

Case No. : SIC/KPM 454/2022  
Complainant/ Appellant : Shri Joydeb Das  
Respondent : The SPIO, Directorate of Agriculture,  
Khanapara, Guwahati 22, Assam  
Date of Hearing : 1/10/2022  
Complaint/ Second : Dr. A.P.Rout,  
Appeal heard by : State Chief Information Commissioner,  
Assam

**O R D E R**  
**11/11/2022**

1. The petitioner Shri Joydeb Das has filed one RTI petition before the PIO, Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara, Guwahati 22 on 10.8.2022 seeking following information:

1. Please furnish beneficiaries APRs list either soft copy or hard copy (duly signed) of Hybrid Paddy Seeds variety US-382 which was allotted to District Agriculture Officers, (i) Golaghat (ii) Sivasagar (iii) Karimganj (iv) Hailakandi (v) Cachar (vi) Tinsukia (vii) Majuli (viii) Lakhimpur (ix) Dhemaji (x) Jorhat (xi) Nagaon (xii) Morigaon (xiii) Dibrugarh (xiv) Bongaigaon (xv) Kamrup (xvi) Nalbari (xvii) Goalpara and (xviii) Dhubri by Director of Agriculture vide indent No. Agri/RKVY/24/GR/2016-17/121 Dated 1.12.2016 for "Enhancement of Rice Production" under RKVY 2016-17.
2. In response to the RTI petition, the SPIO of Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara has sent a reply to the petitioner on 11.8.2022 wherein he has requested the petitioner to submit separate application to each of the offices as because the information sought for is scattered with more than one Public Authorities.
3. The petitioner then sent a letter to the Director of Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara on 16.8.2022 wherein he has mentioned one Delhi High Court Order Rakesh Kumar Gupta Vs Central Information Commission W.P. (C) 900/2021 which *quotes* PIO/CPIO cannot function merely as "post offices" but instead are responsible to ensure that the information sought under the RTI Act is provided; *Unquote*.

The petitioner in his application also requested the Director to direct the SPIO/Deemed PIO to furnish the sought information as early as possible.

4. The petitioner then filed a complaint petition u/s 18(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 before the Commission on 12.9.2022 and accordingly the matter was taken up for hearing.
5. The petitioner Shri Joydeb Das is present.
6. The Public Authority is represented by Shri Bijoy Chandra Sarma, SPIO, Directorate of Agriculture.
7. The SPIO submitted a written statement dated 1.10.2022 wherein the SPIO has mentioned that the sought for information is available with different District Agriculture Offices of Assam except the application no. 4 which was concerned with the District Agriculture Office, Kamrup only and as such the application was transferred to the District Agriculture Office, Kamrup and accordingly, the applicant obtained the sought for information.

On the other hand, the information of the other five applications were scattered with one more than one District Agriculture Offices of Assam and therefore he has advised the appellant to make separate applications to the concerned Public Authorities for obtaining the sought for information from them.

8. In light of the above, the Commission has decided to hear the matter again and directs the SPIO, Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara and Deemed PIOs of District Agriculture Offices to appear on the next date of hearing with all the necessary documents.
9. **The petitioner has submitted a written statement dated 21.9.2022 which is taken into records. On the basis of the written statement, the Commission directs the Deemed PIOs of District Agriculture Office of Lakhimpur, Tinsukia, Goalpara, Bongaigaon and Kamrup districts to appear on the next date of hearing with all the connected documents.(especially APRs).**

Further the Commission also directs the Deemed PIOs of District Agriculture Office of (i) Golaqhat (ii) Sivasagar (iii) Karimgani (iv) Hailakandi (v) Cachar (vi) Majuli (vii) Dhemaji (x) Jorhat (xi) Nagaon (xii) Morigaon (xiii) Dibrugarh (xiv) Nalbari and (xv) Dhubri to furnish the remaining information to the petitioner.

10. Fix 22.12.2022 at 11:30 AM as the next date of hearing.

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

Authenticated true copy.

Sd/-  
Registrar  
Assam Information Commission

Copy to:

1. The SPIO, Directorate of Agriculture, Khanapara, Guwahati 22 for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
2. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Lakhimpur, Assam for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
3. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Tinsukia, Assam for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
4. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Goalpara, Assam for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
5. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Bongaigaon, Assam for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
6. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Kamrup, Assam for information and necessary action. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
7. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Golaghat, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
8. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Sivasagar, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
9. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Karimganj, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
10. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Hailakandi, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
11. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Cachar, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
12. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Majuli, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
13. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Dhemaji, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
14. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Jorhat, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
15. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Nagaon, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
16. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Morigaon, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
17. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Dibrugarh, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
18. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Nalbari, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
19. The Deemed PIO, District Agriculture Office, Dhubri, Assam for information and necessary action as ordered above.
20. The petitioner Sri Joydeb Das, S/o Lt. Karunamoy Das, H.No.16, Fatashil Ambari, Kushal Konwar Road, Near Mayur Krishna Cinema Hall, Guwahati 25 for information. He is to remain present on the next date of hearing.
21. Computer Section for uploading in the Website.
22. Office File.
23. Order Book.

Registrar  
Assam Information Commission