

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

Case No. : KP(M).649/2016
Complainant/ Appellant : Shri Okram Prasanta Singha
Respondent : Manipuri Development Council & Director, WPT&BC,
Assam
Date of hearing : 8.12.2016
Complaint/ Second : Shri H. S. Das, IAS (Rtd)
Appeal heard by : Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

O R D E R
8.12.2016

The petitioner Shri Okram Prasanta Singha is represented by Shri Diganta Bharali as authorized by a letter dated 3.12.16. The public authority is represented by Shri Gobin Ch. Mili, Joint Director & SPIO of the Directorate of WPT&BC Department, Assam accompanied by Shri Mohan Hazarikka, Sr. Assistant of the Directorate of WPT&BC. The second appeal petition dated 29.8.16 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.

The Chairman, Manipuri Dev. Council (MDC) has sent a written statement dated 6.12.16 stating that as he is undergoing medical treatment in New Delhi, he was unable to attend today's hearing before this Commission. He also mentioned in his WS that MDC has no office staff and therefore he could not depute anyone else to this Commission today and that he will report to this Commission once he is medically fit. With the WS he has also enclosed a copy of his letter dated 15.11.16 addressed to the petitioner enclosing some informations in response to RTI petition dated 19.10.15.

From the records it appears that the RTI petition dated 19.10.15 relates to implementation of schemes by MDC during the financial year 2011-12. The RTI petition was therefore transferred by the Deputy Secretary and SPIO of the WPT&BC Department to the Member Secretary, MDC and the Director of the WPT&BC Department vide letter dated 18.11.15.

The Joint Director & SPIO of the Directorate of WPT&BC has also submitted a separate written statement dated 28.11.16 stating the actions taken by the Directorate on the RTI petition.

The authorized representative of the petitioner acknowledged that he received the information running into 75 typed pages enclosed with the letter dated 15.11.16 furnished by the Chairman, MDC, Assam. The Jt. Director and SPIO of WPT&BC Directorate deposed that the MDC does not have any staff of their own and its activities are run solely by the Chairman.

The petitioner deposed that the information received by him so far is incomplete. On the other hand, the Chairman of the MDC, who is the sole executive functionary of

the Council is in Delhi and undergoing medical treatment. However, the fact remains that the activities undertaken by the MDC are out of grants sanctioned by the State Government through the Directorate of BPT&BC. In other words the funds utilized by the MDC are public money and citizens have right to know about their utilization. This Commission, therefore, directs the Director of WPT&BC Department to seek and obtain detailed utilization report from the Chairman of MDC against all the funds released to the Council so far, covering the informations sought for by the petitioner, within 60 days after he is declared physically fit by the competent medical authority, and furnish the remaining informations to the petitioner within 30 days thereafter.

The petitioner will be at liberty to approach this Commission again if he has any grievance about the information received, even after inspection of the records as ordered above.

With the above order, the second appeal petition dated 29.8.16 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).649/2016/125-A

Dtd. 8.12.2016

Copy to:

1. The Chairman, Manipuri Development Council, Office of the Director, WPT&BC, Govt. of Assam, Rukmininagar, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for information and necessary action.
2. The Director WPT&BC, Rukmininagar, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for information and necessary action.
3. Shri Okram Prasanta Singha, 2nd Floor, House No. 14 A, Byelance-4 Rajgarh, Guwahati-3 for information.
4. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
5. Office File.
6. Order Book.

Registrar
Assam Information Commission