# ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION ITANAGAR, APIC.

BEFORE THE COURT OF SHRI GENOM TEKSENG, STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER.

No.APIC-57/2021(APPEAL)

Dated, Itanagar the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

## Under Section 19(3) RTI Act,2005

## **Appellant**

Shri Takar Goi,
Village Yagrung,
PO-Yagrung,PS-pasighat,
Dist.East Siang,Arunachal Pradesh.

#### Respondent

Er. Rimmer Tasso,
PIO-Cum-SE(CSQ) PWD,
O/o The CE(CSQ),Nirman
Bhawan,Second Floor,'O' Point
Tinali,Arunachal Pradesh.

#### Order

Vs

The Appellant Shri Takar Goi filed an application dated 02<sup>nd</sup> November, 2020 before the PIO-Superintending Engineer (CSQ) O/o the Chief Engineer (CSQ) PWD, Arunachal Pradesh, Itanagar seeking Information on 10 points as contained therein. The information sought by the Appellant pertains to the firm M/s Eastern Engineer and Fabricator, M/s M.G.D Enterprises, M/s M.M Enterprises, M/s Tani Takar Enterprises, M/s Asum Engineering, M/s Big Enterprises, M/s M.B Enterprises, M/s K.D Enterprises, M/s Oishy Enterprises, M/s K.B.M Enterprises registered under class -III category.

The PIO vide its response dated  $02^{nd}$  December, 2020 denied the information sought in the point No. (1) & (3) of the RTI application, stating that requested information was not available with the Department. With regard to point No. (2),(4),(5),(6),(8),(9) &(10) the respondent PIO stated that the information sought by the Appellant pertains to personal information of the third party/ third parties.

The Appellant filed First Appeal on 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 as his requested information was not furnished. The First Appellate Authority cum-Chief Engineer (CSQ), PWD, Itanagar took up the case for its disposal but no clear order was

passed. Even copy of the order passed by the First Appellate Authority was not made available to the Appellant.

The Appellant filed second appeal before this commission on the ground that the PIO denied the information sought and that the First Appellate Authority did not respond to his First Appeal. The appellant requested the commission to direct the PIO to provide the information sought.

Hearing of the second Appeal was taken up on 09<sup>th</sup> April, 2021. During the hearing the Respondent PIO reiterated his reply given to the PIO on 09<sup>th</sup> December, 2020 and stated that requested information could not be furnished to the Appellant as the information was either not readily available with the Department or information was exempted under section 8 (1)(j) of the RTI Act. The Appellant stated that the PIO malafidely denied the information to him as the information did not fall in any of the categories which is exempted from disclosure under section 8 (1) (j) of the Act. The Appellant further claimed that requested information was arbitrarily and deliberately withheld by the PIO to hide the corruption, fraud or immoral practices of the Government Officers/Officials.

After the hearing submissions of both the parties, the commission vide its order dated 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2021 directed the PIO to take a decision as to whether or not to disclose the information sought in point No. (2),(4),(5),(6),(8),(9) &(10) of the said application after following third party procedure.

In order to ensure social distancing and prevent spread of Covid-19, video hearing has been scheduled to-day. The Appellant is present in person. The PIO is present for hearing through video conference.

During the hearing the Appellant has reiterated his claim that he has been denied what is legitimately due to him in an arbitrary manner and has requested the commission to initiate non-compliance proceeding against the PIO. Further, it is also requested by the Appellant that the required information be provided to him along with compensation under section 19(8) (b) of the RTI Act.

The PIO has informed the commission that he has not yet taken decision about the disclosure of the information sought in point no. (3),(4) & (5) of the RTI application though written submissions from the concerned third parties have been received. He has however, submitted that there is no malafide intention to deny the information as alleged by the Appellant or to disobey the order of the commission, and that he would now take a decision after receiving the commission's direction in this regard.

Upon the perusal of records, it appears that the PIO has not made any decision about the disclosure of information provided by the third party and the

commission takes very strong exception of in-ordinate delay in furnishing the information to the Appellant. The commission also observes that even if the information sought is personal information of third party, the PIO may disclose the information if he does not find any merit in the submissions of the third party.

With the above observation, the commission directs the PIO to make a clear decision as to whether or not to disclose the information sought in point No. (2),(4),(5),(6),(8),(9) &(10) of the RTI application dated 17<sup>th</sup> November, 2020 within 7(seven) days from today. Compliance report to this effect shall be duly sent by the PIO to the commission within 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2021, failing which non-compliance proceeding shall be initiated by the commission.

The hearing is adjourned to 29<sup>th</sup> October, 2021. Copy of this order be provided to the Appellant, the PIO and the concerned third party.

Sd/-

(Genom Tekseng)
State Information Commissioner
Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission
Itanagar

Memo No.APIC-57/2021 640 Dated, Itanagar the ..... September, 2021 Copy to:

- Er. Rimmer Tasso,PIO-Cum-SE(CSQ) PWD,O/o The CE(CSQ),Nirman Bhawan,2<sup>nd</sup> Floor,'O' Point Tinali,Arunachal Pradesh.
- 2. Shri Takar Goi, Village Yagrung, PO-Yagrung, PS-Pasighat, Dist. East Siang, Arunachal Pradesh.
- 3. M/s K.B.M Enterprises ,Proprietor- Shri Kabit Mize, S/o Shri Tamin Mize, JNC Campus,East Siang Dist. Pasighat Arunachal Pradesh.
- 4. M/s .Eastern Engineers and Fabricator, Proprietor- Gul Lego ,W/o Atop Lego Raneghat, East Siang Dist. Pasighat Arunachal Pradesh.
- M/s. M.G.D Enterprises ,Proprietor- Smti Mame Borang ,W/o: Shri Getom Borang, Vill- Mika Po/Ps -Roing ,Dist.Lower Dibang Valley Arunachal Pradesh.
- 6. M/s. M.M Enterprises, Proprietor- Miti Darang, D/o:- Tapi Darang, Vill-Renging, Po/Ps- Pasighat, East Siang Dist. Arunachal Pradesh.
- 7. M/s. Tani Takar Enterprises, Proprietor- Smti Tireng Taku, W/o:- Kanggong Taku, Vill- Geku, Po/Ps –Geku, Yingkiong Upper Siang Dist. Arunachal Pradesh.

- 8. M/s. Asum Engineering Enterprises, Proprietor -Shri Mopun Apang ,Vill-Karko ,Po/Ps -Jengging ,Upper Siang Dist. Arunachal Pradesh.
- M/s. Big Enterprises, Proprietor- Shri Bigam Pertin, S/o Shri Belatee Pertin,
   Vill- Midland Roing Dist. Lower Dibang Valley Arunachal Pradesh.
- 10.M/s. MB Enterprises ,Proprietor- Shri Mibom Borang,S/o Shri Liyon Borang Vill- Mebo, East Siang Dist. Arunachal Pradesh.
- 11. M/s. K.D. Electricals, Proprietor- Shri Kabit Dai ,S/o Shri Kaling Dai Vill-Berung, Dist. East Pasighat A.P.
- 12.M/s. Oishy Enterprises, Proprietor- Shri Angkin Lego, S/o Dr. Ngangin Lego Vill- Yapgo Pasighat, East Siang District Arunachal Pradesh.
- 13. Computer Programmer, APIC, Itanagar, to upload in APIC Website, 14. Case file.

Registrar/Dy Registrar,
Arunachal Pradesh Information Commission
Itanagar