

To,

Date: 26.08.2025



The Commissioner/Secretary
PHE & WS, Department
Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh
Itanagar.

Sub: Initiation of disciplinary action against the PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kummey District, Govt. of A.P.

Ref: Section 18(3) and Section 25(5) of RTI, Act, 2005.

Sir,

Whereas, it has come to the attention of this court, that the Public Information Officer (PIO-cum-EE, PHE & WS) Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh has failed to comply with the notice, order and summons issued by the court of the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC) concerning an appeal filed under Section 19(3) of the RTI, Act, 2005 against their office.

And whereas, the PIO's disobedience to the duly issued directives of the Information Commission undermines the authority of the Commission and hinders the transparent flow of information(s) as mandated by the RTI, Act, 2005.

As mandated by the RTI, Act, 2005 under section 25(5) which states that: "if it appears to the State Information Commission, that the practice of a public authority in relation to the exercise of its functions under this Act does not conform to the provisions or spirit of this act, it may recommend to the authority the steps that ought, in its opinion to be taken to promote such conformity"

Therefore, under the provisions of Section 25(5), RTI, Act, 2005, it is hereby directed that the Commissioner/Secretary, PHE & WS Department, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh initiate appropriate disciplinary action against the PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, PHE & WS, Department, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, for their failure to comply with the Commission's notice issued on 08.11.2024, summons issued on 28.01.2025 and bailable warrant of arrest issued on 01.04.2025.

It is further ordered that a report on the action taken in this regard be submitted to this court within 30 days from the date of this order.

Issued under the seal of this court.

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "Vijay Taram", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Vijay Taram
State Information Commissioner
APIC, Itanagar.

ORDER

In the 3rd hearing held on **26th August, 2025** related to the **APIC-No-190/R/2024**. The Appellant Shri Pisa Tapam is absent.

The PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, found absent during the hearing without intimating to the Commission, the reason for his inability to attend the hearing, which is unbecoming on the part of the PIO, who has to be reminded that, the PIO also has a mandatory duty to attend to statutory duties besides public duties, when an appeal is preferred against him/her.

The Commission observes:

The PIO absent for the 3rd consecutive time despite summons issued on 28.01.2025 to be present in the next date of hearing which was on 17.06.2025. The Commission issued Bailable Warrant of Arrest to the PIO-cum-EE, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, to secure his presence on 26.08.2025 but, despite issue of Bailable Warrant of Arrest the PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, is absent today on 26/08/2025 for the 3rd consecutive time.

In the absence of both the parties, **the Commission hereby observes that:**

1. The Officer-In-Charge Koloriang Police Station has not executed the Bailable Warrant of Arrest, as he has not returned the same to the court of the Commission, till now.
2. The copy of the Bailable Warrant of Arrest was also served upon the Superintendent of Police (SP) Kurung Kumey District for compliance, and the same copy was also served upon the Deputy Commissioner (DC) Kurung Kumey District for information and even after all these steps taken by the Commission, neither the PIO has turned up for the hearing nor the execution of the Bailable Warrant of Arrest has been returned to this Commission, by the officer-in-charge (OC) Koloriang Police Station.

And, therefore, observing the above circumstances the Commission hereby orders as follows;

- i) By the provisions under Section 25(5) the Commission finds that the conduct of the Officer-In-Charge, Koloriang Police Station and the PIO-cum-EE, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division does not confirm with the provisions of the spirit of the RTI, Act, 2005, and therefore, the Commission recommends to the Director General of Police (DGP) to initiate disciplinary action against the Officer-In-Charge, Koloriang Police Station, Kurung Kumey District, as per the Service Rules of the particular police personnel. And a copy of action taken report (ATR) be intimated to the Commission.
- ii) Under the same provision of Section 25(5) the Commissioner/Secretary, PHE & WS Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh is hereby ordered to initiate disciplinary action as per the Service Rules against the PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, for disobeying the orders of the court of Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission (APIC).

- iii) The Director General of Police (DGP) is hereby ordered to return a copy of the action taken report against the Officer-In-Charge, Koloriang Police Station, Kurung Kumey District, to the APIC, as early as before the next date of hearing.
- iv) The Commissioner/Secretary, PHE & WS, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh is hereby ordered to return a copy of action taken report against the PIO-cum-EE, PHE & WS, Koloriang Division, Kurung Kumey District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh, before the next date of hearing.
- v) Send summons to the Appellant Shri Pisa Tapam to be present in the next date of hearing without fail, failing which this instant appeal will be heard and determined ex-parte.

The Commission ordered;

The next date of hearing be fixed on 4th December' 2025 at 10:30 AM (Morning)

N.B:- To avail online hearing please at least notify or get in touch one day prior to the hearing, download **"WEBEX MEETING APP"** from Google Play store. For further technical assistance may contact **Shri Himanshu Verma, IT Consultant (Mobile no. 8319014957).**

It is so ordered this 26th day of August 2025 at 4:00 PM.

Sd

Vijay Taram

State Information Commissioner

APIC, Itanagar.

Memo No. APIC-190/R/2024

Dated Itanagar the 10th September 2025

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Registrar/ Dy. Registrar

APIC, Itanagar

Deputy Registrar

Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission
Itanagar