip Kalita , Lakhimi Nagar Tiniali, Hatigaon Road, Lond Enclave, P.O- Hatigaon, Guwahati-38 for information and necessary action, as above.
3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
4. Office File.
5. Order Book.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission