





ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION ITANAGAR

No.APIC-723/2023

Dated, Itanagar the 26th May, 2025

To,

The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (PCCF) Department of Environment & Forests Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Zero Point, Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh - 791111.

Sub : - Contempt of Court

Sir,

This is to inform that an appeal under Section 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 was filed by Shri Kaya Parang Londa, Bank Tinali, Near King Cup Public School, Lowang Apartment, Itanagar Papum Pare District, Arunachal Pradesh, for non-furnishing of information by the PIO-cum-DFO, Govt. of A.P., o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh as sought by the Appellant under section 6(1) of RTI Act, 2005 vide Form-A dated 09/05/2023 regarding total fund allocated in CAMPA under CA, Activities in the Khellong Forest Department for the financial year 1019 to 2023.

During the 6th hearing held on 17th December, 2024, Ms Dreema Lhamu, APIO-cum-Forester, representing Shri Aduk Paron, the PIO-cum-DFO, Govt. of A.P., o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh submitted letter No. KD/33/202/CAMPA/2616-17 dated Bhalukpong, the 2nd December, 2024, addressed to Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, the then DFO cum PIO during whose tenure the information pertains to and the one who implemented the scheme.

In observance of submission made by the Shri Aduk Paron, the PIO-cum-DFO, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh, the former PIO-cum-DFO, Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, was summoned and directed to attend the 7th hearing fixed on 8th February, 2025.

During the 7th hearing held on 18th February, 2025, the Respondent- No. 2, Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, CF & Field Director, Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve, Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh was absent. Vide Memo No. NNP (TR)RTI/2024/19/VOL-III/636 date 10th Feb, 2025 he requested for rescheduling of the hearing since he was attending a training for I.F.S. officers at NCSCM Chennai w.e.f. 17/02/2025 to 21/02/2025. The Commission, giving reasonable opportunity, had fixed the next date of hearing on 6th May, 2025.

The 8th hearing was held on 6th May' 2025. Respondent-No. 1. Shri Aduk Paron, the PIO-cum-DFO, Govt. of A.P., o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh was represented by Shri Tanga Murtem, RFO.The Respondent- No. 2, Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, CF & Field Director, Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve, Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh was absent. The Appellant Shri Kaya Parang Londa was present.

Shri Tanga Murtem, RFO, informed that, the Respondent- No. 1, due to urgent work at Office, could not attend the hearing. Also, informed that the Respondent- No. 2, Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, had been transferred to Dadra, Nagar Haveli, Daman, and Diu.

The willful absence and non-compliance of the Commission's order by the respondent-No. 2: Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, then PIO-cum-DFO, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh, is tantamount to contempt of court. Apparently, Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, has been transferred to Daman and Diu without intimation to the Commission. The Officer is liable to be punished under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. You are requested to communicate and appraise the superior of the officer at the present posting place about this misdemeanor by the officer. You are also requested to advice the officer to address the issue on priority.

Non-furnishing of information to a citizen is tantamount to breach of fundamental rights guaranteed to citizen under Article 19(1)(a) of the Constitution of India. Therefore, in absence of records or non-availability of information, under section 18(3)(c) of the RTI Act, the PIO may be directed to file an AFFIDAVIT to confirm non availability of the information.

The next date of hearing is fixed on 8th July, 2025 (Tuesday) at 1100hrs. Therefore, Shri Aduk Paron, the PIO-cum-DFO, Govt. of A.P., o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh, be directed to appear in person before the Commission's court to address the issue, failing which the Commission shall be compelled to initiate penal provision under section 20(1) of the RTI Act 2005 against him.

Sd/-[Major General Jarken Gamlin, AVSM, SM, VSM (Retd)], State Chief Information Commissioner Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission

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May' 2025

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- 1. The PCCF, Govt. of A.P, Deptt of Environment& Forest, Zero Point, Itanagar, for information and necessary action.
- 2. The Deputy Commissioner, Changlang, Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh for information and necessary action.
- 3. The FAA-cum-CCF (Western Circle), Govt. of A.P. O/o Chief Conservator of Forests Western Circle, Banderdewa, Arunachal Pradesh, PIN-791123, for necessary action.
- 4. Shri Vineet Kumar Jawal, IFS, CF & Field Director, Namdapha National Park & Tiger Reserve, Changlang District, Arunachal Pradesh, PIN- 792122, for compliance.
- Shri Aduk Paron, the PIO-cum-DFO, Govt. of A.P., o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Khellong Forest Division, West Kameng District, Arunachal Pradesh, PIN- 790114, for compliance.
- 6. Sri Kaya Parang Londa, Bank tinali, Near king cup Public School, Lowang Appartment, Itanagar Papum Pare District, Arunachal Pradesh, PIN-791111, (M) 8732823129.
- 7. Computer Programmer, APIC, Itanagar, to upload in APIC Website & send mail to all the parties.
- 8. Case file.

Mr. W

Registrar /Dy. Registrar

Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission Itanagar

Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission Itanagar