

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

Case No. : KP(M).224/2016
Complainant/ Appellant : Shri Utpal Das
Respondent : WPT&BC Department, Govt. of Assam
Date of hearing : 3.10.2016
Complaint/ Second : Shri H. S. Das, IAS (Rtd)
Appeal heard by : Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

O R D E R

3.10.2016

The petitioner Shri Utpal Das is present. The public authority is represented by the Joint Secretary & SPIO of WPT&BC Department, Govt. of Assam accompanied by Shri Kanak Bhagabati, Sr. AA of the Department. The second appeal petition dated 19.2.15 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.

From perusal of the case records it is seen that by his RTI petition dated 26.8.14 the petitioner sought two informations:-

- (a) The "Titles", meaning surnames which belong to scheduled castes and OBCs and approved by the Govt. officially;
- (b) Who is the appropriate authority to provide scheduled castes certificate.

The SPIO of WPT&BC Department deposed and clarified before this Commission that the scheduled caste or OBC caste status of a person cannot be determined by or from his or her surname. In Assam some surnames are often used by persons belonging to different communities, i.e. general category, SC, ST and OBC, etc.

As regards information with reference to (b) above, this Commission directs the SPIO of WPT&BC Department to inform the petitioner free of cost within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order as to who are the competent authorities to issue SC, ST, OBC & MOBC certificates.

With the above order, the second appeal petition dated 19.2.15 is disposed of.

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

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-
Registrar
Assam Information Commission

- Copy to:
1. The Joint secretary & SPIO of the office of the WPT&BC Department, Govt. of Assam, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for information and necessary action.
 2. Shri Utpal Das, President, Forum of Conscious Citizen, House No. 57, Chatribari, Old Fire Brigade Lane, Guwahati-8 for information.
 3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
 4. Office File.
 5. Order Book.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission