



J&K State Information Commission

(Constituted under Right to Information Act 2009)

Old Assembly Complex, Srinagar, Fax No. 0194-2484269, 2484262

Wazarat Road Near DC Office, Jammu, Fax No. 0191-2520947, 2520937

www.jksic.nic.in

File No: SIC/J/C/58/2013

Decision No: SIC/J/C/58/2013/318

Sh. Chander Kant	Complainant	Absent
Block Development Officer, Bhalessa, (Gandoh) Doda.	PIO	Absent

Jammu
15-10-2013

Briefly the facts in this complaint are that Sh. Chander Kant S/o Ram Krishan, R/o Pora Balla, Panchayat Halqa Pora Paine, Tehsil Bhalessa Gandoh, District Doda moved an application dated 06-11-2012 under J&K RTI Act, 2009 before the PIO/ Block Development Officer, Bhalessa Gandoh, District Doda seeking certain information.

The PIO/BDO Bhalessa advised the information seeker to contact the office on 05-12-2012. The information seeker approached the office of the BDO, Bhalessa but no information was provided to him. However, he received a letter on 17-12-2012 bearing No:BB/1821-22 dated 27-11-2012 through post whereunder he was directed to deposit the sum of Rs. 1, 26, 840/- as Photostat charges. The complainant has alleged that in the said letter neither rates nor quantity of pages were mentioned and the demand for cost of information was thus meant to suppress his voice. In his complaint before the Commission he has alleged that he submitted the copy of BPL ration card in the office of BDO but received a letter bearing No:BB/2231dated 28-01-2013 whereunder the BDO

without conducting any verification refused to treat him under BPL category and directed him to deposit the photostat charges.

Perusal of the documents available on record show that the complainant belongs to BPL category and is entitled to seek information free of cost as a matter of right under the provisions of RTI Act, 2009. The BDO Bhalessa should not have demanded the cost of information from the complainant as he belongs to BPL category. However, the information sought by the information seeker is voluminous in nature and will disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority and as such in the given circumstances, BDO Bhalessa is hereby directed to allow the information seeker an opportunity to access the record in his office on any working day. The parties can settle date and time for inspection of record which may be mutually convenient to both of them. The BDO Bhalessa is further directed to furnish the photostat copies of the relevant documents to the information seeker free of cost if any required by him under intimation to the Commission.

The complaint is accordingly disposed of.

Notice of this decision be given free of cost to the parties.

Sd/-
Dr. S.K. Sharma
State Information Commissioner

Copy to:-

4. Public Information Officer /Block Development Officer, Gandoh Bhalessa.
5. Sh. Chander Kant S/o Ram Krishan, R/o Pora Balla, Panchayat Halqa Pora Paine, Tehsil Bhalessa Gandoh, District Doda.

(Satish Thaploo)
Asstt. Registrar
State Information Commission