NAGALAND INFORMATION COMMISSION

Nagaland Commissions' Complex Below NBCC Convention Centre New Capital Complex Kohima: Nagaland-797004



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No. NIC/APPEAL-1/2025-26

Dated Kohima, the 3rd June, 2025

Subject: - Notice for hearing on 13th June (Friday), 2025 at 11:00 AM.

WHEREAS, the Commission had received a Second Appeal dated 01.05.2025 from Shri. Ruokuo & Party, Mobile No. 9863492695/ 9612382471 against the unsatisfactory response of the FAA, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima to their First Appeal dated 18.02.2025 which was submitted against the incomplete information given by the Project Director & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland in response to their RTI application dated 17.12.2024.

AND WHEREAS, the applicants had submitted a RTI application dated 17.12.2024 along with an application fee of Rs. 10/- addressed to the PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland seeking the following information: -

- 1. The complete record of amount sanctioned and received by the Rural Development Department under Grant in Aid to excluded Areas not included in part IX and X of the constitution of India for the year 2017-2018
- 2. Provide complete record of funds received under Sl. No 1 for capacity building for the year 2017-2018.
- 3. The complete list of work orders issued under Sl. No. 2.
- 4. The complete list beneficiaries and the APR of any transaction made under SL. No.2.
- 5. The complete records of works undertaken under SL. No. 2 along with photographic evidence of works undertaken and completed.
- 6. Provide complete record of funds received under Sl. No 2 for incentives to performing VDBs
 - a. Providing Community tractors to VDBS
 - b. Maintenance of roads/water drainage/footpaths/sewage/burial grounds drainages/community assets/storm water
 - c. Providing Solar street lightings to select VDBS for the year 2017-2018.
- 7. The complete list of work orders issued under S. No. 6.
- 8. The complete list beneficiaries and the APR of any transaction made under SL. No.6.
- 9. The complete records of works undertaken under SL. No. 6 along with photographic evidence of works undertaken and completed.
- 10. Provide the list of beneficiaries of Community tractors and work undertaken with photographs.
- 11. Provide the list of burial grounds beneficiary VDBs with photographs.
- 12. Provide the complete list of Solar street lightings beneficiary VDBs, the number of Solar streetlight installed with photographic evidence.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the above RTI application dated 17.12.2024 on the same day i.e., 17.12.2024, Smti. K. Anenla Jamir, Joint Director & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter No. DRD/ME/RTI-28/2023-24 dated 07.01.2025, informed the applicants that the information sought was ready and to collect the same on payment of Rs. 286/-(Rupees two hundred and eighty six only) i.e., Rs. 2/- for 143 pages, as the cost of information.

AND WHEREAS, Smti. K. Anenla Jamir, Joint Director & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter No. DRD/GIA/RTI-98/2023-24 dated 07.01.2025, submitted the information to the RDO & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima for onward forwarding to the applicants.

AND WHEREAS, after payment of the cost of information for Rs. 286/-, the applicants had received the information on 28.01.2025, however, on not being satisfied with the information furnished by the PIO, the applicants had submitted a First Appeal dated 18.02.2025 addressed to the First Appellate Authority, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima with the following statements: -

- 1. The RTI application contained 12 queries with regards to Rural Development Department under Grant in Aid to excluded Areas not included in part IX and X of the Constitution of India for the year 2017-18.
- 2. The application was submitted on 13/12/2024 and received by the Dept. on 17/12/2024 as per Govt. order No. DRD/ME/RTI-28/2023-24 dated Kohima the 7th January 2025.
- 3. The answer to the RTI queries SL. No. 2, 3, 4 and 5 was missing the records of funds received by the Department and expenditures under the scheme "Capacity building" which were withdrawn and utilized by the Directorate of Rural Department as per the information available with the Department.
- 4. No records of expenditures, work orders, beneficiaries, APRs, programs, photos were provided for the above stated queries.
- 5. The answer to the RTI query SL. No. 6 (b) was missing records of Maintenance of roads/ water drainages/ community assets/ storm water drainage/ footpaths/ sewage/ burial grounds.
- 6. No records of expenditures, work orders, work executed, photos were provided for the above stated query.
- 7. The answer to the RTI query SL. No. 12 was missing the list of burial grounds beneficiary VDBs with photographs.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the above First Appeal, Smti. *M. Mongna Konyak*, Addl. Director & HoD/FAA, Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter *No.DRD/RTI-AA-12/2022-2023* dated *18.03.2025*, notified the PIO, APIO, and the applicants for a hearing of the First Appeal on *20.03.2024* at *02:30 PM* in the office chamber of the FAA.

