

NAGALAND INFORMATION COMMISSION

Nagaland Commissions' Complex

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No. NIC/APPEAL-20/2024-25/763

Dated Kohima, the 13th October, 2025

Appellant : Shri. Gwalonyu Seb,
Thongsunyu village,
Tseminyu, Nagaland,
Mobile No. 9233496865.

Respondents : (i) Shri. Sanuzo Nienu,
Director & FAA,
Directorate of Agriculture,
Nagaland, Kohima.

(ii) Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho,
DAO & PIO,
O/o the District Agriculture Officer,
Tseminyu, Nagaland.

Public Authority : Office of the District Agriculture Officer,
Tseminyu, Nagaland.

Date of hearing : 10.10.2025 at 12:30 PM.

Date of Decision : 13.10.2025.

Camp : Town Hall, Tseminyu.

Present:

1. Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 8837229292.
2. Shri. Atilo Tep, SDAO & APIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 8416062505.
3. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. Gwalonyu Seb, Thongsunyu village, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 9233496865.

FACT OF THE CASE.

An applicant, Shri. Gwalonyu Seb declaring to be BPL, had submitted a RTI application dated *NIL* addressed to the PIO, O/o the DAO, Tseminyu, Nagaland, along with a copy of a PHH Ration Card under the National Food Security (NFS) issued by the Department of Food & Civil Supplies, Govt. of Nagaland, seeking the following information under Right to Information Act, 2025 :-

"Kindly provide me with all the true copies of the official orders, money transactions either by cheque or cash, vouchers etc. under RKVY for Thongsunyu village under all heads, from inception till date. Also all document, money transactions and vouchers which has been allocated to Agri. and its allied departments for Thongsunyu village under convergence."

The above RTI application dated *NIL*, was received by the public authority on 09/09/2024, as evidenced on the body of the application, however, on not getting any response to

his RTI application from the PIO, the applicant had submitted First Appeal dated *NIL* addressed to the FAA & Director, Directorate of Agriculture, Nagaland.

On receipt of the above first appeal on *17/10/2024*, Shri. C. Peter Yanthan, Director of Agriculture & FAA, Nagaland, Kohima had, vide letter No. *AGR/RTI-2/Appeal/2024-25/26-86* dated *06/11/2024*, notified the applicant and the concerned PIO for a hearing of the first appeal on *12/11/2024* at *01:00 PM* in the Office Chamber of the Director & FAA.

After the hearing of the First appeal with the concerned parties on *12/11/2024*, Shri. C. Peter Yanthan, Director of Agriculture & FAA had, vide letter No. *AGR/RTI-2/Appeal/2024-25* dated *12/11/2024* (but signed on *19.11.2024*), passed the decision of the hearing, stating that the information as sought by the applicant was kept ready with the PIO but due to miscommunication, it could not be handed over to the applicant. The FAA had also stated that the information in possession of the PIO was handed over to the applicant on the day of the hearing of the First Appeal, i.e., *12/11/2024*, however, the applicant refused to accept the information. Therefore, in view of the above facts and circumstances, the FAA had directed the PIO to furnish the information to the applicant within *10 (ten) days* from the date of receipt of its order with intimation to the FAA and declared the matter as disposed of.

On being not satisfied with the above decision dated *12/11/2024* on the First Appeal dated *NIL*, the applicant had submitted second appeal dated *09/12/2024* to the Nagaland Information Commission. On receipt of above second appeal dated *09/12/2024* on *16/12/2024*, the Commission had, vide letter of even dated *05/02/2025*, directed the Director & FAA, Directorate of Agriculture, Nagaland, Kohima to submit confirmation on whether the PIO had furnished the information to the applicant (now appellant) as directed by the FAA, and if furnished, a confirmation regarding the satisfaction/non-satisfaction of the applicant (now appellant) with the information so received, to the Commission within *20 (twenty) days* from the date of receipt of its directive for further necessary action.

