



MIZORAM INFORMATION COMMISSION
(under the RTI Act, 2005)
MINECO, KHATLA,

Case No: S.A. 215/2025-MIC

V. Valminthang,
Mimbung, Saitual District

...Appellant

Vs

1. Samson Thanruma,
SPIO & Deputy Conservator of Forests (Hqrs),
Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

...Respondents

2. N.C. Saravanan,
DAA & Chief Conservator of Forests (Hqrs),
Environment, Forests & Climate Change.

RTI application filed on	:	14.03.2025
SPIO replied on	:	11.04.2025
First appeal filed on	:	12.04.2025
DAA replied on	:	09.05.2025
Second Appeal filed on	:	11.05.2025
Date of Hearing	:	26.05.2025 at 01:00 PM
Date of Decision	:	26.05.2025

1. The appellant sought information as follows: -

“Dt 13 March 2025 a result tihchhuah tak Forester leh Forest Guard hnalak a interview tur a koh te written leh interview a an marks hmuh zat ka rawn dil e.”

2. The SPIO furnished reply stating, *“I zawhna chhanna hi Section 8(1)(j) in a huam angin, 3rd party consent lak ngai a ni a. Candidate te hian consent an la pek kim loh avangin marks hi pek chhuah theih a la ni lo”.*

3. The appellant preferred First Appeal stating that his RTI application is not given due importance and questioned why the SPIO gave him a reply before consent was obtained from all the concerned candidates. The DAA replied, *“...the appeal however does not request for any information covered under Right to Information Act, 2005. In view of the above, 1st Appeal dated 12.04.2025 made by V. Valminthang is hereby disposed of”.*

4. Summons were issued to the appellant and respondent(s) to appear before the Commission on 26.05.2025 (Monday) at 01:00 PM. As scheduled, hearing was held wherein the appellant and respondent SPIO appeared in person while the DAA submitted a letter of his inability to attend the hearing as he is presently on leave in his hometown in Tamil Nadu.
5. The appellant expressed his grievances during the hearing and claimed that his RTI application was not given enough consideration. He feels that the SPIO had sufficient time to secure the consent of every candidate, despite the response he received from the SPIO. The appellant further asserted that he believes the information needed from the SPIO was clear, despite the fact that he did not explicitly state the particulars of the information he was seeking in his First Appeal.
6. The respondent SPIO informed that there are 196 candidates for the posts of Forester and Forest Guard, and since it was not possible to get in contact with all the candidates due to signal/network issues, etc. for their consent, they could not provide the required information within the stipulated period and apologized for the lapse on their part.
7. After hearing both the parties, the Commission observed the following:
 - i. The respondent SPIO mentioned in his letter dt. 11.04.2025 that the requested information comes under Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, and that they have to obtain consent of all the candidates regarding disclosure of the written and interview marks. However, it should be noted that: -
 - a) Marks obtained by candidates in the recruitment process for public posts can be disclosed under the RTI Act, 2005 as disclosure promotes transparency and accountability.
 - b) Transparency and accountability in a public recruitment process should be promoted.
 - c) Disclosure of marks obtained by candidates in a public recruitment process is not invasion of privacy but should rather be uploaded on the website so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information.

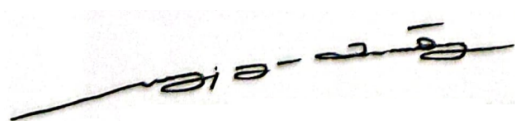
Pu Samson Thanruma should take note of the above points in future.

- ii. Being vested with quasi-judicial powers, the DAA should conduct hearing for every First Appeal received and inform the appellant of the date and time of hearing at least 7 (seven) clear days before that date as per Rule 5(a) of the Mizoram RTI Rules, 2010 instead of providing written reply stating that *“the appeal however does not request for any information covered under Right to Information Act, 2005”*. Pu N.C. Saravanan, DAA & Chief Conservator of Forests (Hqrs), Environment, Forests & Climate Change is hereby informed to strictly adhere to the relevant provisions of the RTI Act and Rules in future.

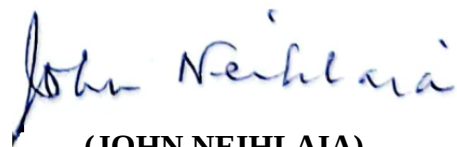
DECISION:

In view of the circumstances, **the Commission hereby directs that Pu Samson Thanruma, SPIO & Deputy Conservator of Forests (Hqrs), Environment, Forests & Climate Change** shall give the required information in PDF format, free of cost to the appellant not later than 30.05.2025 (Friday) and submit compliance report to this Commission with all the enclosures.

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



(MANGJANGAM TOUTHANG)
Information Commissioner
Mizoram Information Commission



(JOHN NEIHLAIA)
Chief Information Commissioner
Mizoram Information Commission