



सत्यमेव जयते



ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION

ITANAGAR.

An Appeal Case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005

Case No. APIC-600/2025.

**APPELLANT
RESPONDENT**

: Shri Takar Jamoh, Bank Tinali, Itanagar.

:The PIO, District Land Revenue & Settlement Officer (DLRSO), Namsai.

ORDER

1. WHEREAS Shri Takar Jamoh, Bank Tinali, Itanagar filed an application dt. 23.12.2024 before the PIO, o/o the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai District Arunachal Pradesh under section 6(1) (Form-A) of RTI Act, 2005 for the following information:

a. Is the Chitha Register & the Cadestral Maps of Lekang Circle under Namsai District of Arunachal Pradesh a Legal Land Document in the District of Namsai of Arunachal Pradesh ? (if Yes provide the CTC of all the orders relating to the Legal Validity of the Chitha Register & Cadestral Maps of Lekang Circle in Arunachal Pradesh	Yes or No
b. Can the Office of the District Land Revenue & Settlement Officer, (DLRSO), Namsai issue land occupation certificate / Land Holding certificate to people not having APST certificates of Arunachal Pradesh (If Yes provide a copy of such orders).	Yes or No
c. Are the land occupation certificate / land holding certificate being issued under Namsai District by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai and the DLRSO Office, Namsai as per the notification of the Arunachal Pradesh Land settlement and Records Act 2002 & 2012 in the State of Arunachal Pradesh	Yes or No

2. AND WHEREAS the PIO, o/o the Dy. Commissioner, Namsai, in response, vide letter dt. 06.01.2025 transferred the RTI application to another PIO i.e the District Land Revenue & Settlement Officer (DLRSO), Namsai under section 6(3) of the RTI Act.

3. AND WHEREAS dissatisfied with the response of the PIO, o/o the Dy. Commissioner, the appellant approached the D.C, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) under section 19(1) of the RTI Act vide his Memo of Appeal dt.12.02.2025.

4. AND WHEREAS the appellant had also approached the Director (Land Management), Govt. of A.P, Itanagar under section 19(1) vide appeal memo dt.04.04.2025. However, in the meantime the D.C, Namsai conducted the hearing of the appeal on 26.05.2025 and passed the following order :

“The appellant, Shri Takar Jamoh is present and the respondent PIO-cum-DLR&SO, Namsai is absent.

Examined the application and the had specified the reason of appeal as no response/reply from the PIO to his RTI application in Form A, ‘Ref. No. RTI-28/2024 Dtd. 23/12/2024’.

Also heard the appellant to length, He informed that he had already filed appeal/petition before the SIC. If the response/reply is given by the PIO cum DLR&SO within specific time and deem fit by the FAA, the appeal before the SIC shall be withdrawn.

After hearing and perusing of the available record, it is evident that the information has not been furnished to the appellant. Therefore, the PIO is directed to furnish the requisite information free of cost on or before 06.06.2025.

With this order, the instant case is disposed of.

Sd/-

(C.R. Khampa)

FAA-cum-DC, Namsai District”.

5. AND WHEREAS Shri Taka Jamoh still could not obtain the requested information/documents from the PIO and therefore he preferred his 2nd appeal before this Commission under Section 19(3) of RTI Act vide his Appeal Memo dt. 21.05.2025.

6. AND WHEREAS this appeal was, accordingly, heard for 4(four) times on 24.09.2025, 29.10.2025, 26.11.2025 and 28.01.2026 and on 24.09.2025, this Commission had passed the following order:

{“The appellant, reiterating his demand for the requested information, pleaded for an appropriate direction to the PIO to furnish the information /replies. The PIO, Ms. K. Namchoom, on the other hand, contended that since the subject matter on which the information has been sought by the appellant pertains to the land revenue and settlement, the RTI application filed by the appellant was transferred to the DLR & SO, Namsai under section 6(3) of the RTI Act. In this regard, the PIO also submitted her written submission through whatsapp.

This Commission, upon perusal of the written statement of the PIO and considering the factual position as obtaining in the case, deems it appropriate to refer to the provisions of sub-sections (4) and (5) of section 5 of the RTI Act, 2005 which is reproduced hereunder:

“5(1)....

(2).....

(3).....

(4) The Central Public Information or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, may seek the assistance of any officer as he or she considers it necessary for the proper discharge of his or her duties.

(5) Any officer, whose assistance has been sought under sub-section (4), shall render all assistance to the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, seeking his or her assistance and for the purposes of any contravention of the provisions of this Act, such other officer shall be treated as a Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be.”

The implication of the provisions of the above sub-sections is that on being requested by the PIO for the assistance of an officer for providing the documents requested by an RTI applicant, the said officer is bound to provide the requested documents/information and in the event of his failure to provide the documents/information, such officer can be proceeded against as a PIO

This Commission, upon hearing the parties and on perusal of the records and the position of law as above, deems it appropriate to summon the DLR & SO, Namsai in the next date of hearing which is fixed on 29th Oct., 2025 for further consideration of this appeal.”}

7. AND WHEREAS on 29.10.2025 both the respondent PIO, the DLRSO and also the appellant, Shri Takar Jamoh did not appear and as such the hearing was adjourned to 26.11.2025 when the respondent PIO was again absent without any intimation. Therefore, the hearing had to be adjourned yet again to 28.01.2026 *making it clear that if the PIO, the DLRSO do not appear, this Commission shall be constrained to invoke the penal provisions of the RTI Act.*

8. AND WHEREAS on 28.01.2026, the appellant, Shri Takar Jamoh was present in person while Shri Kago Doni, the DLRSO-cum-PIO appeared through VC.