In compliance to the Commission's directive dated *05/02/2025*, Shri. C. Peter Yanthan, Director & FAA, Directorate of Agriculture, had, vide letter No. *AGR/RTI-2/APPEAL/2024-25/341* dated *28/02/2025*, forwarded a copy of the letter No. *AGR/TSE/RTI/2024-25/185* dated *26/02/2025* of Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu, addressed to the Director & FAA, wherein the PIO stated that *on being informed to collect the information, the applicant (now appellant) came to his office on 22/11/2024 but refused to accept the information furnished and instead took photographs of the information and therefore, it was considered that the applicant (now appellant) deemed to have received the information. Further, the PIO also stated that the applicant (now appellant) had not conveyed satisfaction/non-satisfaction of the information received, and had enclosed a copy of the information furnished vide letter No. AGR/TSE/RTI/2024-25/126 dated 30/09/2024 as shown below:-*

Queries	Reply
<i>Kindly provide me with all the true copies of the official orders, money transactions either by cheque or cash, vouchers etc. under RKVY for Thongsunyu Village under all heads, from inception till date.</i>	<i>There is no official order particularly for Thongsunyu Village.</i>
<i>Also all documents, money transactions and vouchers which has been allocated to Agri. and allied departments for Thongsunyu village under convergence.</i>	<i>No fund has been allocated to allied Departments by the District Agriculture Office, Tseminyu. Funding to allied Departments are done by the respective HoDs.</i>

On receipt of the above letter dated 28/02/2025, the Commission had, vide letter of even dated 10/04/2025, observed that since the applicant (now appellant) had deemed to have received the information, the District Agriculture Officer & PIO, O/o the District of Agriculture, Tseminyu, Nagaland was directed to confirm satisfaction/non-satisfaction of the applicant (now appellant) with the information so received and submit a copy of the confirmation to the Commission within 20 (twenty) days for further necessary action.

In compliance to the Commission's directive dated 10/04/2025, Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, District Agriculture Officer & PIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland had, vide letter No. AGR/TSE/RTI/2024-25/212 dated 28/04/2025, stated that the information sought by the applicant (now appellant) had been furnished and after thoroughly explaining in details about the implementation of the RKVY programme in Thongsunyu village, the applicant (now appellant) was satisfied and had submitted his withdrawal of charges against RKVY implementation in Thongsunyu village on 14/03/2025 and a copy of the withdrawal letter dated NIL, submitted by the applicant (now appellant) to the DAO & PIO was enclosed wherein the applicant (now appellant) stated that *"in view of the Village Councils of Sendenyu and Thongsunyu revamping the committees of RKVY in both villages and giving assurance that the scheme would be undertaken in a fair and impartial manner, which would be inclusive of all farmers, the information sought from the department from Right to Information Act hereby stand withdrawn and that the application can be considered as closed with effect from 14th March 2025."*

On receipt of the above letter dated 28/04/2025 on 08/05/2025, since the second appeal dated 09/12/2024 already lies in the Commission and that the withdrawal was from the DAO & PIO, Tseminyu, the Commission had, on 23/06/2025, directed the applicant (now appellant) to submit his withdrawal letter to the Commission along with the copies of information so received from the PIO to the Commission within 15 (fifteen) days.

Since there was no compliance from the applicant (now appellant) till date, the Commission has decided to conduct a Camp Court to hear the above mentioned appeal giving opportunity of being heard to all the parties on 10th October, 2025 (Friday) at 12:30 PM after the celebration/observation of RTI Week, 2025 at Tseminyu and the following parties were 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. Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland.
2. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. Gwalonyu Seb, Thongsunyu village, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 9233496865.

OBSERVATIONS AND FINDINGS:

During the hearing, the applicant (now appellant) stated that he was not satisfied since no information was furnished to him within the 30 days time. The Commission had also observed that the first appeal dated NIL was submitted against the non furnishing of the information within the 30 days and further on not being satisfied with the FAA's hearing, the applicant and submitted second appeal before the Commission.

Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu stated that he had directed the SDAO & APIO to furnish the information. However, the Commission maintained that the responsibility of furnishing the information lies on the PIO and not on the APIO.

