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**Government of India  
Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati  
Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati  
Guwahati**

Dated: 22/08/2019

To

Shri TS MANIKANDAMAHARAJ  
20/16 a, krishnappan st,  
east pondy road,  
villupuram  
605602

**Registration Number : IITGW/R/2019/50111**

Dear Sir/Madam

I am to refer to your Request for Information under RTI Act 2005, received vide letter dated 19/07/2019 and to say that *Reply to your RTI application is enclosed herewith as Uploaded Reply Document..*

In case, you want to go for an appeal in connection with the information provided, you may appeal to the Appellate Authority indicated below within **thirty days** from the date of receipt of this letter.

**Dr. Suresh S.M.**

FAA & Registrar

Address: Indian Institute of Technology GuwahatiGuwahati

Phone No.: 0361-2690761

**Yours faithfully**


**( Dilip Boro)  
CPIO & Joint Registrar  
Phone No.: 0361-2582985  
Email : pio@iitg.ac.in**

Desired information against the RTI application of Mr. Manikandamaharaj (Reg. No. **IITGW/R/2019/50105 & IITGW/R/2019/50111**) is as follows:

1. The complaints lodge in PM Office against Dr. Lalit Mohan Pandey was not routed through Faculty Affairs Section.
2. The details of the PMO complaints lodged by Mr. Ajeet Singh & Mr. Simon Dhara (received from MHRD through Registrar's Office) attached herewith as **ANNEXURE-A (04 pages)**.

In response to complaints submitted by Mr. Sunayan Deka thorough CPGRAMS online portal reply was given vide Ref. AD/36/CPGRAMS/2014/Vol.III/1999 dtd. 17.09.2018 and vide Ref. AD/396/CPGRAMS/2014/Vol.III/2463 dtd. 20.11.2018.

3. No complaint lodged in Internal Complaints Committee against Dr. Lalit Mohan Pandey.
4. Copy attached as **ANNEXURE-A and ANNEXURE-B (01 page)**.
5. Same as reply to query no.2.
6. Same as reply to query no.2.
7. Copy attached as **ANNEXURE-B**.
8. The details of the step taken to resolve the issues attached herewith as **ANNEXURE-C (01 page)**.
9. The list of PhD student from 2015-2019 doing in his lab are given in **ANNEXURE-D (01 page)** attached herewith. As per Departmental policy, fellowship for a M.Tech/PhD student was stopped for unsatisfactory performance and/or unauthorized absence from his/her laboratory.

  
PIO  
IIT Guwahati  
Guwahati-39

22 AUG 2019

MHRD complain - T J

(2) 2 (4)

ANNEXURE - A

Subject: Regarding threatenment  
From: "Ajeet singh" <ajeet.singh@iitg.ac.in>  
Date: Thu February 2, 2017 8:23 pm  
To: minister.hrd@gov.in (less)  
pstolm@nic.in  
Cc: connect@mygov.in (less)  
Bhaskar.khulbe@gov.in  
Bcc: narendramodhi234@gmail.com  
Priority: Normal  
Options: [View Full Header](#) [View Printable Version](#)

Respected sir,

I, Ajeet Singh PhD student from BSBE IIT Guwahati is writing this mail in regards of complaint against my supervisor Dr. Lalit M Pandey, Assistant Professor. I have pursued my M.Tech from IIT Kharagpur and joined IIT Guwahati with great enthusiasm in biotechnology field after qualifying numerous fellowship exams such as GATE, CSIR-JRF and UGC-JRF with AIR in top 100 rank across the country.

Our beloved Dr. APJ Kalam sir once said that "if you salute your duty, don't have to salute anybody". I deeply believe in these lines but there are some people such as my supervisor in the IIT system who doesn't like such ideology. In IIT Guwahati, I started working with positive attitude but my positive attitude became my enemies in the research world.

I thought things will be fine after some time but I was wrong and situations started becoming worse gradually. Everyday mental harassments and threatening, unethical involvement of his wife name in lab papers, chapters and involve us into his family related works are part of our daily life in IIT Guwahati. When we tried to raise voices against these things, he as usual threatened all of us during the lab group meeting.

Last year, I raised my voice against all these unethical things in lab but later on, he made me helpless and also had forced me to write an apology letter which was kept by him. Because of my family responsibilities, I continued facing these harassments as a part of my daily life even after writing apology letter. After taking the letter, he keep threatening me by saying that if you will complain now to the president of India also, nobody will believe on your facts and I will make sure that you will not get your PhD degree.

Now, things have become intolerable to me which are throwing me continuously towards the black side of thoughts. Finally, I have collected my courage to write all these facts to the MHRD as well as our beloved Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi Ji at the cost of my carrier as well as my life in IIT Guwahati after reading one quote which say "bearing an injustice is also an injustice".

