No. C. 31018/1/2014 - MIC MIZORAM INFORMATION COMMISSION MIZORAM: AIZAWL

Dated Aizawl, the 19th January 2022

ORDER

Subject: Implementation of suo motu disclosure under Section 4 of RTI Act, 2005 - reg

Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act lays down the information which should be disclosed by Public Authorities on a suo motu or proactive basis. Section 4(2) and Section 4(3) prescribe the method of dissemination of this information. The purpose of suo motu disclosures under Section 4 is to place large amount of information in public domain on a proactive basis to make the functioning of the Public Authorities more transparent and also to reduce the need for filing individual RTI applications.

- 2. Since the promulgation of the Act in 2005, large amount of information relating to functioning of the government is being put in public domain. However, from the Reports submitted by various departments and offices under the Government of Mizoram and on checking the websites, it has come to the notice of Mizoram Information Commission that many public authorities have not done enough to provide basic information with regard to their functioning, etc. proactively as mandatorily obligated under Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005.
- Despite several letters sent to the Chief Secretary, Government of Mizoram and recommendations of MIC in its Annual Reports, there are still many public authorities who have not designated Departmental Appellate Authority (DAA), State Public Information Officer (SPIO) and State Assistant Public Information Officer (SAPIO) in their respective departments. The officials so designated should be designated by their name and not by the post they hold. They should also display prominently the name and designation plate for easy identification and access by public within the office premises and in the website of every Public Authority.
- 4. Recently, MIC has carried out website checking of the departments under Government of Mizoram and it has been observed that while only a few departments regularly update their websites, majority of the departments are neglectful in this regard. On checking, it has been noticed that most of the departments have not adhered to Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005 despite the Act being in force for more than 15 years.

5. Therefore, the State Public Information Officers of all public authorities under the Government of Mizoram are hereby instructed to comply with Section 4(1)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005 and compliance report of the same should be submitted to the Secretary, Mizoram Information Commission not later than 28.02.2022. On the spot checking may also be carried out by the officials of MIC after receipt of compliance reports.

This issues with the instruction and approval of the Chief Information Commissioner, Mizoram Information Commission on 19.01.2022.

(H. DOLIANBUAIA)

Secretary

Mizoram Information Commission

Mizoram: Aizawl

Memo No. C.31018/1/2014-MIC

Dated Aizawl the 19th January 2022

Copy to: -

- 1. The Chief Secretary, Mizoram with a request to follow up compliance report.
- 2. All Administrative Departments, Mizoram with a request to ensure compliance.
- 3. All State Public Information Officers (SPIOs) for necessary action.
- 4. Guard file.

Mizoram Information Commission Mizoram: Aizawl