

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

Case No. : KP(M).696/2016

Complainant/ Appellant : Shri Dwaraka Prasad Agarwal : GMDW&SB (Jal Board), Guwahati

Date of hearing : 29.11.2016

Complaint/ Second : Shri H. S. Das, IAS (Rtd)

Appeal heard by Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

ORDER 29.11.2016

The petitioner Shri Dwaraka Prasad Agarwal is represented by his advocate Smti. Aparna Deka. The public authority is represented by:- (1) Shri Nayan Kumar Pathak, Secretary & SPIO of Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water & Sewerage Board (GMDW&SB), and (2) Shri Niroda Kumar Choudhury, Office Coordinator & ASPIO of GMDW&SB. The second appeal petition dated 22.9.16 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.

It is seen from the case records that the petitioner filed an RTI petition dated 3.6.16 before the PIO of Guwahati Jal Board, which is now renamed as Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water & Sewerage Board. The SPIO of the public authority has submitted a written statement dated 24.11.16 stating that the informations sought for by the petitioner was furnished to the petitioner, which was received on his behalf by his son Shri Virendar Agarwal on 24.11.16. The advocate for the petitioner also acknowledged the receipt of the same. However, she submitted that she is not satisfied with the information received with regard to taking over of the past liabilities of Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board by Guwahati Jal Board (GMDW&SB) and the position regarding payment of the pending bills of M/S Assent Chemicals Ltd. (Ghy Div-I) for supply of Ferric Alum to Assam Urban Water supply & Sewerage Board.

The PIO of GMDW&SB, who was present during today's hearing clarified that the area of operation of Assam Urban Water supply and Sewerage Board is in the entire state of Assam. Zoo Road Water supply Scheme in Guwahati was one of the water supply Schemes that was operated by the Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board. The Zoo Road Water supply Scheme was transferred by Assam Urban Water Supply & Sewerage Board to the erstwhile Guwahati Jal Board with effect from 10.2.2015. As already mentioned Guwahati Jal Board has since been renamed as Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water & Sewerage Board. After transfer they are making payment against the current bills of their sundry vendors. The liability of making payments against bills arising out of

material supplies and other liabilities before the date of transfer i.e.10.2.2015 have not been taken over by them. Liabilities prior to 10.2.2015 on account of Zoo Road Water Supply scheme has to be discharged by Assam Urban Water supply & Sewerage Board.

In view of the above, this Commission directs the SPIO of the Assam Urban Water supply & Sewerage Board to furnish the required informations to the petitioner in respect of point no. 3 & 4 of his RTI petition dated 3.6.16 within 30 days of receipt of this order.

With the above order the second appeal petition dated 22.9.2016 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).696/2016/19-A

Dtd. 29.11.2016

Copy to:

- 1. The Secretary & SPIO of the office of the Guwahati Metropolitan Drinking Water & Sewerage Board, 2nd Floor, Saikia Commercial Complex, Christian Basti, G.S. Road, Guwahati-5 for information.
- 2. Shri Dwaraka Prasad Agarwal, 1/C Royal Silver Tower, Lachitnagar, Guwhati-7 for information.
- 3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 4. Office File.
- 5. Order Book.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission