

Second Appeal No. S.A. 412/2026-MIC

Lalremsangi Fanai, *...Appellant*
Falkawn, PO-Kulikawn, Aizawl.

Vs

Dr. C. Vanlalhlua, *...Respondent*
SPIO & Sub Dean (Hospital Administration),
Zoram Medical College & Hospital.

Date & Time of hearing : 23.09.2026 at 12:00 Noon.

Date of decision : 24.09.2026

Relevant facts emerging from the Second Appeal

RTI application filed on	: 22.04.2026
SPIO replied on	: NIL
First Appeal filed on	: 02.06.2026
FAA issued order/replied on	: NIL
Second Appeal received on	: 25.08.2026

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

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

1. The appellant submitted an online RTI application as follows: -

“Hospital Pharmacy a Ni 1 June 2025 - Ni 22 April 2026 chhunga Damdawi lei leh hralh zawng zawng Schedule H, Schedule H1 te a hranpa a ziaak langin ka dil a. Schedule H leh Schedule H1 bik hralhna ka dil hi Doctor Prescription zawng zawng nen ka dil e.

Damdawi lei leh Hralhna ka dil hi monthly wise a ziaak lang turin ka dil a.

Ka dilna te physical copy a min pek kher ka phutlo a. Soft copy in min pe mai turin ka ngen a che.”

2. The present Second Appeal has been preferred by the appellant against the inaction of both the SPIO and FAA. As scheduled, hearing was held. The SPIO Dr. C. Vanlalhlua authorized Prof. Vanlalhruii, Professor of Pharmacology & Sub Dean (Hospital Pharmacy) to attend the hearing on his behalf as he is currently on leave. The appellant was present in person.
3. The appellant submitted that neither the SPIO nor the FAA had taken any action on the RTI application and the subsequent appeal. She stated that such inaction indicated that due importance had not been accorded to matters arising under the RTI Act, 2005. The Appellant further submitted that RTI applications and appeals should be given due importance and attended to promptly and in accordance with the provisions of the Act in future.
4. Prof. Vanlalhruii stated that, due to the limited number of officers and staff, the transition/change in the incumbent SPIO during the relevant period, and the fact that the appellant had submitted a number of RTI applications, the present RTI application had inadvertently been mixed up with other cases being dealt with by the appellant. She expressed regret for the lapse and tendered an apology to the Commission. Prof. Vanlalhruii also informed the Commission that doctors' prescriptions contain personal information such as name, contact, history of illness etc. of patients. Therefore, disclosure of the same would amount to invasion of privacy of the patients which is in contravention of the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

OBSERVATIONS: -

1. The Commission observes that the information sought by the Appellant, particularly the details of all doctors' prescriptions relating to the sale of Schedule H and Schedule H1 medicines during the specified period, appears to be voluminous in nature. The Commission further takes note of the submission of Prof. Vanlalhruii, who informed the Commission that doctors' prescriptions contain personal information of patients, including their names, contact details, medical history and other particulars relating to their treatment. Disclosure of such information, therefore, may involve the disclosure of personal information of patients and may amount to an unwarranted invasion of their privacy. The Commission is accordingly of the view that the nature and volume of the information sought, as well as the privacy interests of the patients concerned, are relevant considerations

in determining the extent to which the information may be disclosed under the RTI Act, 2005.

2. The Commission cautions the SPIO Dr. C. Vanlalhlua for having failed to take appropriate action on the RTI application within the time and in the manner prescribed under the Right to Information Act, 2005. The SPIO is reminded that, upon receipt of an RTI application, it is incumbent upon the SPIO to deal with the application in accordance with the provisions of the Act, including the requirement under Section 7(1) to dispose of the request within the prescribed period and to communicate the decision to the applicant. The failure to take any action on the application amounts to a lapse in the discharge of the statutory responsibilities entrusted to the SPIO. The SPIO is, therefore, directed to exercise due diligence in future and to ensure strict compliance with the provisions of the RTI Act so that such lapses do not recur.
3. The Commission observes that the First Appellate Authority (FAA) failed to take appropriate action on the First Appeal, including conducting a hearing and disposing of the appeal in accordance with the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The FAA, being the authority designated to examine the grievance of an applicant at the first appellate stage, is expected to consider the appeal objectively and provide the appellant a reasonable opportunity to present his case, where necessary, before passing an appropriate order. Failure to conduct a hearing and dispose of the appeal in a timely manner defeats the purpose of the first appellate mechanism contemplated under the Act. The FAA & Director Prof. Zoramthara Zadeng is, therefore, informed to accord due importance to RTI matters and to ensure strict compliance with the statutory requirements and prescribed timelines in future.

DECISION: -

In view of the above, and upon due consideration of the matter, the Commission is of the view that the information sought by the Appellant is voluminous in nature and includes personal information, the disclosure of which may result in an unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individuals concerned. Accordingly, **the Commission hereby directs Dr. C. Vanlalhlua, SPIO & Sub-Dean (Hospital Administration), Zoram Medical College & Hospital, to**

furnish the information sought, free of cost, after duly severing or redacting such portions of the information that could reveal or reasonably lead to the identification of the individuals concerned, along with information pertaining to the details of medicines purchased and sold during the period from 01.01.2026 to 22.04.2026, not later than 15.10.2026 (Thursday).

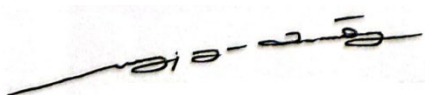
The SPIO shall also submit compliance report along with copies of all the information provided to MIC.

The appeal is disposed of accordingly. Although there is no provision for appeal in the RTI Act, 2005 on the decision of the Commission, concerned parties are hereby informed that a constitutional remedy of judicial review by way of Writ Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution before the High Court having jurisdiction is available, in case they are not satisfied with this decision.



(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. S.A. 412/2026-MIC

Dated Aizawl, the 24th September, 2026

Copy to: -

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Ph: 9436199815.
2. Dr. C. Vanlalhlua, SPIO & Sub Dean (Hospital Administration), Zoram Medical
College & Hospital, Ph: 9862558726.
3. Prof. Zoramthara Zadeng, FAA & Director, Zoram Medical College & Hospital, Ph:
9888188191.



(LIEY)

Secretary

Mizoram Information Commission

Mizoram: Aizawl