NAGALAND INFORMATION COMMISSION

NAGALAND COMMISSIONS' COMPLEX POST BOX NO. 148

NAGALAND, KOHIMA-797001

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No. NIC/APPEAL-24/2024-25

Dated Kohima, the 1st May, 2025

Subject: Notice for Hearing on 20th May, 2025 (Tuesday) at 12:00 noon.

WHEREAS, the Commission had on 30/01/2025 received a second appeal dated 30/01/2025 from Shri. Boto Swu, Mobile No.7005409209/8257907161 Dimapur, Nagaland, against the unsatisfactory decision of the Director & FAA, Directorate of Agriculture to his first appeal dated 10/12/2024 which was submitted against the unsatisfactory reply of the PIO to his RTI application dated 04/11/2024.

AND WHEREAS, the applicant had submitted a RTI application dated 04/11/2024 addressed to the PIO, District Agriculture Office, Dimapur, Nagaland, along with Rs.10/- as application fee, seeking the following information on SMAM and PMKSY Scheme from the year 2019 till date of Dimapur:-

- 1. Photograph of the project on both the scheme along with its Geo-tagging (pre-establishment, establishment and post establishment) with proper details of the beneficiary.
- 2. Total amount of money bifurcated for the mention district along with the Photo copy of its released order
- 3. Give an abstract the name of the beneficiaries, name of the villages, and the Amount received per beneficiaries
- 4. Name of the beneficiaries and the type of machinery received per Beneficiaries.
- 5. Kindly furnish the deficient supply of tools and machineries.
- 6. Kindly provide the work order and completion certificate and other relevant Documents of the beneficiary.
- 7. Kindly furnish the photocopy of both sanctioned and utilization certificate Counter signed by the concern officer to support the claim.
- 8. Provide the cheque leaves and bank statement to support the claim.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the RTI application dated 04/11/2024 on the same date i.e 04/11/2024 as evidenced on the body of the application, the PIO, District Agriculture Office, Dimapur, Nagaland had furnished the following reply to the applicant as given below:

1	Photograph of both the scheme along with Geo- tagging of the beneficiary	Geotagged photographs of SMAM has been furnished while the Geotagged photographs of PMKSY has been directly uploaded in the Bhuvan app.
2	Total amount of money bifurcated along with photocopy of its released order	Furnished
3	Abstract on the beneficiaries, name of the villages and the amount received per beneficiaries	Furnished
4	Name of the beneficiaries and the type of machinery received per beneficiaries	Furnished
5	Deficient supply of Tools and machineries	Nil
6	Work order and completion certificate and other relevant documents of the beneficiary	Maintained in the Directorate.

7	Photocopy of both sanctioned and utilization certificate	Maintained in the Directorate.
8	Cheque leaves statement and bank	This information has been exempted under Section 8(1)(e) of the RTI act.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the PIO's reply on 05/12/2024, the applicant had submitted first appeal dated 10/12/2024 since he was not satisfied on the following grounds.

Query 1 – Information provided by the PIO appears to be fallacious, irreconcilable and faux.

Query 2 — Information received is fragment and prejudiced with bogus beneficiaries with incomplete photographs and also appears to be misinterpreted and does not align with ground phenomenon. For instance, inflated beneficiaries counts, receiving beneficiaries and unverified outlay detail which do not correspond with publicly visible outcomes or reports.

Query 3 – Under SMAM, no beneficiary names and address has been displayed and PMKSY procurable information is ambiguous.

Query 4 – Release order for money allocated to a district is virtuously fictitious and deceitful with fragmentary documents.

Query 5 – Beneficiaries and type of machinery received per beneficiary has been erratic and intentionally constricted.

Query 6 – PIO failed to provide work order, completion certificates and other relevant documents of the beneficiary and photocopy of both sanctioned and utilization certificates.

