सत्यमेव जयते

सूचना का अधिकार
RIGHT TO INFORMATION

ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION
ITANAGAR.

An Appeal Case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005
Case No. APIC- 450/2026.

APPELLANT : Shri Matung Payne, Vill. Byate, Sangdupota.
RESPONDENT : The PIO, o/o the EE (PHE & WS), Itanagar Division.

ORDER

1. WHEREAS Shri Matung Payne, Village Byate, Sangdupota Circle, vide his application dated 30.03.2026, had sought for the following 27(twenty seven) point information from the PIO, o/o the EE (PHE & WS), Itanagar Division under section 6(1) (Form-A) of RTI Act, 2005.

2. AND WHEREAS the appellant failed to obtain the information from the PIO which prompted him to file his 1st appeal before the Superintending Engineer (PHE & WS), Itanagar Circle, Naharlagun, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) under section 19(1) of the RTI Act vide his Memo of Appeal dt.02.05.2026. However, there was no record of the FAA's conducting the hearing but the appellant, vide his Memo of Appeal dt. 23.06.2026, has preferred his 2nd appeal before this Commission under section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 on the ground of non-furnishing of requested information.

3. AND WHEREAS this appeal was, accordingly, listed and heard on 02.09.2026 wherein the appellant, Shri Matung Payne was present in person while the PIO was represented by Er. Shri Ngorang Karuh, A.E-cum-APIO, o/o the EE(PHE & WS), Itanagar.

4. AND WHEREAS the PIO had brought in the requested information through forwarding letter dt.01.09.2026 but the appellant refused to accept the same saying that the information/replies so furnished are not properly paged/indexed making it difficult to comprehend the information

5. AND WHEREAS this Commission also noticed that the information/replies so brought in by the APIO were not properly indexed and paged as per the list of queries in the RTI application filed by the appellant. This Commission also noticed that replies/information to many of the queries were not furnished and on pointed query, the APIO replied that the replies to those queries which are related to accounts aspects, shall be furnished with the assistance of the staff dealing with the accounts matter.

6. AND WHEREAS this Commission, upon hearing the parties had directed the PIO, vide order dt.02.09.2026, to furnish the requested information / replies including the documents brought in today to the appellant as per his RTI application in a tabular form with proper indexing and paging within 3(three) weeks from the date of receipt of the said order and report the compliance thereof to this Commission on 25.09.2026, the next date of hearing.

7. AND WHEREAS on 25.09.26, the appellant, Shri Matung Payne was present in person while the PIO is represented by Shri Khyoda Abo, Surveyor with documents in the same manner and form as in last hearing on 02.09.26.

8. AND WHEREAS the appellant, expressing his utter dismay over the lackadaisical approach of the PIO in complying with the provisions of the RTI Act despite categorical order of this Commission to furnish the requested documents/information with proper paging and indexing, demanded penal action under the RTI Act, 2005. The appellant also went on to state that he was attending the hearing leaving more important work but the PIO appeared least bothered about his statutory duties under the RTI Act.

9. AND WHEREAS this Commission was also constrained to conclude that the non-compliance of its direction contained in order dt.2nd September, 2026 by the PIO amounted to wilful disrespect to the Commission and the RTI regime attracting penalty prescribed u/s-20 of the RTI Act, 2005. However, the representative of the PIO had assured to furnish the requested information in proper manner, i.e in a tabular form as per the queries and with proper indexing and paging within 3 days.

10. AND WHEREAS as assured to by the PIO's representative, the PIO was directed, vide order dt.25.09.26, to furnish the information in the manner as stated above so as to avoid action under section 20 of the RTI Act and the appellant was also directed to report the receipt of the same to this Commission by 05.10.2026 for further consideration of the appeal.

11. AND WHEREAS the appellant, vide his letter dt. 09.10.26 has complained that he has received the information /documents from the PIO but the o/o the PIO has furnished incomplete information which compelled this Commission to serve Notice dt. 22.10.26, directing the PIO, Er. Shri Tad Logi, E.E(PHE & WS), Itanagar Division to show cause as to why the penalty Rs.25,000.00 as prescribed u/s-20(1) of the Act should not be imposed on him for non-compliance of it's order and the provisions of RTI Act and he was directed to appear before this Commission on 05.11.26 with his replies to the said Show Cause notice and the reasons /explanation, on an affidavit, in respect of the queries against which the replies/information are denied.

12. AND WHEREAS in compliance with the said order, the PIO has deputed his APIO, Er. Jomnya Jini, ASW with the copy of letter dt.28.10.26 (as extracted below) forwarding the documents/information with paging. The APIO also submitted the PIO's replies /explanation to Show Cause Notice dt.22.10.2026 on an affidavit sworn on 03.11.206 (reproduced hereunder).

"Sir,

With reference to the above-mentioned case, it is respectfully submitted that during the last hearing held on 25/09/2026, this office was directed to furnish the requisite documents, duly arranged and properly annexed, within three days.

Accordingly, in compliance with the direction of the Hon'ble Commission, the required documents were duly compiled, properly annexed, and furnished to the appellant within the stipulated period.