



ITANAGAR, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

An appeal case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005

Vide Case No.APIC-14/2026

**BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF SHRI VIJAY TARAM, THE STATE
INFORMATION COMMISSIONER, UNDER SECTION 19(3) OF RTI ACT, 2005.**

Shri Tamchi Gungte

..... Appellant

-VERSUS-

PIO-Cum-Executive Engineer, PWD,
Hayuliang, Anjaw District,
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

..... Respondent.

Order: 12.05.2026.

JUDGEMENT FOR DISMISSAL

This is an appeal filed under sub-section (3) of Section 19 of the RTI 2005. Brief fact of the case is that the Appellant Shri Tamchi Gungte on **27/09/2025** filed an RTI application in Form- 'A' before the PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, (EE), PWD, Hayuliang, Anjaw District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh. Whereby seeking various information as quoted in Form 'A' application. The Appellant being not receiving the information from the PIO filed the First Appeal before the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **17/11/2025**, and even then, the Appellant not receiving the required information from the PIO, filed the Second Appeal before the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) on **29/12/2025** and the Registry of the Commission (APIC) having receipt of the Appeal registered it as APIC-No. **14/A/2026** (Appeal) and processed the same for its hearing and disposal.

Accordingly, matter came up for hearing before the Commission on **12.05.2026**, wherein both the parties are present during the hearing before the Commission.

After hearing both the parties the Commission (APIC) hereby observes;

1. Introduction:

The Appellant has filed this Second Appeal before the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) under Section 19(3) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, being aggrieved by the non-receipt of information and the subsequent failure of the First Appellate Authority (FAA) to provide redressal regarding his RTI application (Form A).

2. Facts of the Case:

The Appellant, through an application in Form A, sought voluminous and detailed information from the office of the PIO- cum- Executive Engineer, PWD Hayuliang Division, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh, for a period of ten years (2015 to 2025), for all the works they have executed in all these 10 (ten) years.

3. Submissions by the Respondent (PIO):

The PIO-cum- (Executive Engineer, PWD Hayuliang) appeared before the Commission via online mode. The PIO submitted that the PWD Hayuliang Division has executed thousands of works during the decade in question. And provide the information about many other subjects including to identify, extract, and collate the names of specific officials involved in the ministerial task of depositing challans or conducting internal audits for every single project over ten years is a task of Herculean proportions. The PIO argued that the information requested would run into thousands of pages, and the process of collecting it would disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority, thereby affecting the core discharge of its duties.

4. Observations of the Commission:

Upon hearing both parties and perusing the records, the Commission observes the following:

- i) **Ambiguity and Specificity:** The RTI Act is intended to promote transparency, but it requires the applicant to seek "specific" information. The Appellant's request is sweeping, ambiguous, and lacks focus on any particular project or irregularity.
- ii) **Public Interest vs. Vested Interest:** The Commission finds that among other information the request for the names of officials who performed routine tasks like "depositing challans" for thousands of projects over ten years appears to be "flimsy" and lacks any demonstrable public interest. Section 8 and various judicial precedents suggest that RTI should not be used to harass a public authority or for settled "vested interests" under the garb of transparency.
- iii) **Disproportionate Diversion of Resources:** Under Section 7(9) of the RTI Act, 2005, information shall ordinarily be provided in the form in which it is sought unless it would disproportionately divert the resources of the public authority. In this case, asking for a decade's worth of data on thousands of projects is not only cumbersome but also bordered on the impossible within the statutory timelines. Such "indiscriminate and impractical" demands are detrimental to the efficient functioning of the office.

5. Decision:

In view of the facts stated above, the Commission is of the considered opinion that the current application in Form - A is an abuse of the process of the RTI Act due to its over-breadth and lack of specificity.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS ORDERED AS UNDER:

- i) This Second Appeal stands DISMISSED.

- ii) The Commission, however, grants liberty to the Appellant to file a fresh, specific application (Form - A) by narrowing down the scope of the information. The Appellant is advised to seek information for a specific, shorter tenure or for specific projects so that the PIO can practically and legally furnish the information within the stipulated time.

In view of the above facts and circumstances the Commission dismiss this Appeal with liberty given to the Appellant to file for fresh application for every particular information for certain specific year. And, accordingly, this Appeal stands dismissed and closed once for all.

Judgment pronounced in the open Court of this Commission today on this 12th day of May' 2026.

Copy of this Judgment be furnished to the parties.

Given under my hand and seal of this Commission on this 12th day of May' 2026.

Sd/-

(Vijay Taram)
State Information Commissioner
APIC-Itanagar

Memo.No.APIC-14/A/2026 /4

Dated Itanagar, the 29 July, 2026.

Copy to:

1. PIO-Cum-Executive Engineer, PWD, Hayuliang, Anjaw District, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh for information and necessary action please. **Pin Code:792104**
2. Shri Tamchi Gungte, Near KV-II School Chimpu, Itanagar, P/Pare District Arunachal Pradesh for information please. **Contact No. 9233567279**
3. ✓ The Computer Programmer, APIC for uploading on the Website of APIC and mail it to concerned department please.
4. Office Copy


Registrar/Dy. Registrar
APIC, Itanagar.