

**OFFICE OF THE  
ASSAM INFORMATION COMMISSION****JONAKKEE COMPLEX, SHILPGRAM ROAD, PANJABARI, GUWAHATI- 781037**Phone : (0361) 2332704, 2337900, 2331193 :: Fax : 2332704 :: email : secretary.sicassam@gmail.com

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**Case No.** : SIC/OS. 3/2022  
**Complainant/ Appellant** : Prof. Sarangadhar Baral  
**Respondent** : SPIO, Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,  
Higher Education Department, Dispur  
**Date of Hearing** : 25/02/2022  
**Complaint/ Second** : Dr. A.P.Rout,  
**Appeal heard by** State Chief Information Commissioner, Assam

**O R D E R**  
**25/02/2022**

1. The petitioner has filed one RTI petition before the SPIO, Principal Secretary Higher Education Department, Dispur on 10.12.2021 seeking some information relating to his GPF Account. The petitioner has attached enclosures with the petition, the same was received at the Office of SPIO on 21.12.2021.
2. However the SPIO Sri Kumud Chandra Das, ACS has verbally stated before the Commission that the application was received without any enclosures. The veracity of his statement on enclosures being attached or not is not possible to confirm at this stage.
3. However on non receipt of any information, the petitioner filed a complaint petition u/s 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 before the Commission on 12.1.2022 and accordingly the hearing was taken up today.
4. The petitioner Prof. Sarangadhar Baral is available through video conferencing and insisted that the information relates to his past service and under the Right to livelihood, and he has enclosed all the documents.
5. But the SPIO said that due to non receipt of the enclosures he has communicated to the petitioner through ordinary post vide letter no AHE 268/2018/27 dated 12.1.2022.

The Commission feels that the letter could have been sent through email for speedy action.

6. However, the Commission also observes that when the notice was issued to the SPIO vide letter no. SIC/OS.3/2020/9 dated 10.2.2022 all the enclosures are given to the SPIO but unfortunately SPIO said that he has not received the notice but messenger who has delivered the letter has produced a receipt of delivery of the letter. Copy of the same is given to the SPIO Sri Kumud Chandra Das, Under Secretary, Department of Higher Education, Dispur.
7. From this, it appears that the concerned branch of the department is not maintaining records properly and therefore Commission orders that the SPIO should personally conduct an enquiry on non receipt of letter and not putting up to him and appear before the Commission on Wednesday i.e., 2.3.2022.
8. The Commission has decided to hear the matter again.
9. However the SPIO is directed to collect the copy of the notice dated 10.2.2022 along with all enclosures and also furnish reply on the action taken of the RTI petition.
10. During the hearing, the Commission has also observed the casual behavior of SPIO as he has come unprepared to give reply to the RTI petition.
11. **Fix 2.3.2022 at 12:30 PM as the next date of hearing.**

Sd/-  
(Dr. A.P. Rout)

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-  
Secretary & Registrar  
Assam Information Commission

**Memo No. SIC/OS 3/2022**

**Dtd. 25.2.2022**

Copy to:

1. The SPIO, the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Education (Higher) Department, Dispur, Guwahati 06 for information and necessary action as ordered above. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
2. The petitioner Prof Sarangadhar Baral, Department of English, Mizoram University, Aizawl, Mizoram 796004 over email for information. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing through video conferencing.
3. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
4. Office File.
5. Order Book.

Secretary & Registrar  
Assam Information Commission