Shri. Atilo Tep, SDAO & APIO, Tseminyu clarified that the reply was issued on 30.09.2024, however, the applicant (now appellant) could not be reached or communicated since he sometimes reside in his farm and sometimes in the village. A copy of the Issue Register wherein at Sl. No. 126, the RTI reply was issued on 30.09.2024 was produced before the

Commission in the hearing. He further stated that during the FAA's hearing on 12.11.2024, the information in possession of the PIO was handed over to the applicant, however, the applicant refused to accept the information and he had submitted second appeal to the Commission. After the first appeal hearing on 12.11.2024 and on the direction of the FAA to furnish the information to the applicant within **10 (ten) days**, the applicant (now appellant) was called to collect the information and accordingly the applicant came to his office on 22/11/2024 but he refused to accept the information furnished and instead took photographs of the information. Hence, it was considered that the applicant (now appellant) was deemed to have received the information however, the office had no idea if he was satisfied or not.

Shri. Atilo Tep, SDAO & APIO, Tseminyu further informed that again on 13th March, 2025, the applicant (now appellant) was called to the office and had explained everything and clearly, and the applicant (now appellant) was satisfied. Hence, the applicant (now appellant) had submitted a withdrawal letter on 14th March, 2025 to the DAO & PIO, Tseminyu which was forwarded to the Director & FAA, Agriculture vide letter No. AGR/TSE/RTI/2023-24/190 dated 17.03.2025.

On being asked by the Commission as to why he had submitted his Withdrawal Letter on 14.03.2025 to the DAO & PIO, Tseminyu while his second appeal was lying in the Commission, the applicant (now appellant) replied that he was a farmer and out of ignorance, he had withdrawn from the DAO Office, Tseminyu. He further stated that the issue was discussed and settled with the Village Council and on the advice of the Village Council he had withdrawn the RTI matter.

Further, on the query why he had submitted his satisfaction without receiving the information, the applicant (now appellant) replied that the Village Councils of Thongsunyu and Sendenyu villages had given their assurances that they would revamp the committees of RKVY in both the villages and that the scheme would henceforth be undertaken in a fair and impartial manner, which would include all the farmers community. He further stated that he had missed the Commission's directive dated 23.06.2025 to submit his withdrawal letter to the Commission along with the copies of information so received from the PIO to the Commission within **15 (fifteen) days**, and for which he apologised and a letter dated 09.10.2025 regarding withdrawal of his RTI addressed to the Commission was produced in the hearing.

Since Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu had produced proof of furnishing of the information by producing a copy of the Issue Register, wherein his reply given vide letter No. AGR/TSE/RTI/2024-25/126 dated 30/09/2024 was issued to the applicant (now appellant) at Sl. No. 126 on 30.09.2024, and though the applicant (now appellant) could not receive the reply on time as explained above by Shri. Atilo Tep, SDAO & APIO, Tseminyu, the Commission observed that it was beyond the control of the PIO or the public authority and hence no delay.

DECISION

On the above observations and findings, since no delay was observed and that the applicant (now appellant) had submitted withdrawal letter dated 09.10.2025 addressed to the Commission during the hearing, the Commission had disposed of the appeal case.

This Decision is passed in the presence of both the parties i.e the respondents and the applicant (now appellant) on 10.10.2025 at 12:30 PM.

Copies be given to:

1. Shri. Sanuzo Nienu, Director & FAA, Directorate of Agriculture, Nagaland, Kohima, Mobile No. 9862329052.

2. Shri. Ruovilhou Tseibu Rulho, DAO & PIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 8837229292.
3. Shri. Atilo Tep, SDAO & APIO, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 8416062505.
4. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. Gwalonyu Seb, Thongsunyu village, Tseminyu, Nagaland, Mobile No. 9233496865.
- ✓ 5. The Computer Programmer, Nagaland Information Commission for uploading on the website.
6. Office Copy.

Sd/-

KEVISA KENSE, IAS (Retd.)
Chief Information Commissioner

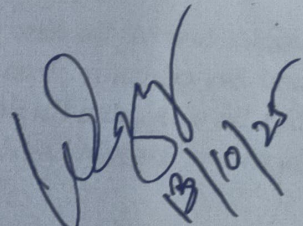
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T. KEKONGCHIM YIMKHIUNG
State Information Commissioner

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NOSAZOL CHARLES
State Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy:


(Worhonthung Ezung)
Deputy Secretary