

14th Annual Report

(January – December 2019)

**Meghalaya State Information Commission
New Administrative Building
Lower Lachaumiere
Shillong – 793 001**

**Phone (0364) 2500179
Website : www.megsic.gov.in**

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Chapter I

Introduction

The right to know, one of the critical ingredients of a true democracy, is absolutely essential for the effective exercise of the right of expression. This right is embedded in the Constitution of India under Article 19 (1) (a), 'Right to freedom of speech and expression' and Article 21, 'Right to life'. In order to facilitate citizens' access to information held by Public Authorities, the Right to Information Act, 2005 was enacted by the Parliament.

The objective of the Act is to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every Public Authority by giving citizens the right to seek whatever unrestricted information they desire to obtain. The Act strikes a fine balance between what information ought to be given to the seeker and what ought to be held back. Accordingly, a set of exemptions is listed out under sections 8 and agencies/bodies not required to give information are listed under section 24. However, matters pertaining to corruption and violation of human rights are not exempted.

Informed citizenry is an essential requirement for an effective participatory democracy. Effective participation is possible only when a citizen has access to relevant information, especially that information which is held by various organs of the Government. The right of expression can be effectively exercised only when the right to know is safe guarded. The Right to Information Act has emerged as one of the most effective tools for the existence and growth of a vibrant democracy.

A three tier mechanism for disposal of applications and complaints is prescribed by the Act. The Public Information Officer (PIO) at the first level who is responsible for providing the requested information, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) at the second level for deciding the first appeal and the State Information Commission at the third level for deciding and giving appropriate direction to the FAA / PIO of a Public Authority concerned as and when a second appeal or complaint is filed.

During the last *fourteen years*, it is seen that implementation of the Act has been marching forward in ensuring transparency and accountability particularly in Government Departments. And the number of applications received with effect from 2006 to 2019 is on the rise each successive year.

The Table below shows the *year-wise disposal of Complaints* by the Commission during the last 14 years

Year	No. of Complaints received	No. of Complaints disposed	No. of Complaints rejected	Remarks
2006	11	9	1	
2007	39	38	13	
2008	37	36	12	
2009	47	45	12	
2010	41	32	7	
2011	31	31	-	
2012	43	39	-	4 nos. carried over
2013	32	32	-	
2014	27	25	-	2 nos. carried over
2015	51	51	-	
2016	40	40	-	
2017	37	37	-	
2018	15	15	-	
2019	10	10	-	

The Table below shows the *year wise disposal of Second Appeals* by the Commission during the last 14 years

Year	Total no. of Appeals	No. of Appeals disposed	No. of Appeals rejected	Remarks
2006	6	6	0	
2007	18	18	0	
2008	23	20	0	
2009	37	34	0	3 nos. carried over
2010	17	14	1	2 nos. carried over
2011	13	8	5	
2012	8	4		4 nos. carried over
2013	17	15		2 nos. carried over
2014	14	13		1 no. carried over
2015	15	15	0	
2016	11	11	0	
2017	12	12	0	
2018	4	4	0	
2019	5	5	0	

This Annual Report has been prepared in accordance with sections 25(1) & 25(2). It shall be laid before the State Legislature by the State Government as soon as practicable in accordance with the provision of section 25(4).

In this report, we have reflected the total number of requests made and disposed of by the Public Information Officers (PIOs), the fees collected, the number of appeals preferred by the appellants (aggrieved with the decision of the Departmental Appellate Authority) and other relevant matters. The total number of complaints filed by those information seekers who failed to get any response from the PIOs or their applications rejected is also indicated. Some of the important decisions passed by the Commission are incorporated in the report for the benefit of the PIOs and other functionaries dealing with RTI matters. While preparing the report, an attempt has been made to focus on those items required most under various sections of the Act.

The Act empowers citizens to get access to information under the control of the Public Authorities but it also protects them from unscrupulous individuals who seek to misuse the Act by seeking frivolous information which merely serve to harass PIOs or in other cases some applicants use the Act to obtain information to settle personal scores. The RTI Act has served to unearth valuable information achieving great transparency in the functions of Public Authorities. It has considerably helped genuine information seekers who would have otherwise been deprived of their rights. The RTI Act is one of the simplest laws of the Country and the key to its success lies in its simplicity. It assists the genuine information seeker while protecting the bonafide interests of Public Authorities.

The Commission has spared no efforts to redress genuine grievances but much still has to be done to educate Public Authorities as well as citizens so that the intentions of this law are achieved and transparency in the public arena increases.

Some of the important decisions and orders of the Commissions have been included in this report.

Implementation of *the Right to Information Act 2005* during the year 2019 in the State was by and large smooth.

The Meghalaya State Information Commission is pleased to present to the State Government of Meghalaya this **14th Annual Report** for the period from *1st January 2019 to 31st December 2019*.

Chapter 2

Powers and functions of the Meghalaya State Information Commission

- 2.1. The Meghalaya State Information Commission was constituted vide *Notification No. IPR 48/2005/Pt.11/10 dated 3rd October, 2005* read with *Notification No. IPR 48/2005/52/11 dated 7th October, 2005* with its headquarters at Shillong. The present incumbent, Shri P.B.O. Warjri IAS (Rtd.) assumed charge as Chief Information Commissioner on 4th August, 2016.

The Commission derives its powers and functions from the provisions of *The Right to Information Act, 2005*. Section 15 (4) provides that general superintendence, direction and management of the affairs of the State Information Commission shall vest in the State Chief Information Commissioner, who may exercise all such powers and do all such acts and things as may be exercised or done by the State Information Commission autonomously, without being subjected to directions by any other authority.

The Act also prescribes that the State Government shall provide the State Chief Information Commissioner with such officers and staff as may be necessary for the efficient performance of his duties and functions under the Act, and the salaries and allowances payable to and the terms and conditions of service shall be such as may be prescribed.

To enable the Commission to function effectively, the following posts have been created and filled up by the State Government.

Sl. No.	Designation	No. of posts sanctioned	No. of posts filled
1.	State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC)	1	1
2.	Secretary	1	1 (by deputation)
3.	Under Secretary	1	1 (by deputation)
4.	Senior PS to the CIC	1	1 (by deputation)
5.	Superintendent	1	1 (by deputation)
6.	Accountant	1	1 (by deputation)
7.	UDA	1	1 (by deputation)
8.	PA to the CIC	1	1 (by deputation)
9.	LDA	1	1 (by deputation)
10.	Data Entry Operator	1	1
11.	Driver	2	2
12.	Process Server	1	1
13.	Peons	3	3
14.	Chowkidar	1	1

- 2.2.** The Commission has no office building of its own. Presently it functions from the temporary accommodation allotted by the State Government on the first floor of the Administrative building located at Lower Lachauchiere, Shillong.

The present *official address* of the Commission is:

Meghalaya State Information Commission

New Administrative Building

Lower Lachauchiere

East Khasi Hills District

Shillong – 793001

Phone No – (0364) 2500179

Website: www.megsic.gov.in

2.3. Nodal Department

The Personnel & Administrative Reforms Department is the nodal department for the Commission. All matters, administrative and financial are taken up and routed through the nodal department. The Annual Report prepared by the Commission is sent through the nodal department for laying it before the Meghalaya Legislative Assembly as soon as practicable.

2.4. Duties

The Commission functions as a statutory body – to hear and adjudicate the complaints and appeals from citizens and to monitor and ensure implementation of the Act at various levels in accordance with the provisions of *The Right to Information Act, 2005* read with *The Meghalaya Right to Information Rules 2005*.

2.5. Powers and duties of the officers and employees of The Meghalaya State Information Commission

Sl. no.	Designation	Powers and duties
1.	State Chief Information Commissioner (SCIC), Meghalaya	General superintendence, direction and management of affairs of the Meghalaya State Information Commission, adjudication of Complaints and Second Appeals from citizens and monitoring to ensure proper implementation of the Act at various levels
2.	Secretary	Administrative matters of the State Information Commission and overall charge of the office of the Commission. To function as FAA under the RTI Act
3.	Deputy / Under Secretary	Receipt and registration of appeals/complaints and communication of Commission's Orders and jobs assigned by the State Chief Information Commissioner from time to time. To function as PIO under the RTI Act.
4.	Senior PS to the SCIC	Secretarial assistance and any other works assigned by the State Chief Information Commissioner
5.	Superintendent	General superintendence and discipline of office work, to provide assistance to the Secretary
6.	UDA/LDA	To provide secretarial assistance to the Superintendent
7.	Computer Assistant	To operate and provide computer assistance
8.	Grade IV & Drivers	To perform duties as assigned to them by the Secretary in routine course

2.6. Name, designation and particulars of the Information Officers

Sl. No.	Name of Public Authority	Name & Designation etc. of the Designated Appellate Authority	Name & designation of the PIO
1.	Meghalaya State Information Commission	Shri Wilfred Nongsiej Secretary, Meghalaya State Information Commission Phone – 2500179 (Office) Address : Lower Lachaumiere East Khasi Hills District Shillong - 793 001 Meghalaya	Smti. Bellina M. Sangma, Under Secretary, Meghalaya State Information Commission Phone – 2500179 (O) Address : Lower Lachaumiere East Khasi Hills District Shillong – 793 001 Meghalaya

2.7. Budget & Accounts of the Commission

The budget for the Commission is published in the *Annual Budget Book* of the Government of Meghalaya under *Grant No: 13*, Budget Head of Account “2251-Secretariat Social Services-Non-Plan and State Plan 090-Secretariat (12) Meghalaya Information Commission (RTI Act)-General Area Non-Plan”.

During the financial year 2019-2020 the budget and actual expenditure is as indicated below:

Detailed Head	Budget Head description “2251-Secretariat Social Services- State Schemes 090-Secretariat (12) Meghalaya Information Commission (RTI Act)- General Area “	(In Rupees)		Balance
		Budget Provision for 2019 - 2020	Expenditure up to 31/03/2020	
01	Salaries	2,00,00,000.00	89,71,416.00	1,10,28,584.00
02	Wages	8,50,000.00	9,76,000.00	0
06	Medical Treatment	5,00,000.00	1,18,901.00	3,81,099.00
11	Domestic Travel Expenses	7,00,000.00	3,29,029.00	3,70,971.00
13	Office Expenses	8,50,000.00	2,77,797.00	5,72,203.00
16	Publications	6,50,000.00	1,49,913.00	5,00,087.00
21	Supplies & Materials	5,00,000.00	-	6,50,000.00
26	Advertising & Publicity	2,00,000.00	-	-
28	Professional Services	3,30,000.00	-	-
50	Other Charges	5,00,000.00	1,26,000.00	3,74,000.00
51	Motor Vehicles	30,00,000.00	39,810.00	29,60,190.00
52	Machinery & Equipment	10,00,000.00	-	-
Total		2,90,80,000.00	1,09,88,866.00	1,68,37,134.00
(13) Strengthening Capacity building and Awareness Generation for the Effectiveness Implementation of RTI Act		-	-	-

2.8. Activities undertaken by the Commission during the year

- (i) The main functions of the Commission are to *hear appeals* and to *enquire into the complaints* filed by the aggrieved parties. During the year, the Commission received 10 Complaints and 5 Appeals. All the 15 cases were disposed of. The

details of receipt and disposal of Complaints and Appeals are given in Chapter 3 and Chapter 4 respectively.

- (ii) Preparation and publication of the *Fourteenth Annual Performance Report* of the Commission.

Chapter 3

Disposal of Complaints by the State Information Commission

3.1. Section 18(1) empowers the State Information Commission to receive and inquire into a complaint from any person:

- (a) Who has been unable to submit a request to any Public Information Officer, either by reason that no such officer has been appointed under this Act or because the State Assistant Public Information Officer has refused to accept his or her application for information or appeal under this Act for forwarding the same to the State Public Information Officer or a Senior Officer specified in Sub-Section (1) of section 19 of the Act.
- (b) Who has been refused access to any information requested under this Act.
- (c) Who has not been given a response to a request for information or access to information within the time limit specified under this Act.
- (d) Who has been required to pay an amount of fee which he or she considers unreasonable.
- (e) Who believes that he or she has been given incomplete, misleading or false information under this Act; and
- (f) In respect of any other matter relating to requesting or obtaining access to records under this Act.

While inquiring into such complaints under the above section, the State Information Commission shall have the same powers as that of the Civil Court under the *Code of Civil procedure 1908* in respect of the following matters namely:

- (a) Summoning and enforcing attendance of Persons to give evidence or produce documents;
- (b) Requiring the discovery and inspection of documents;
- (c) Receiving evidence on affidavit;
- (d) Requisitioning any public record or copies thereof from any court or office;
- (e) Issuing summons for examination of witnesses or documents and
- (f) Any other matter which may be prescribed.

