

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

Case No.	: SIC/GLP.44/2016 & SIC/GLP.45/2016
Appellants	: Shri Joynal Abedin and Shri Khurshid Alom.
Respondent	: The SPIO, office of the Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad, Goalpara.
Date of hearing	: 21.11.2016
Second Appeal heard by	: Smt. Nilufer Alam Hazarika, IAS (Retd.) State Information Commissioner, Assam

ORDER 21.11.2016

The Petitioner Sri Joynal Abedin is present.

Sri Ram Prasad Saikia, APO i/c, Goalpara Zilla Parishad authorized by the Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad is also present.

The Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad has submitted a Written Statement dated 19.11.2016 that vide order dated 12.07.2016 he had directed the SPIO, Goalpara Zilla Parishad, Goalpara to furnish the information within next 15 days and also directed him to be present for hearing on 21.07.2016. He was also directed to keep the documents ready for handing over to the appellant free of cost. On receipt of notice from the Commission dated 26.10.2016, the SPIO was again directed to provide the information to the petitioner and the SPIO had already communicated the same to the petitioner. Hence the appeal petition may be disposed of.

The SPIO, Zilla Parishad, Goalpara vide letter dated 19.11.2016 stated that the RTI petition was received on 16.12.2015 and due to non-receipt of information he filed his first Appeal on 16.06.2016. As per direction of the first Appellate Authority on 12.07.2016 where both the parties were present, he had kept the documents ready for handing over on 27.07.2016, but the appellant did not receive the same. The petitioner was informed vide letter dated 12.08.2016 to receive the documents and visit the office of the Zilla Parishad, Goalpara for verification of records, but the petitioner did not attend. In the meantime he filed the second Appeal petition dtd. 26.08.2016. Considering the facts stated above, he requested to exhonerate him and exempt him from imposition of penalty. The SPIO present also stated that the information sought for was voluminous in nature and would involve huge expenditure. In the meantime he had already furnished about 500 pages of documents, free of cost.

On perusal of the RTI petition dated 08.12.2015, it is seen that information sought for by the petitioner is voluminous in nature. Furnishing of complete information by making photocopy will require compilation of information and substantial cost in making photocopies which will disproportionately divert the resources of the Public Authority.

The Commission, therefore, directs the petitioner to inspect the relevant office records and documents in the office of the Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad, Goalpara within 15 days from the date of receipt of this order with prior intimation to the Public Authority and complete the inspection of documents during office hours within two working days.

The Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad is also directed to allow the petitioner to inspect the relevant records and documents as above and allow him to take notes and photocopies of sought for documents, free of cost, upto 20 copies and thereafter on payment of Rs. 2/- for every additional page of photocopy.

Sri Ram Prasad Saikia, APO i/c, Goalpara Zilla Parishad stated that Case No.SIC/GLP. 45/2016 fixed for hearing today is on the same subject filed by another petitioner. The said case record is put up for hearing. The Petitioner of the aforesaid case Shri Khurshid Alom is also present. On perusal of the RTI petition, it is seen that the information sought for by Sri Khurshid Alom, is similar to the information sought for by the petitioner, Shri Joynal Abedin. As such the order passed in case No. SIC/GLP.44/2016 will also be operative in case No. SIC/GLP.45/2016.

With the above direction, the Second Appeal Petitions dated 26.08.2016 & 26.08.2016 in Case No. SIC/GLP.44/2016 and SIC/GLP.45/2016 respectively are disposed of.

Sd/-Nilufer Alam Hazarika, IAS (Retd.) State Information Commissioner, Assam Panjabari, Guwahati

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission

Memo No. SIC/ GLP.44/2016 & SIC/GLP.45/2016

Dtd. 21.11.2016

Copy to:

1. The SPIO, office of the Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad, Goalpara, Pin – 783 121, Assam for information and necessary action.

2. The First Appellate Authority/Chief Executive Officer, Goalpara Zilla Parishad, Goalpara, Pin – 783 121, Assam for information.

3. Sri Joynal Abedin, S/o Mohir Uddin, Vill. – Chatamari, P.O. – Baguan, District-Goalpara, Assam, Pin – 783 129 for information.

4. Shri Khurshid Alom, S/o Late Amzad Ali, Vill. – Chatamari, P.O. –Baguan, District-Goalpara, Assam, Pin – 783129 for information.

5. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.

6. Office File.

Deputy Registrar Assam Information Commission