



ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION (APIC)
ITANAGAR

(Before the Hon'ble Information Commissioner Mr. Dani Gamboo)

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

APIC-No.871/2023(Appeal)

Shri Sanjay Yangfo
Bage Tinali near VKV Nirjuli
PO/PS Nirjuli Papumpare District A.P
Pin: 791110.
(M) 9774495217/9402778214

Appellant

Versus

1. PIO cum DFO
D Ering Memorial Wildlife
Sanctuary Division Pasighat
East Siang District AP
Pin: 791102.

Respondents

2. The FAA cum PCCF
O/o PCCF Dept. of Wildlife
Sanctuary and Forest GoAP
Papumpare District Itanagar AP.
Pin: 7911111.

Date 24.06.2024

JUDGEMENT / ORDER

This is an appeal filed under sub-section (3) of the Section 19 of the RTI Act, 2005. Brief fact of the case is that the appellant Shri Sanjay Yangfo on 07.06.2023 filed an RTI application in Form-A to the PIO cum DFO D Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary Division Pasighat East Siang District AP, whereby, seeking various information as quoted in Form-A application.

Appellant being not received information from the PIO, filed the First Appeal before the First Appellate Authority cum PCCF O/o PCCF Dept. of WildLife Sanctuary and Forest GoAP Papumpare District Itanagar AP on 20.07.2023.

Appellant again having not received the required information and decision from FAA, filed the Second Appeal before the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission on 07.09.2023. The appellant has not attached any order of decision or response from the FAA.

The Registry of the Commission (APIC), on receipt of the appeal, registered it as APIC-No.871/2023 (Appeal) and processed the same for its hearing and disposal.

Accordingly, this matter came up for hearing before the Commission Court today on 24.06.2024. Notice of hearing dated 28.05.2024 were served to FAA, PIO and the Appellant.

In this hearing of the appeal on 24.06.2024 the respondents PIO DFO D Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary Division Pasighat East Siang District did not appear. However, the PIO is represented by Shri Orin Perme RFO. The appellant Shri Sanjay Yangfo appeared. The FAA cum PCCF O/o PCCF Dept. of Wildlife Sanctuary and Forest GoAP Papumpare District Itanagar did not appear.

Heard the parties present.

The appellant states that neither information document has been furnished to him by the PIO nor FAA has heard his appeal to dispose of the case at his / her level. So, he filed 2nd appeal to the Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission and prayed for necessary action as deemed fit.

The representative of PIO has come up with the information document before the commission. The information document received by the appellant and sought time to examine its correctness. If any shortfall in the information as per the content in the RTI application in form-A, the appellant may file a written submission specifically mentioning such shortfall to the PIO. Any further appeal if requires may be filed to the FAA.

On perusal of the case file, it is observed that there is no action on record taken by the FAA on the first appeal filed by the appellant.

The commission observes that under section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, for the principle of natural justice, it is mandatory for the FAA to summon the appellant and PIO, give fair opportunity of being heard and pass speaking order on merit. Since, it is not done, the case is pre-mature to be considered as an appeal under section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

As laid down at para-38 of the Guidelines for the FAA issued by the GoI and the State Govt. OM No. AR-111/2008 Dated 21st August, 2008,.. adjudication on the appeals under RTI Act is a quasi-judicial function. It is, therefore, necessary that the Appellate Authority should see to it that the justice is not only done but it should also appear to have been done. In order to do so, the order passed by the appellate authority should be a speaking order giving justification for the decision arrived at.

Therefore, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) and PCCF O/o PCCF Dept. of Wildlife Sanctuary and Forest GoAP Papumpare District Itanagar AP, following the principle of natural justice, shall conduct hearing giving fair and equal opportunity to both the appellant and the PIO and thereafter pass reasoned and speaking order on merit within three weeks from the date of receipt of this order. Hence, this appeal is remanded to the First Appellate Authority (FAA).

In view of the above facts and circumstances I find this appeal is fit to be disposed of and closed at commission with liberty to the appellant to file appeal afresh if aggrieved by the decision of the FAA. And, accordingly, this appeal stands disposed of and closed once for all.

Judgement / Order pronounced in the Open Court of this Commission today this 24th day of June 2024. Each copy of the Judgement / Order be furnished to the parties.

Given under my hand and seal of this Commission / Court on this 24th day of June' 2024.

Sd/-
(Dani Gamboo)
State Information Commissioner
APIC, Itanagar

Memo No.APIC-871/2023/ 107
Copy to:

Dated Itanagar the 25th June' 2024.

1. The FAA cum PCCF O/o PCCF Dept. Wildlife Sanctuary and Forest GoAP Papumpare District Itanagar AP. 791111
2. The PIO cum DFO D Ering Memorial Wildlife Sanctuary Division Pasighat GoAP East Siang District AP. 791102
3. Shri Sanjay Yangfo Bage Tinali near VKV Nirjuli PO/PS Nirjuli Papumpare District A.P Pin: 791110. (M) 9774495217/9402778214
4. Computer Programmer Itanagar APIC to upload in APIC website and mailed to concerned department email.
5. Office copy.


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APIC Itanagar
Deputy Registrar
Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission
Itanagar