

**MIZORAM INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
*(Under the RTI Act, 2005)*  
**MINECO, KHATLA**  
**MIZORAM: AIZAWL**

Case No. S.A. 233/2025-MIC

Dated Aizawl, the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2025

***K. Lalhunmawia,  
Peniel Veng, Hnahthial***

**...Appellant**

***Vs***

- 1. Isaac Zodinsanga Zote,  
SPIO & Executive Engineer,  
Power Maintenance Division-II, Power & Electricity.***
- 2. Lalngaihsaka,  
former SPIO & Executive Engineer,  
Power Maintenance Division-II, Power & Electricity.***
- 3. H. Lalnunsanga,  
DAA & Superintending Engineer,  
Lunglei Power Circle.***

**...Respondents**

|                          |   |                          |
|--------------------------|---|--------------------------|
| RTI application filed on | : | 02.05.2025 & 03.05.2025  |
| SPIO replied on          | : | NIL                      |
| First appeals filed on   | : | 04.06.2025               |
| DAA order / reply on     | : | NIL                      |
| Second Appeal dated      | : | 19.07.2025               |
| Date of Hearing          | : | 29.08.2025 at 12:00 Noon |
| Date of Decision         | : | 29.08.2025               |

The Chief Information Commissioner and Information Commissioner presided over the hearing.

1. The appellant submitted 2 (two) nos. of RTI applications via RTI Online as follows: -

- (a) ***2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays siamna turah hian ni 8.7.2024-a a hmun teak tel lova sam fai tan a nih atanga tun thleng hian eng hnate nge thawh tan tawh, thawh zawh tawh leh la thawh mek kimchang min lo hrilh teh.***

(b) *2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays siamna turah hian harsatna eng pawh a awm a nih chuan engte nge tih min hrilh la, chung harsatna su kiang tura department leh sawrkar hmalakna awm apiang min hrilh turin ka ngen a che.*

(c) *2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays siamna turah hian sum lamah harsatna a awm em ? A awm chuan harsatna nihphung kimchang min hrilh teh.*

(d) *NGO leh mipuiin department leh sawrkar an puih ve theihna tur kawng a awm chuan min hrilh turin ka ngen a che.*

&

(a) *2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays siamna atana pawisa 1.59 crore sanction-na (pekna) lehkha min pe turin ka dil e.*

(b) *2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays atana sum hmuh 1.59 crore hmanna tura siam working estimate certified copy min pe turin ka dil e.*

(c) *2x25MVA, 132/33kV Sub-Station at Hnahthial with 132 kV linking lines and associated bays siamna turah hian working estimate atangin eng hnate nge thawh tawh tih leh pawisa engzat nge hman ral tawh tih leh pawisa eng zat nge la bang tih min hrilh turin ka dil e.*

2. The SPIO did not furnish any reply to the appellant, and First Appeal could not be filed via RTI Online as the DAA is not registered. Thus, the appellant preferred separate First Appeals with regard to the abovementioned RTI applications. However, it appears that the DAA did not take action on the matter leading to Second Appeal being preferred by the appellant.

3. Summons were issued to the appellant and respondent(s) to appear before the Commission on 29.08.2025 (Friday) at 12:00 Noon. As scheduled, hearing was held in hybrid mode where the appellant appeared via Video Conferencing and respondents all appeared in person.

4. The appellant stated that as he was not provided any reply nor informed of the reasons why his RTI applications were not responded to even after a lapse of more than 30 days. He feels that the SPIO has refused his request for information and this inaction by the SPIO invites Section 20 of the RTI Act.
5. In reply, the present SPIO Pu Isaac Zodinsanga Zote stated that he joined the post of Executive Engineer, Power Maintenance Division-II, P&E on 14.05.2025 and upon his attempt to attend to the application on the online portal, the input field was disabled and he could not provide any reply. He also stated that he had attempted to call the appellant several times but the appellant did not pick up the calls. He, however, informed that the required information was later furnished in writing to the appellant, and also apologized for not responding to the RTI application within the stipulated period of 30 days.
6. The DAA informed the Commission that he is not sure as to whether or not he is the designated DAA for Power Maintenance Division-II, P&E as all his predecessors were designated as SPIOs. He, however, mentioned that the office of the Superintending Engineer, Lunglei Power instructed the SPIO to furnish the information to the appellant on 18.06.2025.

