

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-5/2025-26

Dated Kohima, the 9th February, 2026

Subject: - Notice for hearing on 20th February (Friday), 2026 at 11:00 AM.

WHEREAS, the Commission had received a Second Appeal dated 14.07.2025 from Shri. **Petelekho Pienyu**, No. 1(NL) AIR SQN NCC, Dimapur, Near East Dimapur, DABA Church, Purana Bazar – 797112, Mobile No. 9856037707 e-mail: petelekhapienyu@gmail.com against the non-response of the FAA, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland), Sodzulhou/ Kozabe Village, 6th Mile, Chumoukedima to his First Appeal dated 06.06.2025 which was submitted against the non-response of the PIO, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, The Global Open University, Nagaland) to his RTI application dated 30.04.2025.

AND WHEREAS, the above applicant had submitted a RTI application dated **30.04.2025** along with application fee of Rs. 20/- (in cash) addressed to the PIO, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, The Global Open University, Nagaland) seeking details of the educational qualifications of certain officials of the University as below: -

- I. *Pro-Chancellor, Dr. Utkarsh Sharma, IUN*
- II. *Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Sidharth Shankar, IUN*
- III. *Registrar, DR. Roopam Bacchil, IUN*
- IV. *Mr. Abhishek Tripathi, Assistant Registrar, IUN in the format given below.*

Qualification	Name of Board/ University	Year of passing	% of marks	Mode of education (whether regular or distance/ correspondence/ online)
HSLC				
HSSLC				
Bachelor's Degree				
Master's Degree				
M. Phil/ PhD, Etc.				

AND WHEREAS, on not getting any response from the concerned PIO within the stipulated time period, the applicant had submitted a First Appeal dated **06.06.2025** addressed to the FAA, The International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland) for necessary action.

AND WHEREAS, since the FAA had failed to respond to the above First Appeal, the applicant (now appellent) had submitted a Second Appeal to the Commission for intervention and necessary action.

AND WHEREAS, on receipt of the above Second Appeal, the Commission had, vide letter No. NIC/Appeal-5/2025-26/702 dated 30.07.2025, directed the FAA, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland) to hear the above First Appeal along with both the parties, i.e., the concerned PIO and the applicant, within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of its directive and thereafter submit a copy of the decision of the FAA to the Commission for further necessary action.

AND WHEREAS, since there was no response or compliance to the above directive even after a lapse of almost four months, the Commission had, vide letter NIC/Appeal-5/2025-26/788 dated 27.11.2025 issued a **reminder** to the FAA to hear the First Appeal along with both the parties i.e., the concerned PIO and the applicant within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of this reminder and thereafter submit a copy of the decision of the FAA to the Commission for further necessary action.

AND WHEREAS, in reply to the above reminder, the International University, Nagaland had, vide letter No. IU/2-14/16B/Vol-3/297 dated 18.12.2025 submitted that the International University, Nagaland (formerly The Global Open University) does not qualify to be a Public Authority under the RTI Act and therefore the University is not legally obligated to furnish information under the said Act, except to the extent of disclosures specifically mandated under applicable regulatory statutes, since the International University, Nagaland is a private university established under the provisions of the relevant State Private University Act and duly recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) under section 2(f) of the UGC Act, 1956. The University is entirely self-financed and does not receive any grant-in-aid or financial assistance, either directly or indirectly, from the Central Government or the State Government. The academic, administrative and financial functioning of the University is governed by its Establishment Act, Statutes, Ordinances and internal regulatory framework. Referring to the Hon'ble Gujarat High Court, wherein the Court while examining the applicability of the RTI Act to private universities, has clearly held that a private university which does not receive substantial government funding does not fall within the definition of "public authority" under section 2(h) of the RTI Act. The attached order relied upon clarifies that mere recognition or regulatory control by statutory bodies such as the UGC does not attract the provisions of the RTI Act. The Hon'ble Court further observed that regulatory oversight, inspections or recognition under Section 2(f) of the UGC Act cannot be equated with substantial financing, which is mandatory condition for bringing a private body within the ambit of the RTI Act.

AND WHEREAS, since the Commission was not convinced with the above submission of the International University, Nagaland, the Commission has decided to hear the above mentioned appeal by giving opportunity of being heard to all the parties on **20th February (Friday), 2026 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. The FAA, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland), Sodzulhou/ Kozabe Village, 6th Mile, Chumoukedima.
2. The concerned PIO, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland), Sodzulhou/ Kozabe Village, 6th Mile, Chumoukedima.
3. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. **Petelekho Pienyu**, No. 1(NL) AIR SQN NCC, Dimapur, Near East Dimapur, DABA Church, Purana Bazar – 797112, Mobile No. 9856037707 e-mail: petelekhapienyu@gmail.com.

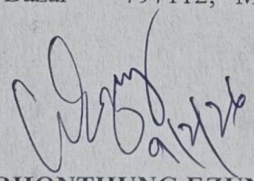
Sd/- **KEVISA KENSE, IAS (RETD)**
Chief Information Commissioner

No. NIC/APPEAL-5/2025-26/25

Dated Kohima, the 9th February, 2026

Copy to:

1. The PS to the CIC, Nagaland Information Commission for kind information of the Chief Information Commissioner.
2. The FAA, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland), Sodzulhou/ Kozabe Village, 6th Mile, Chumoukedima.
3. The concerned PIO, the International University, Nagaland (formerly, the Global Open University, Nagaland), Sodzulhou/ Kozabe Village, 6th Mile, Chumoukedima.
4. The Computer Programmer, Nagaland Information Commission for uploading on the website and Notice Board.
5. The applicant (now appellant), Shri. **Petelekho Pienyu**, No. 1(NL) AIR SQN NCC, Dimapur, Near East Dimapur, DABA Church, Purana Bazar – 797112, Mb. No. 9856037707 e-mail: petelekhapienyu@gmail.com.
6. Office copy.


(**WORHONTHUNG EZUNG**)
Deputy Secretary