

ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION, (APIC)

ITANAGAR, ARUNACHAL PRADESH

An appeal case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 <u>Vide Case No.APIC-159/2024</u> BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF SHRI VIJAY TARAM, THE STATE INFORMATION

## COMMISSIONER, UNDER SECTION 19(3) OF RTI ACT, 2005.

Shri Mamu Sono

..... Appellant.

-VERSUS-

PIO-Cum- EE, PWD, Dirang Division, West Kameng District, Govt. of Arunachal Pradesh

Judgment/Order: 30.05.2024.

## JUDGMENT/ORDER

The 1<sup>st</sup> hearing held on <u>30<sup>th</sup> May,2024</u> related to the <u>APIC No-159/2024</u>. The Appellant Shri Mamu Sono present during the hearing but the PIO-cum- PWD, Dirang found absent without intimating to the Commission the reason for his inability to attend the hearing.

Heard the Appellant.

After hearing the Appellant and going through the available documents, it is observed that the appeal is premature, as the First Appellate Authority (FAA) did not conduct a proper hearing of both the parties before him, as per the established procedural law under RTI Act, 2005.

It is pertinent to mention here that, according to the RTI Act of 2005, it provides for three stages of seeking information. First:-, from the PIO, Second:- on the failure of the PIO to provide the information to the applicant or aggrieved by the decision of the PIO the, applicant will make an appeal to the First Appellate Authority, and the First Appellate Authority is mandated to conduct a proper hearing of both the parties to decide the case and thereby pass an order on the subject matter, thirdly:- the Appellant on being dissatisfied or aggrieved by the order of the First Appellate Authority, can appeal to the State Information Commission as per Section 19 (3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

In the instant case, the First Appellate Authority has to give a fair hearing to the Appellant along with the PIO in presence and it is evident while hearing of the appeal that the First Appellate Authority has not conducted a fair hearing to both the parties, which is a procedural lapse on the part of the First Appellate Authority as per the rules of RTI Act, 2005.

Under the above stated facts & circumstances, this appeal case is remanded back to the First Appellate Authority for giving an opportunity for a fair hearing to both the parties within 30 days from passing this order by adopting the procedures as per law and after hearing both the parties, a speaking order be passed as per merit of the case. The order Passed be intimated to the Commission.

And hence, the appeal is disposed off by the Commission.

Sd/-

(Vijay Taram) State Information Commissioner APIC, Itanagar.

Memo.No.APIC-159/2024/14 Copy to: Dated Itanagar, the ..... May,2024.

- 1. FAA-cum- the Superintending Engineer, PWD, Rupa Circle, West Kameng District, Govt. of A.P. for information & necessary action please.
- 2. PIO-Cum- EE, PWD, Dirang Division, West Kameng District, Govt of Arunachal Pradesh for information and necessary action please. **Pin Code-790101.**
- 3. Shri Mamu Sono, Sood Village, P.O/PS-Naharlagun, P/Pare District Arunachal Pradesh for information please. Contact No. 9436215521.
- 4. The Computer Programmer, APIC for uploading on the Website of APIC please.
- 5. Office Copy.

Registrar/Dy. Registrar DeARIC (Lagagarar Arunachal Prudesh Information Commission Itanagar.