INFORMATIONARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION (APIC) ITANAGAR

(Before the Hon'ble Information Commissioner Mr. Genom Tekseng)

AN APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19 (3) OF RTI ACT, 2005.

APIC-No.11/2023(Appeal)

Sh. Tania June, C/o Hotel Chandini, E-Sector Naharlagun, Papumpare District, Arunachal Pradesh. (M) 8131848230,

Pin: 791110.

Appellant

-Versus-

The PIO-Cum-EE, Deptt. of Power Division Yazali, Ziro-II, Lower Subansiri District Arunachal Pradesh.

Pin: 791119.

Respondent

Date of hearing: 22.12.2023. Date of decision: 22.12.2023.

FACTS OF THE CASE:

The appellant filed an RTI application dated 26.09.2022 seeking information **on LT line extention at Aribu village**. The PIO did not provide any reply to the appellant. The appellant then filed a First Appeal before the SE-Cum-First Appellate Authority on 17.11.2022. FAA's order, if any, is not available on record. Feeling aggrieved the appellant filed the instant second Appeal before this commission.

FACTS EMERGING DURING THE HEARING:

This case was transferred to this commission by the SCIC vide order dated 25.05.2023 from the bench of **Shri Goto Ete,SIC.**

Facts of the case are that this case was initially listed for hearing before the hon'ble information Shri Goto Ete on 16.03.2023 which was adjourned to 30.03.2023 due to absence of the relevant parties.

The PIO appeared on 30.03.2023. The appellant was, though absent, represented by one Shri Nikam Dabu who described himself as a friend of the appellant. Appellant's representative informed that the PIO did not furnish any reply in response to the RTI application. The PIO, who was present during the hearing, submitted that he did not receive RTI application of the appellant and therefore, requested information could not be provided to the appellant. The commission after hearing the parties present and perusal of record directed the PIO to furnish sought information on or before next date of hearing. The commission also decided to initiate action against the PIO for its dereliction of duties and responsibilities, in contravention of the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. The commission had accordingly directed initiation of action against the PIO under section 20 (1) of the Act. Order to this effect was issued on 30.03.2023. The PIO was also directed to appear on 27.04.2023 with his reply.

Both the PIO and the appellant appeared on 27.04.2023. The appellant submitted that in inspite of the order of the commission the PIO had not furnished sought information to him. The PIO admitted that sought information had not been provided to the appellant as the appellant did not deposit the requisite fees. The PIO had further submitted that the information would be furnished only on payment of the prescribed fees. The commission after hearing the parties and perusal of records noted that denial of the available information to the appellant was inappropriate on the ground of non payment of the cost of the information as the information was not provided within 30 days from the receipt of the application. The PIO was warned to ensure that no wilful disobedience of the order of the commission is committed and he shall be more careful in future. With this observation that the PIO was directed to furnish available information to the appellant free of cost and appear on 11.05.2023. Hearing of the case could not completed due to absence of the information commissioner on 11.05.2023.

Notices were again issued to the parties to appear on 22.12.2023.

DECISION:

The instant case is listed today. None appears before the commission. However, the commission has received a letter dated 22.12.2023 from the appellant wherein he has stated that he has received complete information and expressed his satisfaction regarding information provided by the PIO.

Keeping in view the facts of the case and the written submission sent by the appellant, the commission is of the opinion that complete information, though late, has been provided by the PIO in compliance of the commission directions. The appellant has also showed satisfaction with the information provided. Hence no further action is warranted in the matter. Proposed action against the PIO is dropped and the instant appeal stands disposed of accordingly.

Sd/-(Genom Tekseng) Information Commissioner Dated Itanagar the . January' 2024.

Memo No.APIC-11/2023/ /2 42 Copy to:

1, Computer Programmer, Itanagar, APIC, to upload in APIC, website please.

2. Office copy.

Registrar/ Dy Registrar

Arunach APIC, Itanagaren Commission