





ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION ITANAGAR.

An Appeal Case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 Case No. APIC- 337/2025.

(Summon to appear in person) (Or.5 R.3 of CPC)

APPELLANT RESPONDENT : Shri Nangbia Kyokam & Shri Teli Ango, Doimukh.

: The PIO, o/o the EE(PHE & WS), Ziro Division, District

Lower Subansiri, (A.P)

ORDER/SUMMONS

This is an appeal under Section 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 received from Shri Nangbia Kyokam and Teli Ango for non-furnishing of below mentioned information by the PIO, o/o the EE (PHE & WS), Ziro Division, Lower Subansiri District Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh as sought for by them under section 6(1) (Form-A) of RTI Act, 2005 vide their application dated 04.02.25.

(a) Particulars of Information: Regarding Expenditure & implementation of under JJM Scheme under Ziro District Lower Subansiri District.

(b) Details of information required:

- 1. Furnish the copies of NIT and Tender participate list in details.
- 2. Furnish the utilization certificate copies.
- 3. Furnish the photograph and Geo-Tag copies.
- 4. Furnish the work order copies.
- Certifies true copies of total amount sanctioned on maintenance and repairing work every year 2018 to 2024.
- 6. Furnish the copies of Water treatment plant (WTP)
- Certified copy of Cheque leaf with Cheque counter foils or PFMS transaction in details.
- 8. Administrative approval sanctioned order copies.
- 9. Site inspection report copy.
 - 10. Furnish the copies of all seeking information of Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) State and central schemes.
 - 11. Bank grants certificate copies.
 - 12. First and final bill copy and money copy in details.
 - 13. Furnish the DPR copies.
 - 14. Furnish work executed EE, AE, JE in details names.
 - 15. Furnish GST copy and return file copy.
 - 16. Furnish the JJM guideline copies.
- (C) Period of which information required: 2018-2024.

Hearing and decision:

This appeal was heard on 29.08.2025 wherein the PIO, Er. Shri Tung Sono, the EE (PHE & WS), Ziro Division was present but the Appellants were absent. The PIO, Shri Tung Sono <u>reiterated the submission made by the o/o the PIO vide letter dt.14.02.2025 that the information sought for by the appellant are voluminous and that the appellant should seek for one scheme/project for one financial year in one application.</u>

But the appellants could not attend the hearing as they did not get the summons notice in time which this Commission has discovered on tracking the post.

In view of above the Commission deemed that a fair chance should be given to the appellants for hearing and accordingly, the hearing is fixed today on 8th October, 2025 wherein the appellants, Shri Nangbia Kyokam and Shri Teli Ango appeared in person. The PIO, Er. Shri Tung Sono is also appeared in person.

Heard the parties.

The appellants reiterated their request for the information/documents from the PIO. But the PIO, while reiterating his written replies to the appellants vide his letter dt.14.02.2025 that the information sought for by the appellant are voluminous, submitted that the appellants had sought for the information without specifying any particular scheme under the funding programme in question, the JJM which is a "Mission" containing thousands of various schemes thereunder and that if information/documents pertaining to the entire mission are to be furnished, as requested by the appellants, a TATA mobile vehicle will be required to carry the documents, besides the amount of time and manpower requirements in collating the information for such large number of years (2018 to 2024). The PIO, thus, submitted that the appellants should seek for one scheme/project for one financial year in one application and against a particular /specific project or scheme where any irregularity or wrong implementation is suspected or actually seen.

This Commission, upon hearing the PIO, deems it appropriate to apprise the appellants that the Hon'ble Supreme Court while recognizing the right to information as a cherished right of responsible citizen to use as a tool to fight corruption also ruled that the information sought for should not be indiscriminate and disproportionate as to adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result in the executive getting bogged down with the non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information.

The relevant portion of the ruling of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal No.6454 of 2011 arising from SLP (C) No.7526/2009 (CBSE & Anr. Vs. Aditya Bandopadhya & ors.) is extracted hereunder:

"37. The right to information is a cherished right. Information and right to information are intended to be formidable tools in the hands of responsible citizens to fight corruption and bring transparency and accountability. The provisions of RTI Act should be enforced strictly and all efforts should be made to bring to light the necessary information under clause(b()) of section 4 (1) of the Act which relates to securing transparency and accountability in the working of public authorities and discouraging corruption. But in regard to other information, (that is information other than those enumerated in section 4(1)(b) and (c) of the Act), equal importance and emphasis are given to other public interest (like confidentiality of sensitive information, fidelity and fiduciary relationship, efficient operation of government, et.). Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under RTI Act for disclosure of all and sundry information (unrelated to transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counterproductive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result in

the executive getting bogged down with the non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information. The Act should not be allowed to be misused or abused, to become a tool to obstruct the national development and integration, or to destroy the peace, tranquility and harmony among its citizens. Nor should it be converted into a tool of oppression or intimidation of honest officials striving to do their duty. The nation does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spends 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharging their regular duties. The threat of penalties under the RTI Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of a public authorities prioritising 'information furnishing', at the cost of their normal and regular duties."

This Commission, on perusal of the documents/information requested by the appellants, notices that the information so sought for by the appellants are, indeed vague, voluminous and indiscriminate and for number of years the collation of which will consume considerable and precious time of the PIO, thus, affecting adversely the smooth functioning of the normal duties of the PIO and his staff. This Commission, therefore, endorses the submission of the PIO that the appellants should seek specific information against specific schemes and for specific number of years.

The appellants are, accordingly, directed to prioritize their demand and seek information/documents against specific schemes with fund involved therewith and specific locations and for one or two financial years within 1(one) week from the date of receipt of this order and the PIO shall furnish the same and report compliance thereunder on next date of hearing fixed on 14th November, 2025.

Given under my hand and seal of this Commission on this 8th Oct., 2025.

NOW THEREFORE, you are hereby summoned to appear in person or online in the Hon'ble Court of Shri Sangyal Tsering Bappu, SIC on the 14th November, 2025 (Wednesday) at 10.30 am to answer the claims, and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your claims/defense.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance, on the day above-mentioned, the matter will be heard and determined in your absence.

To avail online hearing please at least notify or get in touch one day prior to the hearing, download "<u>WEBEX MEETING APP"</u> from Google Play store. For further technical assistance Shri Himanshu Verma, IT Consultant (Mobile no. 8319014957) maybe contacted.

Sd/-(S. TSERING BAPPU) State Information Commissioner, APIC, Itanagar. Memo No. APIC-337/2025 Dated Itanagar, the Octo., 2025
Copy to:

- 1. The Chief Engineer (PHE & WS), Govt. of A.P(W/Z), Division IV, Itanagar, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) for information and ensuring compliance by the PIO.
- 2. The PIO, o/o the EE (PHE & WS), Ziro Division, Lower Subansiri District (Pin code: 791120) for information and compliance.
- 3. Shri Nangbia Kyokam & Anr., Village-Emchi, PO/PS-Doimukh, (Pin code-791112), (Phone No. 9436241177) for information.
- 4. The Computer Programmer/Computer Operator for uploading on the website of APIC, please.
- 5. Office Copy.
- 6. S/Copy

Registrar/ Deputy Registrar APIC, Itanagar.

Arunachal Pradeah Information Commission