#### **OBSERVATIONS:**

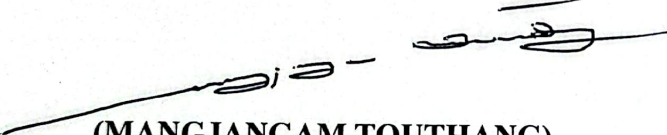
1. As per Section 7(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, *"...the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, on receipt of a request under section 6 shall, as expeditiously as possible, and in any case within thirty days of the receipt of the request, either provide the information on payment of such fee as may be prescribed or reject the request..."*. In this case, while the respondents mentioned that the reply was sent in writing after the stipulated period, the appellant stated that he did not receive any information on the matter. Pu Isaac Zodinsanga Zote is advised to strictly adhere to the provisions laid down under the RTI Act and be more careful in dealing with RTI cases in future.

2. While the SPIO stated that he could no longer reply to the appellant on the online portal, it should be noted that after the stipulated period under the Act has passed, the system automatically disables the input field with an automatically generated message. However, this does not restrict the SPIO from giving a reply as it is possible to enable the input field again by clicking on the **"Edit Answer"** button.
3. The SPIO's claim regarding delay due to handing and taking over charge of the SPIO cannot be taken as an excuse for not responding to RTI applications. He should be able to apportion time available to him on various activities entrusted to him including the work as SPIO. Non-availability of adequate time cannot be the cause for delay in disposal of request for information.
4. Pu H. Lalnunsanga shall ascertain his role as either DAA or SPIO through the Engineer-in-Chief's office. If no clarity is received on the matter by the Mizoram Information Commission, the Engineer-in-Chief, P&E department shall be summoned to appear before the Commission.
5. For every First Appeal received, the DAA, being vested with quasi-judicial powers, should hear both the parties *viz* appellant and respondent. The DAA shall, in every case inform the date of hearing at least seven (7) clear days before the date fixed as per Rule 7(5)(a) of the Mizoram RTI Rules, 2010. Order of the DAA shall be pronounced in open court and be in writing duly authenticated by the DAA for this purpose. The concerned DAA is informed to strictly adhere to the relevant provisions of the RTI Act/Rules for every First Appeal received by him/her in future.
6. Both parties are given sufficient time to express and explain their views and positions.

**DECISION:**

In view of the above, the Commission hereby directs that Pu Isaac Zodinsanga Zote, SPIO & Executive Engineer, Power Maintenance Division-II, Power & Electricity Department shall provide the information sought to the appellant for both the RTI applications, free of cost, not later than 12.09.2025 (Friday) via the online portal or through a special messenger with compliance report to MIC with all the enclosures.

The appeal is disposed of accordingly. Copy of decision to be given, free of cost, to all parties including the Engineer-in-Chief of the P&E department.

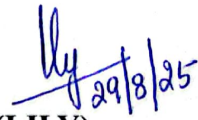
  
(MANGJANGAM TOUTHANG)  
Information Commissioner  
Mizoram Information Commission

  
(JOHN NEIHLAIA)  
Chief Information Commissioner  
Mizoram Information Commission



Copy to: -

1. K. Lalhunmawia, Peniel Veng, Hnahthial, Ph: 9612253707.
2. Isaac Zodinsanga Zote, *present* SPIO & Executive Engineer, Power Maintenance Division-II, P&E, Ph: 7005046960.
3. Lalngaihsaka, *former* SPIO & Executive Engineer, Power Maintenance Division-II, P&E, Ph: 8414899777.
4. H. Lalnunsanga, DAA & Superintending Engineer, Lunglei Power Circle, Ph: 84158252013.
5. J.H. Malsawma, Engineer-in-Chief, P&E, Ph: 8258021173.

  
(LILY)

**Deputy Secretary**  
Mizoram Information Commission  
Mizoram: Aizawl