9. AND WHEREAS this Commission heard the appellant who, reiterating his demand for the requested information /documents from the PIO, expressed his sheer disappointment for not being able to obtain the information while the PIO, on a pointed query, assured to furnish whatever records available in his office to the appellant.

10. AND WHEREAS as assured to by the PIO, he was directed, vide order dt. 28.01.2026, to furnish the requested replies/information with the supporting /relevant copies of orders/notification, to the appellant in tabulation form as per the query made by the appellant in his RTI application within 1(one) week from the date of receipt of the order and the appellant was also directed to intimate this Commission of the receipt of the same within one week thereafter.

11. AND WHEREAS the appellant, Shri Takar Jamoh, vide his letter dt.12.02.2026, has complained that the PIO did not furnish the information despite the direction of this Commission as contained in order dt.28.01.2026 and pleaded for penal action prescribed under section 20(1) and (2) of the RTI Act, 2005 for willful disobedience to this Commission and negligence towards his statutory duty as PIO.

12. AND WHEREAS this Commission, taking serious view of the non-compliance of this Commission's order dt.28.01.26, found the case a fit case where the PIO should be proceeded against under section 20 of the RTI Act, 2005 and accordingly, issued notice dt. 17.02.2026 to the PIO directing him to show cause as to why penalty of Rs. 25,000.00 (Rupees twenty five thousand) as provided under section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 should not be imposed on him for willful non-compliance of the direction of this Commission and disrespecting the RTI regime and was further directed to appear before this Commission on 18.03.2026 at 10.30 am.

13. AND WHEREAS the PIO, Shri Kago Doni failed to appear on **18.03.2026 without any intimation** nor submitted any explanation/replies to the show cause notice **nor** furnished the information as directed, thus, constraining this Commission to treat the case a fit case where he should be imposed penalty as provided under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 for violation of section 7(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 and willful disobedience of the direction of this Commission and accordingly, vide order dt. 18.03.2026, imposed a penalty of Rs. 25,000.00 (Twenty five thousand) on the PIO to be deposited, within 15 days, through Treasury Challan in the name of the Registrar, APIC, Itanagar under the Head of Account : 0070-other administrative charges. The PIO was also directed to furnish the left out information to the appellant making it clear that his failure thereto shall entail further action against him under section 20(2) of the RTI Act.

14. AND WHEREAS the PIO, Shri Tago Doni, in compliance with the order of this Commission 18.03.2026, has paid the penalty of Rs.25,000.00 vide Challan No.6325062744145 the copy whereof has been forwarded to this Commission vide his letter dt.1st April, 2026. The PIO also furnished the left out replies /information as directed by this Commission in the aforesaid order, the extract of which is reproduced hereunder:

"The information sought by you under Case No APIC-600/2025:

<i>a. Is the Chitha Register & the Cadastral Maps of Lekang Circle under Namsai District of Arunachal Pradesh a Legal Land Document in the District of Namsai of Arunachal Pradesh ? (if Yes provide the CTC of all the orders relating to the Legal Validity of the Chitha Register & Cadastral Maps of Lekang Circle in Arunachal Pradesh</i>	<i>There is no such order available in the office.</i>
<i>b. Can the Office of the District Land Revenue & Settlement Officer, (DLRSO), Namsai issue land occupation certificate / Land Holding certificate to people not having APST certificates of Arunachal Pradesh (If Yes provide a copy of such orders).</i>	<i>Does not arise.</i>
<i>c. Are the land occupation certificate / land holding certificate being issued under Namsai District by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Namsai and the DLRSO Office, Namsai as per the notification of the Arunachal Pradesh Land settlement and Records Act 2002 & 2012 in the State of Arunachal Pradesh</i>	<i>No</i>

This is for your information please.

*Sd/-
(Kaga Dani) DLRSO,
Namsai District,
Namsai."*

15. AND WHEREAS this Commission, upon perusal of the replies of the PIO as above, concludes that the appellant has now been furnished with the specific replies/information to his specific queries adequately and sufficiently warranting no further adjudication of this appeal in this Commission and resultantly, this appeal now stands disposed of and closed.

Given under my hand and seal of this Commission on this 6th April, 2026.

**Sd/-
(S. TSERING BAPPU)
State Information Commissioner,
APIC, Itanagar.**

Memo No. APIC- 600/2025 1176 / Dated Itanagar, the 6 April, 2026

Copy to:

- 1) The Secretary/Commissioner (Land Management), Govt. of A.P, Itanagar for information.
- 2) The Deputy Commissioner, Namsai Distt., Namsai for information.
- 3) The PIO, o/o the D.C, Namsai Distt, Namsai PIN: 792103 for information.
- 4) The PIO, the DLR & SO, Namsai District PIN: 792103 for information.
- 5) Shri Takar Jamoh, Bank Tinali, Near Head Post Office, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar – 791 111 Contact No : 7005670629 for information.
- 6) The Computer Programmer/Computer Operator for uploading on the Website of APIC, please.
- 7) Office copy.
- 8) S/Copy.

P. Raju
06/04/26
Registrar/ Deputy Registrar
APIC, Itanagar.

Deputy Registrar
Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission
Itanagar