



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

Case No. : **KP(R) 19/2014**

Complainant/ appellant : **Sri Vinod Mandal**

Respondent : **Executive Engineer, PHE**

Date of hearing : **28-06-2016**

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

O R D E R

The petitioner Sri Vinod Mandal is present. The public authority is represented by:- (1) Sri Jayanta Kr. Medhi, PIO-cum-Asstt. Executive Engineer, (PHE) Guwahati Division No.-I , and (2) Sri Hitesh Deka, Junior Engineer, PHE, Guwahati Division No.-I, and Sri Devaranjan Das, A.O PHE, Guwahati Division No.-I.

The second appeal petition dated 23-5-2014 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.

From perusal of the case records, it is seen that the petitioner filed an RTI petition dated 6-3-2014 before the SPIO of Public Health Engineering Department, Govt. of Assam.

It is seen from the case records that the PIO –cum- Asstt. Executive Engineer (TC) in the office of the Executive Engineer, (PHE), Guwahati Division No.I informed the petitioner Sri Vinod Mandal vide letter dated 31-3-2014 the cost break-up amounting to Rs. 35,486/- which he had to deposit towards the cost of photo-copying the sought for information. By the same letter the PIO also informed the petitioner that since the cost involved is quite large, he may, therefore, visit the office of the PIO and take notes of the required information and take photo copies of the relevant records on payment , as per RTI norms.

It appears from the case records that the petitioner did not show any interest for inspection of records, which is included as one of the right to information under Section 2(j)(i). Instead, by his first appeal petition dated 8-4-2014 the petitioner wanted a soft copy of the information sought for by him. The PIO submitted that the soft copy of available computerized information was already furnished to the petitioner vide letter dated 5-5-2014..

This Commission observes that the information sought for by the petitioner is quite voluminous covering a long period since the year 2000, which is not in conformity with Section -7(9) of the RTI Act, 2005 , which mentions that “information shall ordinarily be provided in the form in which it is sought unless it would disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority or”

This Commission is of the view that seeking informations running into nearly 18,000 pages is certainly asking for a huge volume of information, which is likely to disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority.

In view of the above, the PIO of PHE , Guwahati Division No.-I is directed to allow the petitioner to inspect the relevant records and documents , if he so desires, during office hours on any working day, within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order and allow him to take notes and photocopies of further information in addition to what has already been provided to him through soft copy, on payment of the required fee as per RTI Rules.

With the above order the second appeal petition dated 25-3-2014 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(R) 19/2014/14-A

Dtd. 28-6-2016

Copy to:

1. Sri Jayanta Kr. Medhi, PIO-cum-Asstt. Executive Engineer, (PHE) Guwahati Division No.-I for information and necessary action, as ordered above..
2. Sri Vinod Mandal,Vill & P.O- Mirza, Kamrup, Assam, PIN-781 125 for information and necessary action.
3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
4. Office File.
5. Order Book.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission