

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

Case No. : NGN.137/2017
Complainant : Shri Durgeswar Das
Respondent : SPIO, Dolongghat Development Block, Nagaon
Date of hearing : 25.10.2017
Complaint/ Second : Smti. N.A. Hazarika, IAS (Retd)
Appeal heard by : State Information Commissioner, Assam

O R D E R

25.10.2017

The petitioner Shri Durgeswar Das is present. The BDO, Dolongghat Development Block has authorized Shri Gopinath Saikia, Sr. Asstt. (Accounts) to attend the hearing. The BDO/SPIO is directed to appear in person in future or depute the SPIO of the Block.

The BDO, Dolongghat has submitted a written statement dated 25.9.17 that he had informed the petitioner to visit his office and collect the information after depositing photocopy charges of Rs. 2.00 per page. He also stated that the information relating to 14th Finance Commission were available with the office of the Gaon Panchayat (GP) Secretaries and the petitioner was informed of the same vide letter dated 10.6.16.

The petitioner present stated that he had received the letter informing him to collect the information from the office of the BDO, Dolongghat. He visited the office about 4-5 times but the BDO was not available. He also stated that he had received the letter informing him to collect the information on matter relating to 14th Finance Commission from the Gaon Panchayat Secretaries but he did not approach the GP Secretaries as the RTI application was not transferred to the GP Secretaries as per provision of the RTI Act, 2005.

The Commission therefore, directs the BDO, Dolongghat to transfer the RTI petition to the GP Secretaries as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 for providing information to the petitioner. The Commission observes that the information sought for by the petitioner vide his RTI petition dated 2.5.17 involves a huge volume of information relating to several years from 2014-15 to 2016-17. Furnishing of complete information by making photocopies will require compilation of information and substantial cost in making photocopies.

The Commission therefore directs the petitioner to inspect the relevant records and documents in the office of the BDO, Dolongghat and the GP Secretaries within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order and complete inspection of documents during office hours. The petitioner will give at least two days' prior notice to the public authority for inspection of documents. The BDO, Dolongghat and the GP Secretaries are 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

upto 20 copies and thereafter on payment of Rs. 2.00 for every additional page of photocopy.

The first appellate authority i.e. BDO Dolongghat Development is also directed to hear both the parties and dispose the appeal petition by a speaking order within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.

With the above direction the second appeal petition dated 28.7.17 is disposed of.

Sd/-

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

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-

Joint Registrar
Assam Information Commission

Memo No. SIC/ NGN 137/2017/

Dtd. 25.10.2016

Copy to:

1. The Block Development Officer, Dolongghat Development Block, PO- Dolongghat, Dist. Nagaon, Assam, PIN-782142 for information and necessary action.
2. The SPIO of the office of the Block Development Officer, Dolongghat Development Block , PO- Dolongghat, Dist. Nagaon, Assam, PIN- 782142 for information and necessary action.
3. All Secretaries of Gaon Panchayats under the Ddologghat Development Block for information and necessary action.
4. Shri Durgeswar Das, R/O Christian Patty, PO- Nagaon, Disit- Nagaon, Assam, PIN- 782 001 for information.
5. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
6. Office File.
7. Order Book.

Joint Registrar
Assam Information Commission