V

CP.

NAGALAND INFORMATION COMMISSION

Nagaland Commissions' Complex
Below NBCC Convention Centre
New Capital Complex
Kohima: Nagaland-797004
Email: cic.nagaland@gmail.com | Website: www.nlsic.nagaland.gov.in

No. NIC/APPEAL-3/2025-26 **Dated Kohima, the 17th July, 2025**

Subject: - Notice for hearing on 31st July (Thursday), 2025 at 11:30 AM.

WHEREAS, the Commission had received a Second Appeal dated 20.05.2025 submitted by Shri. ***S. Topeka Yepthomi***, President, 35 A/C Youth Congress, Kaiho Memorial Building, Thilixu Block III, Lane – 5, Dimapur, Mobile No. 8837209043 against unsatisfactory response of the FAA, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima to his First Appeal dated ***06.01.2025*** and subsequent first appeal dated 22.01.2025 which were submitted against the non-response and unsatisfactory reply of the Executive Engineer & PIO, PHED, Zunheboto Division to his RTI application dated ***29.11.2024***.

AND WHEREAS, the applicant had submitted a RTI application dated 29.11.2024 along with application fee of Rs. 10/- only addressed to the Executive Engineer & PIO, PHED, Zunheboto Division, seeking the following information on JJM under Zunheboto block: -

1. *Kindly furnish the detail amount allotted to each Village under Zunheboto Block.*
2. *Kindly furnish the details on the number of reservoirs built on each Village under Zunheboto Block.*
3. *Enclose the photograph of water reservoirs built on each village under Zunheboto Block.*
4. *Give in abstract, the total number of taps and the total number of households in every village under Zunheboto Block.*
5. *Give abstract details of land compensation beneficiaries and the amount allotted.*
6. *Completion certificate issued by the Village Watsan Committee.*

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the above RTI application dated 29.11.2024 on the same date i.e 29.11.2024, since there was no response from the PIO to the above RTI application within the stipulated time period, the applicant had submitted a First Appeal dated ***06.01.2025*** addressed to the FAA, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima, for intervention.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the first appeal dated 06.01.2025 by the O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima on 06.01.2025 as evidenced on the body of the first appeal, the PIO had furnished the information to the applicant on 22.01.2025 though no proof of furnishing the information was found enclosed.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the information from the PIO on 22.01.2025, since the information received was found to be incomplete and misleading, the applicant (now appellant) had submitted another appeal addressed to the FAA for ***clarification on several discrepancies and omission*** as below:-

1. ***Lack of Geo-tagging***: *The information enclosed in Annex 3 fails to include geo-tagged assets, which are critical for verifying the accuracy of the locations of the work done. Geo-tagging is essential component for proper documentation and verification of site-related activities.*
2. ***Contradictory information in Annexes 2 and 4***: *The details provided in Annex 2 and Annex 4 contradict the actual work performed on-site. This raises concerns about the accuracy and authenticity of the submitted data and requires thorough review and correction.*

3. ***Absence of Photographic Evidence in FHTC****: The FHTC (Functional Household Tap Connection) section is notably missing photographic proof of the completed work, which is vital to validate the execution of the work as per the standards set.*

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the subsequent appeal on 22.01.2025 as evidenced on the body of the letter, Shri. ***Gwatilo Tep***, Addl. Chief Engineer & PIO, O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter ***No. CE/PHE/RTI/2005*** dated ***February 2025***, furnished the information submitted by the Executive Engineer, PHED, Zunheboto Division to the applicant (now appellant).

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the information on 28.02.2025, the applicant (now appellant) had submitted a Second Appeal dated 20.05.2025 to the Commission for intervention and necessary action stating that the following ***discrepancies remained unresolved***:-

1. ***Household Coverage****:*
   The data reflects extra or non-existent household in almost every village. This raises serious doubts about the authenticity of the beneficiary list and funds utilization, suggesting possible misreporting or inflation of figures, which could amount to misappropriations of public funds.
2. ***Lack of Geo-tagged Photographs:***
   As per JJM guidelines and government circulars, all infrastructure created under the scheme must be geo-tagged to ensure transparency. The documents provided do not include geo-tagged in all photos, in violation of Section 4(1) (d) of the RTI Act, which mandates proactive disclosure of information to promote transparency.
3. ***Misleading Photographs****:*
   The PIO has provided photographs of Functional Household Tap Connection (FHTC). However, ground verification reveals that in several villages:
   - *Some households shown as connected do not have any water taps access.*
   - *Some taps are installed but no water has ever been supplied, defeating the objective of JJM.*

AND WHEREAS, meanwhile the applicant (now appellant) had, vide letter dated ***23.06.2025***, submitted to the Commission requesting for **withdrawal of his Second Appeal** dated 20.05.2025 stating that *"due to certain developments and internal reconsideration,"* he has decided not to pursue the Appeal further at this stage, voluntarily without any pressure or coercion.

AND WHEREAS, since the Commission is not convinced with the above reason provided by the applicant (now appellant) for withdrawal of the Second Appeal, the Commission did not accept the withdrawal letter and has decided to hear the above mentioned appeal by giving opportunity of being heard to all the parties on ***31st July, 2025 (Thursday)*** at ***11:30 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. The Chief Engineer & FAA, O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima.
2. Shri. Gwatilo Tep, Addl. Chief Engineer & PIO, O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima.
3. The Executive Engineer & PIO, PHED, Zunheboto Division, Zunheboto, Nagaland.

4. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. S. Topeka Yepthomi, President, 35 A/C Youth Congress, Kaiho Memorial Building, Thilixu Block III, Lane – 5, Dimapur, Mobile No. 8837209043.

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

No. NIC/APPEAL-3/2025-26/688 **Dated Kohima, the 17th July, 2025**

Copy to:

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. The Chief Engineer & FAA, O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima.
5. Shri. Gwatilo Tep, Addl. Chief Engineer & PIO, O/o the Chief Engineer, PHED, Nagaland, Kohima.
6. The Executive Engineer & PIO, PHED, Zunheboto Division, Zunheboto, Nagaland.
7. The Computer Programmer, Nagaland Information Commission for uploading on the website and Notice Board.
8. The applicant (now appellant), S. Topeka Yepthomi, President, 35 A/C Youth Congress, Kaiho Memorial Building, Thilixu Block III, Lane – 5, Dimapur, Mobile No 8837209043.
9. Office copy.

(WORHONTHUNG EZUNG)
Deputy Secretary
Nagaland Information Commission