During 2019, a total of 10 complaints were received by the Commission and all the 10 cases were disposed off. The department-wise break up is as given in Table 3.1.1 below.

Table 3.1.1

Department wise receipt and disposal of complaints by the Commission during 2019

Sl. No.	Name of Department / Public Authority	No. of Complaints pending with Information Commission at the end of Last Year	No. of Complaints preferred during the year	No. of Complaints disposed and acted upon	No. of Complaints Disposed and Rejected
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Education Department	0	3	3	0
2	MeECL	0	1	1	0
3	JHADC	0	3	3	0
4	Health Department	0	1	1	0
5	C&RD Department	0	1	1	0
6	PWD (Building) Department	0	1	1	0
	Total	0	10	10	0

Table 3.1.2

Details of the complaints disposed off by the Commission during 2019

Sl. No.	Case No.	Name of Complainant	Name of PIO/Public Authority
1	MIC/Complaint/2/2019/12 Dated 18-4-2019	Shri Imam Md. Abu Alam Abdulla, Science Teacher of Hallidayganj Secondary	Shri P.Ryngksai, PIO & Addl., Director of School Education &

	(Recd 2-1-2019)	School.	Literacy, Tura and in-charge District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura
2	MIC/Complaint/4/2019/7 Dated 30-4-2019 (Recd 8-4-2019)	Shri. Kitboklang Nongphlang, Education Secretary, F.K.J.G.P., Central Body, Upper Shillong, Mawklot (beside Office of the Dorbar Shnong Mawklot), P.O. Nonglyer, BPO Mawklot, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya – 793009. Contact No. 9774069180 / 7005797748.	Public Information Officer (PIO), Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited, Corporate Affairs, Lumjingshai, Shillong
3	MIC/Complaint/03/2019/17 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 3-4-2019)	Shri Md Imran, Mawbah, near Little Angels School, Shillong – 793002.	Smti M.Nongkhlaw, Public Information Officer, viz., & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer (SDEO), Shillong, Mawkhar.. Riaz A. Azad, Secretary, Little Angels School, Mawbah, Shillong – 793002.
4.	MIC/Complaint/23/2018/12 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Shri Lawyerson War, Mynso B, P.O. Mynso, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai.
5	MIC/Complaint/24/2018/12 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Shri Simon Dhar, Nongbah, P.O.Nongbah, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills

			Autonomous District Council, Jowai.
6	MIC/Complaint/25/2018/15 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar, Moopyllaitsyar, Khliehtyrshi, P.O. Thadlaskein, West Jaintia Hills District.	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai.
7	MIC/Complaint/11/2019 Dated 17-9- 2019 (Recd September, 2019)	Shri Marconi Thongni, Photkroh, South West Khasi Hills District, Meghalaya – 793106. (Mobile) 9436590917.	P.I.O. & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, South West Khasi Hills District, Mawkyrwat
8	MIC/Complaint/10/2019/55 Dated 19-11- 2019 (Recd August 2019)	Shri Dimetri Marwein, Mawlai Nongpdeng, Shilong, P.O. Phudmawri – 793008. (Mobile 9485395119) .	Public Information Officer, viz., Executive Engineer, Health Engineering Wing, Directorate of Health Services, Shillong, Laitumkhrah, Shillong
9	MIC/Complaint/17/2019/18 Dated 21-11-2019 (Recd October, 2019)	Shri Mozidur Rahman, Moulakandi, P.O. Moulakandi, P.S. Phulbari, West Garo Hills District.	Public Information Officer, viz., Block Development Officer, Demdema C&RD Block, West Garo Hills.
10	MIC/Complaint/18/2019/6 Dated 28-11-2019 (Recd October 2019)	Shri Tangbath M Sangma, President Krimkro, H/Q Kapasipara, South Garo Hills District, Meghalaya. Mobile – 8787477873.	Public Information Officer, viz., Deputy Director, Directorate of School Education & Literacy, Meghalaya,

			Shillong for information. Public Information Officer & Deputy Chief Engineer, PWD (Buildings), Shillong.
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3.2. Reasons for filing of complaints to the State Information Commission

Most of the Complaints lodged with the Commission are due to violation of Section 18 (1) (b).

Table 3.2.1 below gives a picture of the number of complaints filed under different clauses of Section 18 of the Right to Information Act.

Table 3.2.1

Section, Sub-sections and Clauses	No. of Complaints carried over from last year	No. of Complaints filed during the year	Total Nos. of Complaints with the Commission	No. of Complaints disposed	No. of Complaints rejected
18 (1) (a)	0	0	0	0	0
18 (1) (b)	0	10	10	10	0
18 (1) (c)	0	0	0	0	0
18 (1) (d)	0	0	0	0	0
18 (1) (e)	0	0	0	0	0
18 (1) (f)	0	0	0	0	0
Total		10	10	10	0

Chapter 4

Hearing and disposal of Second Appeals by the Commission

4.1. The most important function of the Commission is to receive and hear appeals preferred by the information seekers against the PIOs and decisions of the First Appellate Authorities (FAA).

Section 19 of the RTI Act 2005 provides -

(1) Any person who, does not receive a decision within the time specified in sub-section (1) or clause (a) of sub-section (3) of section 7 or is aggrieved by a decision of the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, may within thirty days from the expiry of such period or from the receipt of such a decision prefer an appeal to such officer who is senior in rank to the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer as the case may be, in each public authority:

Provided that such officer may admit the appeal after the expiry of the period of thirty days if he or she is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal in time.

(2) Where an appeal is preferred against an order made by the Central Public Information Officer or a State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, under Section 11 to disclose third party information, the appeal by the concerned third party shall be made within thirty days from the date of the order.

(3) A second appeal against the decision under sub-section (1) shall lie within ninety days from the date on which the decision should have been made or was actually received, with the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission.

Provided that the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission, as the case may be, may admit the appeal after the expiry of the period of ninety days if it is satisfied that the appellant was prevented by sufficient cause from filing the appeal in time.

(4) If the decision of the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, against which an appeal is preferred relates to information

of a third party, the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, as the case may be, shall give a reasonable opportunity of being heard to that third party.

- (5) In any appeal proceedings, the onus to prove that a denial of a request was justified shall be on the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, who denied the request.
- (6) An appeal under sub-section (1) or sub-section (2) shall be disposed of within thirty days of the receipt of the appeal or within such extended period not exceeding a total of forty-five days from the date of filing thereof, as the case may be, for reasons to be recorded in writing.
- (7) The decision of the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, as the case may be, shall be binding.
- (8) In its decision, the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission, as the case may be, has the power to –
 - (a) Require the public authority to take any such steps as may be necessary to secure compliance with the provisions of this Act, including –
 - (i) By providing access to information, if so requested, in a particular form;
 - (ii) By appointing a Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be;
 - (iii) By publishing certain information or categories of information.
 - (iv) By making necessary changes to its practices in relation to the maintenance, management and destruction of records;
 - (v) By enhancing the provision of training on the right to information for its officials;
 - (vi) By providing it with an annual report in compliance with clause (b) of Sub-section (1) of Section 4.
 - (b) Require the public authority to compensate the complainant for any loss or other detriment suffered.
 - (c) Impose any of the penalties provided under this Act.
 - (d) Reject the application.

During the year, 5 (*five*) Appeals were received.

The department-wise details of Second Appeals are given in Table 4.1.1 below.

Table 4.1.1

Department-wise receipt and disposal of Appeals by the Commission

Sl. No.	Name of the Department	No. of Appeals pending with the Commission at the end of last year	No. of Appeals preferred during the year	Total No. of Appeals with the Commission	No. of Appeals Disposed	No. of Appeals Rejected
1	C&RD Department	0	1	1	1	0
2	Education Department	0	1	1	1	0
3	ERTS Department	0	1	1	1	0
4	MPSC	0	1	1	1	0
5	Home Police	0	1	1	1	0
	Total	0	5	5	5	0

Table 4.2.1

Details and particulars of Second Appeals disposed of by the Commission during the year