Presently, I am full of fear as he is continuously forcing my other lab mates to give written complaint against me even though I have not done any mischievous things so far in the lab.

Please save my life as he has threatened me to destroy my life as well as my carrier.

Quick help from you sir.

PMO office. complain copy

SINCE :

03 Feb 2017

Received by: Prime Ministers Office

Forwarded to: Government of Assam

Officer name: Dr Anwaruddin Choudhury

Officer Designation: State Nodal Officer

Contact Address: Commissioner and Secretary to Govt of Assam  
Pension and Public Grievances Department  
Secretariat, Dispur, Guwahati 781006

Contact Number: 03612237227

Grievance Description

Respected PM sir, I, Ajeet Singh PhD student from Dept of BSBE is writing this complaint against my PhD supervisor Dr. Lalit M Pandey, Assistant Professor, Dept of BSBE IIT Guwahati. I joined his lab in February 2015 with great enthusiasm for research after working Dept of Biochemistry, IISc Bangalore. I have pursued my M.Tech from one of the prestigious institute IIT Kharagpur in which IInd year M.Tech project was carried out from IISc Bangalore. I have qualified various national level competitive exams such as JAM, GATE and CSIR and UGC-JRF within AIR 100. I joined IIT Guwahati with great enthusiasm for research in biological sciences but I was not aware the other side of the research environment in BSBE of IIT Guwahati. My bad days started after joining this lab. I started my research days with harrasments with serious negative comments from my PhD supervisor and started making me full of negativity. Initially, I tried to adjust myself with these situations and keep focusing more in research work. Even such conditions, I have communicated 2 papers in which one is already accepted in International Journal of Biological Sciences and second is under revision in CNS and current drug targets presently. I belong to a poor village family and have family various family responsibilities also. Therefore, I faced everything calmly at the cost of my family everytime. Last year, he had forced me to write an appology application also in which I was forced to write appology to him eventhough there were no mistakes from my side. Now, he always threatned me with this application and many times, he have told to take revenge in upcoming years. Therefore, I am in great depression with suicidal thoughts. I have deep favour for PM sir for taking numerous steps against such peoples which are spoiling the research enviroment in higher institutes such as IITs. I kindly request you to take some serious action against him. If I do any suicidal related activities in the dominance of ngative thoughts, he be the only reason for any such things. Sir, you are only my last hope and waiting for quick positive actions against such peoples. Thanking you sir. Ajeet Singh

Date of Action: 03 Feb 2017

Status as on 21 Mar 2017

Registration Number : PMOPG/E/2017/0065049  
 Name Of Complainant : Simon Dhara  
 Date of Receipt : 02 Feb 2017  
 Received by : Prime Ministers Office  
 Forwarded to : Government of Assam  
 Officer name : Dr Anwaruddin Choudhury  
 Officer Designation : State Nodal Officer  
 Contact Address : Commissioner and Secretary to Govt of Assam  
 Pension and Public Grievances Department  
 Secretariat, Dispur, Guwahati 781006  
 Contact Number : 03612237227

## Grievance Description

Respected PM sir, I am doing my M.Tech project from Dept. of BSBE, IIT Guwahati under the supervision of Dr. Lalit M Pandey, Assistant professor. Sir, I came in IIT Guwahati with great hopes for doing research work under him but continuous mental harassment have killed my research interests. At one side, Govt. of India is sincerely putting efforts to improve the research environments in the higher institutes such as IITs while other side, such peoples like my supervisor are killing the research interests through intensive harassments and various other ways. I am not alone in the lab who is facing such kind of mental harassment. Such continuous harassment throw me in depression and I discussed these issues with counselling cell in IIT Guwahati. But, I found me helpless at that time as they also didn't take any action even though I told them everything in details. I tried to compromise with these situations but repetitive harassment started developing suicidal thoughts in my mind. There are many others who are not coming forwards at present but situations are same for them also. Apart from these, he is also involved in some unethical issues such as putting his wife name in lab papers and chapters. Recently, he has given his wife name in one communicated paper and chapters although she is not the part of lab and have not carried out any research related activities in the lab. Such things are considered as a serious crime in the research world. When my lab mates raised these issues, he threatened all of them. There are many other things which can prove him culprit in the judicial system. Apart from all these, he is frequently deducting my fellowship even though I tried to convenience him many times that such actions are seriously affecting my study in IIT Guwahati. Still, I am not getting my fellowship and being harassed regularly. Now, things are seriously worst to me as I have been threatened from him today also that he will make sure my failure in my M Tech. Therefore, I request you to please look into such serious matter which is spoiling the research environment in higher institutions like IITs. I am kindly requesting you to ensure my life safety as well as carrier in IIT Guwahati as I am just a normal student and the complain can make my condition worse. I am seeking quick disciplinary actions against him to save my life in IIT Guwahati. Yours, **Simons Dhara (M.Tech/Ind Year) Dept. of BSBE, IIT Guwahati**

Date of Action : 06 Feb 2017



Respected PM Sir,

I, Simons Dhara M.Tech IInd year student from Dept of BSBE IIT Guwahati is writing this complaint against Dr. Lalit M Pandey, Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biosciences and Bioengineering, IIT Guwahati. I already have lodged an online complain about his unethical act to PMO office on 2 February 2017 (PMO online complain number- PMOPG/E/2017/0065049) but still no action has been taken. I was waiting for some response from PMO office as I have read various such news where PMO responded very quickly to save the student's career. Therefore, I collected my internal courage and lodged an online complain to get justice but still I am in waiting for the response from PMO office.

