



MIZORAM INFORMATION COMMISSION

(Under the RTI Act, 2005)

MINECO, KHATLA, AIZAWL

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Case No. C. 176/2026-MIC

*Lalhminghlui Khawlhling,
Mizoram Information Commission*

...Complainant

Vs

*Christina Lalmuanzuali,
SPIO & Under Secretary,
General Administration Department,
Government of Mizoram*

...Respondent

RTI application filed on	:	11.03.2026
SPIO replied on	:	NIL
Complaint submitted on	:	29.04.2026
Date & Time of hearing	:	12.05.2026 at 01:00 PM
Date of decision	:	12.05.2026

Pu John Neihlaia, State Chief Information Commissioner presided over the hearing. Pu Mangjangam Touthang, State Information Commissioner and Dr. Lalzirmawia Chhangte, State Information Commissioner were present and participated in the hearing.

The complainant and the respondent took an oath before commencement of the hearing.

FACTS:

1. The Complainant submitted an RTI application to the SPIO, GAD seeking information on the following: -
 - a. *Mizoram Information Commission Draft Recruitment Rules date 05.08.2025 GAD a rawn thehluh tak in process na file notesheet copy zawng zawng.*
 - b. *Mizoram Information Commission proposal hi tihdanglam a ni em? A nih chuan tihdanglam a nih chhan leh dan behchhan, etc. ka hre duh a, a kaihhnawih documents awm ang ang copy ka duh e.*
 - c. *Mizoram Information Commission proposal hi tihdanglam a nih hmain a Recruitment Rules neitu (MIC) hi dan angin rawn/hriattir an ni em? An nih chuan a kaihhnawih copy awm ang ang ka duh e.*

d. Mizoram Information Commission Recruitment Rules proposal DP&AR (GSW) ah GAD in a thehluh ni leh a thehluh copy ka duh e (a connected documents zawng zawng nen).

2. As the SPIO did not furnish any reply to the RTI application, Complaint was submitted to MIC. In this regard, summons were issued to both the complainant and respondent to appear before the Mizoram Information Commission. As scheduled, hearing was held where both the complainant who was accompanied by Pi Barnadeth Lalthasangi, MIC and the respondent attended in person.
3. In the hearing, the complainant stated her grievances as even after a lapse of more than 50 days, she has not received any reply from the SPIO and requests for the Commission to take appropriate action.
4. The respondent SPIO submitted to the Commission that, having only recently been designated as SPIO, she was initially unaware of the pending RTI application. It was only upon receipt of the Commission's summons that she came to learn the application had remained unattended. Following this, the department immediately processed the request; having obtained the necessary approvals, she has produced the required documents before the Commission.

OBSERVATION: -

1. Under Section 7(1) of the RTI Act, the SPIO is mandated to provide the requested information or issue a rejection within thirty days of receipt. Furthermore, Section 7(2) stipulates that failure to provide a decision within this timeframe constitutes a "**deemed refusal**." The former SPIO's total inaction, therefore, represents a serious statutory violation; such non-response is equivalent to a denial of information and warrants consideration for penalties under Section 20 of the RTI Act, 2005.
2. The denial of information contravenes the fundamental spirit and objectives of the RTI Act, 2005, which aims to foster transparency, accountability, and participatory governance. By empowering citizens to access records held by public authorities, the Act serves as a vital tool for curbing corruption and building public trust. Any unjust withholding or delay of information erodes the democratic right to know and weakens the framework of institutional accountability. Such lapses defeat the core purpose of making the government answerable to the people. Consequently, **Pi Christina Lalmuanzuali, Under Secretary, is informed that RTI applications are to be treated on top priority. She is also advised to develop a thorough proficiency in the provisions of the RTI Act and to ensure that all future applications are disposed of in strict accordance with the law.**

DECISION: -

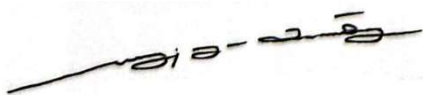
Upon reviewing the circumstances and taking a lenient view, the Commission notes that Pi Christina Lalmuanzuali, SPIO & Under Secretary, General Administration Department had only recently been appointed as the State Public Information Officer (SPIO) and was not the incumbent official at the time the RTI application was originally filed. Consequently, the Commission finds that the failure to attend to the application cannot be attributed to her. There is no evidence of malafide intention on her part to wilfully withhold information or obstruct the disclosure process.

Given these facts and since she has submitted the required information during the hearing, the Commission concludes that she acted in good faith and that the administrative lapse occurred prior to her tenure. As such, **the intervention of the Commission is not necessary in this case.**

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



(JOHN NEIHLAIA)
State Chief Information Commissioner
Mizoram Information Commission



(MANGJANGAM TOUTHANG)
State Information Commissioner
Mizoram Information Commission



(DR. LALZIRMAWIA CHHANGTE)
State Information Commissioner
Mizoram Information Commission

Memo No. C. 176/2026-MIC

Dated Aizawl, the 12th May 2026

Copy to: -

1. Lalhminghlui Khawlhling, Mizoram Information Commission, Ph: 9612673215.
2. Christina Lalmuanzuali, SPIO & Under Secretary, General Administration Department, Government of Mizoram, Ph: 7085416805



(LILY)

Secretary

Mizoram Information Commission

Mizoram: Aizawl