Sl. No.	Case No.	Name of Appellant	Name of PIO/Public Authority
1	MIC/Appeal/10/2018/24 Dated 15-2-2019 (Recd22-10-2018)	Shri Abu Bakar Siddique, Vill – Namaburirijhar, P.O. Holaidanga, P.S. Tikrikilla, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya. Pnone 8753972973.	Public Information Officer & Addl., Director, Community & Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya, Addl. Secretariat Building, Shillong
2	MIC/Appeal/11/2018/23	Ambika Prasad Yadav, D/o (L) Devi Prasad Yadav, Village –	Public Information Officer & Registrar, C.M.J., University,

	Dated 22-3-2019 (Recd 18-10-2018)	Rampur, P.O. Birsinghpur, Thana / The Pali, Umaria – 484551, Madhya Pradesh.	G.S. Road, Jorabat, Ri Bhoi District, Meghalaya. Public Information Officer & Addl. Director Higher & Technical Education (T), Addl. Secretariat, Meghalaya, Shillong. Public Information officer office of the Director General of Police, Meghalaya, Shillong
3	MIC/Appeal/1/2019/7 Dated 2-4-2019 (Recd 5-3-2019)	Shri Michael N. Syiem, Jaiaw Lumsyntiew, Shillong.	Smti B.Syiemlieh, Public Information Officer & Deputy Secretary, Excise, Registration, Taxation & Stamps Department Government of Meghalaya.
4	MIC/Appeal/7/2019/41 Dated 23-9-2019	Isaiah Nongkhlaw, S/o Ibashisha Nongkhlaw, Laitumkhrah, New Colony, Shillong - Mobile 9366799836.	First Appellate Authority (FAA), Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong Public Information Officer (PIO), Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong.
5	MIC/Appeal/11/2019/18 Dated 21-11-2019	Shri Arnold G Momin, High Court of Meghalaya Bar Association, Shillong 0 793001.	First Appellate Authority (FAA) & Deputy Inspector General of Police (Administration), Meghalaya, Shillong. Public Information Officer (PIO) & Asstt., Inspector General of Police (Administration), Meghalaya, Shillong. Commandant, 2 nd MLP Battalion, Goeregre, West Garo Hills.

Chapter - 5

Penalties/Compensation and Disciplinary Action:

(Section 20 (1) of the R.T.I. Act, 2005)

5.1. Penalties imposed by the State Information Commission:

The State Information Commission under Section 19 (8) is empowered to impose penalties in accordance with the provisions laid down under the Act. Section 20 (1) of the Act, provides that, “where the Central Information Commission or State Information Commission” as the case may be, at the time of deciding any complaint or appeal is of the opinion that the Central Information Officer or State Information Officer, as the case may be, has without any reasonable cause refused to receive an application for information or has not furnished the information within the time specified under sub-section (1) of Section 7 malafidely denied the request for information or knowingly given incorrect incomplete or misleading information or destroyed information which was the subject of the request or obstructed in any manner in furnishing the information it shall impose a penalty of two hundred and fifty rupees each day till application is received or information is furnished so however the total amount of such penalty shall not exceed twenty five thousand rupees.

Provided that the Central Information Officer or the State Information Officer, as the case may, shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before any penalty is imposed on him.

Provided further that the burden of proving that he acted reasonably and diligently shall be on the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer as the case may be.

While exercising the above Power, in every case, the Commission gave an opportunity to the PIO, by issuing a show-cause notice to him/her, asking to explain as to why penalty under Section 20 (1) should not be imposed against him/her for violation of the Provisions of the R.T.I. Act, 2005. After giving them an opportunity of hearing and after detailed examination and consideration of all the papers and

documents available and produced before the Commission on record and only when the Commission is convinced and satisfied that the PIO has contravened the law, that the Commission imposed penalty on them.

The Commission in exercise of the above power has during the year 2019 imposed the following penalties as indicated in Table 5.1.1.