I have attached a hard copy of previously online lodged complain along with this letter, please find the attachment sir. I am facing various other problems after lodging the complaint as I have been threatened many times and my fellowship also had been deducted many times. Now, I am being threatened that M.Tech degree will not be awarded.

I belong to a middle class family from West Bengal and has other responsibilities also, therefore I kindly request you to look into this matter and instruct the IIT Guwahati administration to take serious action against him.

Please help me sir.

Yours sincerely,

Simons Dhara (Reg no-154106028)

M.Tech IInd Year

Dept of Biosciences and Bioengineering (BSBE)

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati

Guwahati, Assam-781039

Mob- 8724038048

*Simons Dhara*  
21.03.17

22  
D/O Higher Education

ANNEXURE - B

④ & ⑦

To.

Dated: 12-05-2017

The Dean of Faculty Affairs.

Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati.

Guwahati, Assam-781039

**Subject-** Regarding resolution of the issues with Dr. Lalit Pandey.

Respected Sir,

I, Ajeet Singh PhD student from Dept. of BSBE is writing this letter to assure IIT Guwahati administration that I will follow the rules and regulations of IIT Guwahati as well as BSBE dept. I have full faith in IITG administration assurance that they will ensure the protection of my basic rights in IITG. I will try my best to avoid such incidents again and believe that Dr. Lalit Pandey will also follow the same and will release my financial dues, conferences dues and review paper as early as possible. I also expect that Dr. Lalit Pandey will not show any negative reflection in his behavior towards me and will supervise to get PhD degree in a minimum possible time of my PhD tenure.

I also regret that IITG administration have faced such troubles to resolve this issue. I am very thankful to IITG administration specially Director sir and DOFA sir for their kind support to resolve this matter.

Thanking you sir.

Yours sincerely,

Ajeet Singh (Reg no-136106025)

Dept of BSBE, IIT Guwahati

Email- [ajeet.singh@iitg.ernet.in](mailto:ajeet.singh@iitg.ernet.in)

Dr. L. M. Pandey  
HOD, BSBE

Kindly refer to our discussions regarding the issue on 11-5-17  
Requested to supervise the student and release his arrear payments.

Dr. L. M. Pandey  
12.5.17

A  
12/5/2017

(8)

ANNEXURE - C

**Report regarding complaints by Shri Ajeet Singh, Ph.D student, Deptt of Biosciences and Bioengineering.**

Shri Ajeet Singh has made complaints against Dr. Lalit M Pandey, who happens to be Ph.D supervisor of Shri Singh and is looking after his research activities. In the complaints, Shri Singh has stated that Dr. Pandey has been misbehaving with him and has prohibited his entry into the laboratory. Shri Singh has also complained that Dr. Pandey engaged him in his household chores and also tried to enter his wife's name in research papers unethically.

On refusal Dr. Pandey threatened him of dire consequences leading to hamper his Ph.D. This issue has come from the PMO and since it concerns a faculty member. Dean of Faculty Affairs was asked to look into the matter.

Meanwhile, parleys were held between Dr. Pandey and Shri Singh with the intervention of Dean of Faculty Affairs and thereafter it could be inferred that there were confusion between the student and the faculty member. Further due to the stress that Shri Singh has to undergo for his research work pressure at the laboratory a one sided opinion has seem to have been preconceived by Shri Singh against Dr. Pandey.

After few deliberations, Shri Singh stated that his misconception has been cleared and he is also looking forward towards doing quality research work at the laboratory with a positive approach. Shri Singh has also conveyed his apology for his reactions towards a faculty member and has pledged not to repeat the same in future.

*M. G. Bhat*  
*14/5/12.*



### Annexure-D

Sl. No.	Name	Roll Numbers	Year of Joining	Status
1.	Varun Saxena	156106030	2015	Continuing
2.	Swati Sharma	166106008	2016	Continuing
3.	Srijeeb Karmakar	176106011	2017	Taken NOC for supervisor change
4.	Laipubam Gayatri Sharma	176106013	2017	Continuing
5.	Aman Bhardwaj	176106117	2017	Continuing
6.	Rushikesh R. Fopase	186106014	2018	Continuing