

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

Case No. : JRT.31/2017
Complainant : Shri Raktim Ranjan Saikia
Respondent : Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division
Date of hearing : 07.9.2017
Complaint/ Second : Smti. N.A. Hazarika, IAS (Retd)
Appeal heard by : State Information Commissioner, Assam

O R D E R

07.9.2017

The petitioner Shri Raktim Ranjan Saikia has informed vide letter dated 7.9.17 that he will not be able to attend the hearing today due to illness. He stated that after receipt of notice for the hearing, the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division, Shri Kalyan Baruah contacted him over telephone and furnished some documents sought for by him, but some documents were irrelevant. He also stated that he was not furnished with the NIT along with names of officers, who had supervised the scheme. He further stated that during the hearing on 29.5.17, he informed the first appellate authority that he is bound to pay Rs. 2.00 per photocopy of the documents. Even after that the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division did not furnish the documents sought for by him.

The public authority is represented by:- (1) Shri Atul Ch. Das, Junior Engineer of the office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division and (2) Shri Arup Bhagabati, Junior Engineer of the said office, who have been authorized by the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division to attend the hearing today. The Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division vide letter dated 5.9.17 has submitted details of action taken on the RTI petition submitted by Shri Raktim Ranjan Saika. The public authority present stated that the petitioner had received some documents on 4.9.17. All other documents sought for vide his RTI petition dated 27.3.17 had been furnished to him vide letter dated 17.4.17, 31.5.17 and 4.9.17. He stated that the copy of the estimates sought for by the petitioner could not be provided as it was voluminous. Vide letter dated 17.4.17 the petitioner was requested to attend the office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division and inspect the documents and obtain copies of the same at his cost. The petitioner instead of attending the office filed the first appeal petition on 2.5.17 and after hearing of the first appeal the petitioner was furnished documents as stated above. The petitioner personally collected the documents on 4.9.17 after filing the second appeal petition and he was requested to inspect the estimates, which were voluminous, but he did not take any action in this regard. All other documents except the estimates were furnished to the petitioner.

On perusal of the RTI petition dated 27.3.17 it appears that informations sought for by the petitioner on seven points were furnished to him on the dates mentioned above except the copy of the estimates.

The Commission observes that the informations sought for by the petitioner vide his RTI petition dated 27.3.17 involves a huge volume of informations relating to informations for several years from 2007 to 2017 and furnishing of estimates by making photocopies will require substantial expenditure, which will definitely lead to a huge burden on the resources of the concerned public authority. The Commission, therefore, directs the petitioner to inspect the relevant estimates in the office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division, Jorhat within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order and complete inspection of documents during office hours within two working days. The petitioner will give at least two days' notice to the public authority for inspection of documents.

The Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division, Jorhat is also directed to allow the petitioner to inspect the relevant documents as above and allow him to take notes and photocopies of the sought for documents free of cost up to 50 copies and thereafter on payment of Rs. 2.00 for every additional page of photocopy.

With the above direction, the second appeal petition dated 16.7.17 is disposed of.

(N.A. Hazarika)
State Information Commissioner, Assam
Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy.

Registrar i/c
Assam Information Commission

Memo No. SIC/ JRT.31/2017/

Dtd. 07.9.2017

Copy to:

1. The Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Jorhat Division, Jorhat for information and necessary action.
2. The Addl. Chief Engineer & First Appellate Authority, Zone-III, Irrigation, Assam, Jorhat-1 for information and necessary action.
- 3.. Shri Raktim Ranjan Saikia, Vill- Nauboisha Gaon, Dishoi Nagar, Jorhat- 785015 for information.
4. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
5. Office File.
6. Order Book.

Registrar i/c
Assam Information Commission