Table 5.1.1
Penalties/Compensations awarded during 2019

Sl. No.	Case No.	Name of Complainants/ Appellants	Name of PIO/Public Authorities	Amount of Penalty/ Compensation
1	MIC/Appeal/10/2018/24 Dated 15-2-2019 (Recd22-10-2018)	Shri Abu Bakar Siddique, Vill – Namaburirijhar, P.O. Holaidanga, P.S. Tikrikilla, West Garo Hills District, Meghalaya. Pnone 8753972973.	Shri J.E.Massar, Public Information Officer & Addl., Director, Community & Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya, Addl. Secretariat Building, Shillong	₹ 200/- (Penalty) & Disciplinary Action.
2	MIC/Appeal/13/2017/43 Dated 13-3-2019	Shri S.K.Sharma, 30, Chandan Nagar Survey, Beltola Road, Guwahati, 28. Mobile – 94351441118.	Shri B.R.Chen, the then Public Information Officer & Chief Engineer, (Distribution), MePDCL, Shillong	₹ 5000/- (Penalty)
3	MIC/Appeal/1/2019/7 Dated 2-4-2019	Mr Michael N. Syiem, Jaiaw Lumsyntiew, Shillong.	Smti B.Syiemlieh, PIO & Deputy Secretary, E.R.T.& S. Deptt., Govt. of Meghalaya.	₹ 100/- (Penalty)
4	MIC/Complaint/23/2018/12	Shri Lawyerson War, Mynso B, P.O. Mynso, West Jaintia	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work	₹ 250/- (Penalty)

	Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Hills District, Meghalaya.	Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai.	
5	MIC/Complaint/24/2018/ 12 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Shri Simon Dhar, Nongbah, P.O.Nongbah, West Jaintia Hills District, Meghalaya.	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai.	₹ 250/- (Penalty)
6	MIC/Complaint/25/2018/ 15 Dated 24-5-2019 (Recd 27-11- 2018)	Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar, Moopyllaitsyiar, Khliehtyrshi, P.O. Thadlaskein, West Jaintia Hills District.	Public Information Officer, & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai.	₹ 250/- (Penalty)

Chapter 6

Highlights of some of the important decisions of the Commission

(Orders passed by the Commission during 2019)

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/2/2019/12

Imam Md Abu Alam Abdullah - Appellant

- Vrs -

FAA & Director, School Education & Literacy, Meghalaya - Respondents

PIO & District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura

18-4-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Imam Md Abu Alam Abdullah is present. The PIO & Addl., Director of School Education & Literacy, Tura & in-charge District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura, Shri P.Ryngksai is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Complainant, Shri Imam Md Abu Alam Abdullah had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005 dated **18.4.2018** to the PIO & District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura for some information/documents. The PIO on **19-7-2018** vide letter **No.WGH/DSEO/RTI-8/2018/4277** supplied partial information/documents without seal certification/authentication of which some copies are illegible. Not satisfied with the information, the Complainant on **1-8-2018**, preferred a first appeal to the First Appellate Authority & Director of School Education & Literacy, Meghalaya. The FAA on **8-10-2018** conducted a hearing and directed the PIO & District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura to furnish all the relevant documents immediately to the appellant within a period of 10 days free of cost. However, the Complainant alleged that he has not received the information/documents as directed by the FAA. Hence, the instant complaint.

The Commission admitted the Complaint and issued notice to the PIO to show cause as to why the information sought for should not be provided to the Complainant and why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to him for failure to provide full information and had fixed **18-4-2019 at 11:30 AM** for receipt of show cause reply and hearing the case.

The PIO & Addl., Director of School Education & Literacy, Tura and in-charge District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura, Shri P.Ryngksai in his written show cause reply stated that:-

1. That Shri Imam Md Abu Alam Abdullah, Science Teacher of Hallidayganj Secondary School filed his application for supply of information under RTI Act, 2005 on 18-4-2018, on 6 (six) items of information.

Since some of the information was not available in the office, the same was asked from the Headmaster/Secretary, Hallidayganj Secondary School vide letter dated 26-06-2018. The Secretary/Headmaster of Hallidayganj Secondary School sent the information vide letter dated 02-07-2018 and the information was furnished to the applicant on 19-07-2018 vide letter No.WGH/DSEO/RTI-8/2018/4277 dated 19-07-2018.

Item No.1 of the list of information requested i.e. copy of the spot enquiry of the District Science Supervisor conducted on 2—04-1999 as per your office No.SWG/MC/AH-67/99/3479, dated 16-04-1999 was not available in the office records and the applicable was informed that the document of about 19 years ago was no longer available in the office files.

2. The FAA/Director of School Education and Literacy, Meghalaya, Shillong, based on the complaint of Shri Imam Abu Alam Abdullah had directed the DSEO/PIO, Tura to furnish all the relevant information vide letter No.DSEL/SC/RTI/6/2018/11 dated 13-11-2018.