AND WHEREAS, after the hearing of the First Appeal on 20.03.2025, the FAA had passed decision vide *No.DRD/RTI-AA-12/2022-2023* dated 28.03.2025, wherein the PIO was directed to furnish the information concerning the unsatisfied queries pertaining to Sl. Nos. 02, 03, 04, 05, & 6(b) to the applicants (now appellants) within 30 (thirty) days i.e. on or before 19.04.2025.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the information relating to Query Nos. Nos. 02, 03, 04, 05, 6(b), 11 & 12 on Grant-in-Aid received by the Department during 2017-18 from the RDO & APIO, vide letter No.DRD/RTI-AA-12/2014-15/29 dated 15.04.2025, and in compliance to the above directive of the FAA, Smti. K. Anenla Jamir Joint Director &, PIO, Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter No.DRD/RTI-AA-12/2022-23 dated 15.04.2025, informed the applicants that the information sought was ready and to collect the same from the RTI Cell during office hours.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the above information, the applicants (now appellants) had submitted a Second Appeal dated 01.05,2025 to this Commission as they were not satisfied with the information on the following grounds: -

- 1. The information provided is incomplete. As per record provided by the PIO, the total amount received under Capacity building was Rs. 5,00,00,000/-. And the total expenditure was Rs. 2,41,62,180/-. Thus there is a misappropriation of Rs. 2,58,37,820/-. No record of these missing amount was provided by the PIO.
 - Records of incentives to performing VDBs Maintenance of roads/ water drainages/ storm drainages/ footpaths/ sewage/ burial grounds provided was very suspicious and doubtful.
 - The amount sanctioned for works and the quality of work executed does not tally/ match.

- a. Construction of Farmer's market, the amount sanctioned was Rs. 1,00,00,000/- (one crore) but the quality of work executed does not quantify the amount sanctioned.
- b. A single water harvesting tank constructed at a cost of Rs. 20,00,000/- (Twenty lakhs).
- c. Fishery ponds (4 Nos) constructed at a cost of Rs. 36,00,000/- (thirty six lakhs).
- d. Afforestation works ranging from Rs. 25,00,000/- (twenty five lakhs) to Rs. 50,00,000/- (fifty lakhs).
- e. Renovation of waiting sheds @ Rs. 10,00,000/- (ten lakhs).
 - We are appalled and shocked with the amount sanctioned and the quality of work executed by the Department.
- 2. The information was denied without a valid reason. The FAA directed the appellants to approach the VDBs and block office to seek remaining information, when our RTI application was addressed to the PIO and not the VDBs or the block office.

AND WHEREAS, since the applicants (now appellants) are still not satisfied with the information furnished by the public authority, the Commission has decided to hear the above mentioned appeal by giving opportunity of being heard to all the parties on 13th June, 2025 (Friday) at 11:00 AM in the Hearing Room of Nagaland Information Commission, Nagaland Commissions' Complex, Below NBCC Convention Centre, New Capital Complex, Nagaland, Kohima.

NOW THEREFORE, it is notified that the following parties are directed to appear before this Commission and also to bring the files and relevant documents in question for scrutiny on the above date and time for hearing.

- 1. Smti. M. Mongna Konyak, Addl. Director & HoD/FAA, Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
- 2. Smti. K. Anenla Jamir, Joint Director & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
- 3. Shri. K. Shongmao, RDO& APIO, GIA, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
- 4. The applicants (now appellants), Shri. *Ruokuo & Party*, Mobile No. 9863492695/9612382471.

Sd/- KEVISA KENSE, IAS (Rtd)
Chief Information Commissioner

No. NIC/APPEAL-1/2025-26 /640 Copy to:

Dated Kohima, the 3rd June, 2025

- 1. The PS to the CIC, for kind information of the Chief Information Commissioner.
- 2. The PA to the SIC (N), for kind information of the State Information Commissioner.
- 3. The PA to the SIC (K), for kind information of the State Information Commissioner.
 - 4. Smti. M. Mongna Konyak, Addl. Director & HoD/FAA, Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
 - 5. Smti. K. Anenla Jamir, Joint Director & PIO, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
 - 6. Shri. K. Shongmao, RDO& APIO, GIA, Directorate of Rural Development, Nagaland, Kohima.
 - 7. The Computer Programmer, Nagaland Information Commission for uploading on the website and Notice Board.
 - 8. The applicants (now appellants), Shri. Ruokuo & Party, Mobile No. 9863492695/9612382471.
 - 9. Office copy.

(WORHONTHUNG EZUNG)
Deputy Secretary