

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

Case No. : SIC/KMJ.32/2017 Appellant : Shri Biplob Dhar

Respondent : The SPIO, O/o the Secretary, Longaighat Gaon Panchayat,

Karimganj

Date of hearing : 08.08.2017

Second Appeal heard by : Shri Pinuel Basumatary,

State Information Commissioner, Assam

ORDER 08.08.2017

None of the parties present. However, the Appellant has e-mailed an apology on personal ground.

The SPIO has not submitted any Written Statement and also has not explained as to why penalty U/S 20 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005 should not be imposed on him for his failure to furnish the information within the time stipulated.

Perused the case record. It is seen that the Appellant had filed his Second Appeal dated 01.07.2017 being aggrieved at not being furnished with the copies of the records he had sought for. He was also not happy on being asked by the Secretary of the concerned GP to visit the office to inspect records and check the NREGS website for information. It is seen that information sought for by the Appellant pertained to various schemes for the years 2013-2016 was likely to be voluminous. In his response, the Secretary of the concerned GP had stated that he was always ready to furnish all information inspite of his workload and lack of staff in his office. Therefore, the Commission is of the view that the said Secretary's request to the Appellant to visit his office and inspect records and the official website was in accordance with the RTI Act, 2005. However, in his Appeal, the Appellant insisted on being provided with photocopies of the documents related to the information he had sought for.

After a careful consideration of the facts of the case as also the documents submitted by the Appellant in his Second Appeal, the Commission hereby orders that the SPIO/Secretary, Longaighat GP shall allow the Appellant to inspect the records in his office and to take notes etc. during office hours by fixing a date and communicating the same to the Appellant within 10 days of receipt of this order. The Appellant shall indicate the documents whose copies he would require and the Secretary shall provide upto 50 copies, free of cost and the rest at the cost of the Appellant.

The Second Appeal is hereby disposed of. However, the Appellant shall be at liberty to move this Commission, if he is aggrieved with the response of the SPIO.

Sd/-Pinuel Basumatary State Information Commissioner, Assam Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy

Sd/-Joint Registrar Assam State Information Commission

Copy to:

- 1. The SPIO, O/o the Secretary, Longaighat Gaon Panchayat, PO- Ambarkhana, PS & Dist-Karimganj, Assam, Pin- 788 710 for information and necessary action.
- 2. The First Appellate Authority/Block Dev. Officer, South Karimganj Dev. Block, Po-Kaliganj, Dist-Karimganj, Assam, Pin- 788 710 for information.
- 3. The Appellant, Shri Biplob Dhar, Vill- Kamamadhu, PO- Kamamadhu, PS & Dist-Karimganj, Assam for information.
- 4. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 5. Office File.

Joint Registrar Assam State Information Commission