

MIZORAM INFORMATION COMMISSION MINECO, KHATLA, MIZORAM: AIZAWL

Case No: S.A. 203/2025-MIC

Vanlaldinpuii, Bungkawn Vengthar ...Appellant

Vs

1. Zothanzama Sailo,
SPIO & Deputy Director
Audit & Pension, Accounts & Treasuries

...Respondent

2. F. Lalremmawia,
SPIO & Deputy Director
Audit & Pension, Accounts & Treasuries

3. Vanlalsawma,
DAA & Chief Controller of Accounts
Accounts & Treasuries

RTI application filed on	:	02.08.2024
SPIO replied on	:	NIL
First appeals filed on	:	19.09.2024 & 14.10.2024
Appellate Authority order	:	NIL
Second Appeal dated		04.03.2025
Date of Hearing	:	03.04.2025 at 01:00 PM
Date of Decision	:	12.03.2025

- 1. The appellant sought information as follows:
 - i. Rualchhawni, D/o. Thangruaii (L), R/o. Republic Veng, Aizawl family Pension dilna Rejection Order leh Rejected anihna chhan documents awm zawng zawng.
 - ii. Rualchhawni, D/o. Thangruaii (L) in family pension a claimed-na hi vawi engzat nge Reject anih tawh?

- 2. As, the SPIO did not reply to the RTI application, the appellant preferred First Appeal on 19.09.2024 wherein, as stated in her Second Appeal, she was instructed to re-submit her First Appeal by the Appellate Authority; First Appeal was re-submitted on 14.10.2024. However, it appears no action was taken by the DAA.
- 3. Summons were issued to the appellant and respondent(s) to appear before the Commission on 03.04.2025 (Thursday) at 01:00 PM. As scheduled, hearing was held wherein the appellant and respondents appeared in person.
- 4. The appellant stated that she had requested for copies of rejection order and the reason for rejection of family pension claim of Pi Rualkhumi, the SPIO and DAA did not take any action on the matter and requested this Commission to help her in getting the information sought in her RTI application.
- 5. Pu F. Lalremmawia, former SPIO & Deputy Director, Local Fund Audit & Pension submitted to this Commission his clarification on the RTI response delay on 26.03.2025 and apologized for the lapse on his part for not furnishing the required information and assured that such lapses will not occur in future.
- 6. In the hearing, Pu Vanlalsawma, DAA & Chief Controller of Accounts, Accounts & Treasuries Department tendered his apology on behalf of his department and stated that since he did not receive the First Appeal submitted to their department, he could not take any action on the matter.

OBSERVATION:

1. As per Section 7(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, the State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, on receipt of a request under section 6 shall, as expeditiously as possible, and in any case within thirty days of the receipt of the requests, either provide the information on payment of such fee as may be prescribed or reject the request. In this case, the SPIO failed to take action on the matter. Pu F. Lalremmawia is informed to take RTI matters seriously and see that such negligence does not occur in future.

- 2. On perusal of the First Appeals submitted to the DAA, Office of the Deputy Director, Audit & Pension, Accounts & Treasuries, it could be seen from the 'Received Stamp' that the office received both the applications on 19.09.2024 and 14.10.2024 respectively but had failed to forward the same to the DAA of the department viz Pu Vanlalsawma, DAA & Chief Controller of Accounts, Accounts & Treasuries. Had such lapses not occurred, the need to submit Second Appeal to MIC could have been averted. The office is warned to strictly abide by the provisions under the RTI Act, 2005 as public authorities are expected to render all reasonable assistance to information seekers.
- 3. The appellant, an advocate acting on behalf of her client, may also note that the names and designations of all the SPIOs and DAA are available in the website of the department in compliance with Section 4(1)(b) of the Act. She is informed to be more careful in future while dealing with RTI cases.

DECISION:

In view of the above, the Commission hereby directs that Pu Zothanzama Sailo, SPIO & Deputy Director, Local Fund Audit & Pension shall give the required information to the appellant not later than 11.04.2025 (Friday) and submit compliance report to MIC latest by 16.04.2025 (Friday).

The appeal is disposed of accordingly. Copy of decision to be given, free of cost, to all parties.

NEORMATIO.

(MANGJANGAM TOUTHANG)

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Information Commissioner

Mizoram Information Commission

John Weihlana

(JOHN NEIHLAIA)

Chief Information Commissioner

Mizoram Information Commission