



ASSAM INFORMATION COMMISSION

JONAKEE COMPLEX, SHILPGRAM ROAD, PANJABARI, GUWAHATI- 781037

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Case No. Complainant/ Appellant Respondent	:	KP(M).750/2017 Sri Hara Kanta Bora CDPO, Guwahati (Urban) ICDS Project,
Date of Hearing	:	07-9-2017
Complaint/ Second appeal heard by	:	Shri H. S. Das, IAS (Retd) State Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

<u>O R D E R</u> 07-9-2017

- The appellant/petitioner Sri Hara Kanta Bora is present. The public authority is represented by :- Smti Gulshan A. Zanat, CDPO, Guwahati (Urban), Social Welfare Department, (2) Smti Jayashree Hazarika, Supervisor, Guwhati (Urban) ICDS, (3) Smti Sangita Talukdar, Supervisor of the same Office, and (4) Smti Binita Das, of the same office.
- 2. The second appeal petition dated 8-6-2017 is taken up for hearing in presence of both the parties.
- From perusal of the case records, it is seen that the petitioner filed an RTI petition dated 26-9-2017 before the CDPO, Guwahati (Urban) ICDS Project, Beltola, Guwahati seeking informations about AWCMC (Center No. 257), Lokobandhu Nagar, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19 against 11 different points.
- It is also seen from the case records that the CDPO had furnished some set of informations to the petitioner vide letter dated 27th March, 2017, which was received by the petitioner under his signature on 6-6-2017.
- 5. However the petitioner was not satisfied with the informations furnished to him. Today he submitted a list of the incomplete and incorrect informations furnished by the CDPO, point-wise in response to his RTI petition dated 26-9-2016. The list is entered into the case records.
- 6. The CDPO submitted orally that there are 147 AWCMC under her jurisdiction and she has 10 Supervisors who supervises the functioning of the Anganwadi Centers. There is one Anganwadi Worker and one Anganwadi Helper against each AWC. There are voluntary workers who get remuneration @ Rs. 2000/- per month respectively. There is no regular sanctioned posts for them. There is also one Management Committee in each AWC. The Management Committee is headed by a President and 15 Members. The AWC Worker functions as the Secretary of the Management Committee. The CDPO submitted that she does not have any financial power. Funds are released by the District Social Welfare Officer to the AWC centers after it is sanctioned by the Deputy Commissioner. At the AWC level, the funds are

operated jointly by the President of the AWC and AWC Worker who is Ec-officio Secretary of the Management Committee. All records relating to the functioning of the AWC are maintained by the Secretary of the AWC.

- 7. In the instant case it is seen that the petitioner Sri Hara Kanta Bora submitted an RTI petition on 26-9-2016. On 6-10-2016 the worker and Secretary of the Lokobandhu Nagar AWC No-257 submitted an FIR before the O.C, Bhagadattapur Police Outpost reporting that in the night of 30-9-2016 some miscreants broke open the premises of the AWC and stole 13 books containing records of the AWC. The petitioner pointed out a very unusual coincidence regarding stealing of the records of the AWC 4 days after filing of his RTI petition. Therefore, he suspects foul play.
- The petitioner also pointed out that in the FIR itself while reportin the theft of records, the Secretary of the AWC requested the Incharge of Bhagadattapur Police Outpost not to register any case.
- 9. In view of the above, this Commission passes the following orders :-
 - (i) The CDPO of Guwahati Urban ICDS project is directed to allow the petitioner to inspect the records available in her office during office hours on any working day within 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this order which was pronounced in presence of both the parties. The petitioner is also directed to give at least 2 (two) days advance notice before his date of inspection of records. The petitioner will be allowed to take notes and also photocopies of relevant records free of cost up to 10 (ten) pages and thereafter on payment of Rs. 2/against every additional page of photocopy.

The CDPO has mentioned that she herself has not got her salary for the last 19 months. This Commission notes, as mentioned in the Preamble of the RTI Act, 2005 it has to be a practical regime and demand for informations should not divert the resources of the public authority. In this case, the public authority does not seem to have any resources at her disposal to meet the cost of furnishing of photocopies of informations from her own expenses. *Copy of this order be marked to the Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, to examine and redress the problem of non-availability of office expenses of the ICDS projects in the State.*

(ii) The CDPO of Guwahati (Urban) ICDS project is directed to file an FIR with the concerned Police Station with reference to Section-9 of the Assam Public Records Act, 2002 which provides for imprisonment up to 5 years or with fine of Rs. 10,000 or with both for contravention of any proviso of Section-4 and Section -8 of the Act.

(iii) The FIR dated 6-10-2016 filed by Smti Dipali Kakati, Secretary and Worker of the Lokobandhu Nagar AWC seems to be contradictory in that on the one hand she has reported of cognizable offence to the Bhagadattapur Police Outpost I/C and in the same FIR not to register a case which appears intreating. The CDPO of Guwahati (Urban) ICDS project is therefore, directed to initiate appropriate actions against the Secretary/ Worker of the AWC as per procedure.

With the above order the second appeal petition dated 8-6-2017 is

(H. S. Das) State Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

Authenticated true copy

Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No SIC/ KP(M).750 /2017

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Dated 07-9-2017

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disposed of.

- 1) Principal Secretary, Social Welfare Department, Dispur, Guwahati-6 for kind information and necessary action.
- 2) Smti Gulshan A. Zanat, CDPO, Guwahati (Urban), Social Welfare Department , Uzanbazar, Guwahati-781 001 for information and necessary action.
- 3) Sri Hara Kanta Bora, ouse No.-147, Lokabandhu Nagar, Kahilipara, Guwahati-19 for information and necessary action as ordered above.
- 4) Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
- 5) Office file.
- 6) Order Book.

Registrar Assam Information Commission.