Query 7 – Disallowance cheque leaves and bank statements by the PIO articulating that the information has been exempted under Section 8(1) (e) of the RTI Act. However, the information sought pertains to public funds and government schemes, which cannot be classified as a fiduciary in nature.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the first appeal, Shri. C. Peter Yanthan, Director of Agriculture & FAA, had, after hearing of the first appeal on 21/01/2025, passed decision vide letter No. AGR/RTI-2/APPEAL/2024-25/449-52 dated 21/01/2025 stating that since the applicant (now appellant) did not receive complete information in respect of query No.1 and not satisfied on the reply to query Nos. 5,6,7 & 8, the PIO and the concerned officer explained and elaborated about the implementation of the Scheme in details and as far as non-furnishing of Photograph pertains to 2019 to 2022 are concerned, the officer justified and submitted that during 2019-20 due to pandemic physical verification and geo-tagging could not be done and the works/projects implemented during 2021-22 photographs were taken by the concerned officer from the Mobile App and the photos are stored digitally in NRSC's Bhuvan server.

AND WHEREAS, on being dissatisfied with the above decision of the Director & FAA on query Nos. 1,5,6,7 & 8, the applicant (now appellant) had submitted Second Appeal dated 30/01/2025 before the Commission.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the second appeal, the Commission had, vide letter No. NIC/APPEAL-24/2024-25/554 dated 26/02/2025, directed the PIO, Office of the District Agriculture Office, Dimapur, Nagaland, to furnish complete and accurate information for Nos. 1,5,6,7 & 8 to the applicant (now appellant) within 30 (thirty) days.

AND WHEREAS, in compliance to the Commission directive dated 26/02/2025, Shri. L. Hoshito Chophi, DAO & APIO, Dimapur, Nagaland had, vide letter No.AGR/DMR/RTI-1/2015-16/08 dated 03/04/2025, furnished all the necessary information as sought.

1	Photograph of both the scheme along with Geo-tagging of the beneficiary	During 2019-20, due to the pandemic, geo- tagging for PMKSY could not be done, while for the rest of the years, photographs were uploaded from the mobile app and stored digitally on
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		NRSC's Bhuvan server. In contrast for SMAM, geotagged photographs have been furnished earlier.
5	Deficient supply of Tools machineries	Nil
6	Work order and completion certificate and other relevant documents of the beneficiary	Maintained in the Directorate.
7	Photocopy of both sanctioned and utilization certificate	Maintained in the Directorate.
8	Cheque leaves and bank statement	The payment/transaction was executed by PFMS and is being furnished.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the information refurnished by the PIO, the applicant (now appellant) had, vide letter NIL dated 09/04/2025 written to the Commission that he was still not satisfied with the replies to Query Nos. 1, 5, 6, 7 & 8.

AND WHEREAS, since the applicant (now appellant) is still not satisfied with the information furnished, the Commission has decided to hear the above mentioned appeal giving opportunity of being heard to all the parties on 20th May, 2025 (Tuesday) at 12:00 noon in the Hearing Room of Nagaland Information Commission, Nagaland Commissions' Complex, New Capital Complex, Nagaland, Kohima.

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

1. The Director of Agriculture & FAA, Nagaland, Kohima.

2. Shri. L. Hoshito Chophi, PIO & DAO, Dimapur, Nagaland.

3. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. Boto Swu, Dimapur, Nagaland, Mobile No. 7005409209/8257907161.

Sd/-KEVISA KENSE, IAS (Retd.)

Chief Information Commissioner Dated Kohima, the 1st May, 2025

No. NIC/APPEAL-24/2024-25/6/4

Copy to:

- 1. The PS to the Chief Information Commissioner, Nagaland Information Commission for kind information of the CIC.
- 2. The PA to SIC (N) for kind information of the State Information Commissioner.
- 3. The PA to SIC (K) for kind information of the State Information Commissioner
- 4. The Director of Agriculture & FAA, Nagaland, Kohima.
- 5. Shri. L. Hoshito Chophi, PIO & DAO, Dimapur, Nagaland.
- 6. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. Boto Swu, Dimapur, Nagaland, Mobile No. 7005409209/8257907161.
- 7. The Computer Programmer, Nagaland Information Commission for uploading on the website and Notice Board.

8. Office Copy.

(WORHONTHUNG EZUNG)

Deputy Secretary