The letter dated 13-11-2018 was received on 03-12-2018 and was put up to the PIO on 22-01-2019. The Additional Director i/c DSEO/PIO Tura had taken charge on 13.12.2018 and on enquiry from the office informed him that information has been furnished except serial No.1 which could not be traced, none was the file found. The District Science Supervisor who conducted the spot enquiry informed the PIO that a hand-written spot enquiry report conducted by her was submitted to

the then Inspector of Schools now District School Education Officer, Tura and as no extra copy was available with her. Hence the reply to the RTI question.

The complainant when asked by the Commission stated that he had received the information, except item No. 1 but all the information furnished had not been certified. The Commission also asked him whether he received the information free of cost. He stated that he had paid Rs.96/- (Rupees ninety six).

The Commission after examining the written submission of the Respondent-PIO and verbal submission of the Complainant, the Commission made the following observation:

- (A) There has been a delay in providing the information by the then PIO & District School Education Officer, Tura, Shri B.G.Momin as seen from the records and he is liable for penalty. However he has already retired from service and action cannot be taken.
- (B) The present Respondent-PIO & Addl., Director of School Education & Literacy, Tura & in-charge District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura, Shri P.Ryngksai had joined recently only on 13th December, 2018, and had taken action without delay.

The Commission after considering the matter makes the following order:

- (i) The Director of School Education & Literacy, Meghalaya shall give general directions to all the PIOs to provide information under the RTI Act within the stipulated time period as laid down in the Act.
- (ii) The Retd., District School Education Officer, Tura, Shri B.G.Monin has not provided the information within the time framed by the RTI Act and he has violated the RTI Act.
- (iii) Information which has been already been provided to the complainant vide letter dated 19th July, 2018 was given three months after the initial application. He has paid Rs.96/- and that Rs.96/- should not be charged to him because information has been given after 30 days. The amount of Rs.96/- shall be refunded to the applicant.

- (iv) The then enquiry had given the gist of her report of 19 years ago from memory. This gist of the enquiry conducted by the District Science Supervisor on 20-4-1999 shall be handed to the Complainant immediately.
- (v) The Commission also directed the PIO & Addl., Director of School Education & Literacy, Tura & in-charge District School Education Officer, West Garo Hills, Tura, to authenticate the information already supplied to the complainant.

Sd/-
(**P.B.O.Warjri**)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

....

Case. No. MIC/Complaint/04/2019/7

Shri Kitboklang Nongphlang, Upper Shillong, Mawklot - Complainant

-Vrs-

I.V.Lyngdoh, PIO, MeECL, Lumjingshai, Shillong - Respondent

30-4-2019

ORDER

Seen the complaint petition filed by Shri Kitboklang Nongphlang, Education Secretary, F.K.J.G.P., Central Body, Upper Shillong, Mawklot (beside Office of the Dorbar Shnong Mawklot), P.O. Nonglyer, BPO Mawklot, East Khasi Hills, Meghalaya – 793009 against the Public Information Officer (PIO), Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited, Corporate Affairs, Lumjingshai, Shillong.

Briefly the complaint is that on **12-3-2019**, the complainant filed an RTI application before the PIO, MePDCL/MeECL, Shillong, Meghalaya on 12 (twelve) items. along with the requisite application fee. However, the PIO, MeECL, Shillong, Shri I.V.Lyngdoh, on **26th March, 2019** vide letter **No. MeECL/CA/US-I/PIO/2016-17/VOL-II/64**, informed the complainant the RTI Act, 2005 Chapter – II, Section 3 quotes as hereunder:-

3. Right to information – Subject to the provisions of this Act, all citizens shall have the right to information.

Furthermore, the Citizenship Act, 1955 under the clause states as follows-

2. Interpretation (1)(f) ‘Person does not include any company or association or body of individuals whether incorporated or not:

In view of the above, provision, the FKJGP cannot be considered as a Citizen and hence furnishing of information to the Federation is not mandated under the Act.

Hence, the instant complaint before the Commission. The Commission after examining the complaint, like to quote some precedent court rulings relating to the complaint filed.

The High Court of Maharashtra, case No.Mh1404/2008, (1) Perfect Machine Tools Co. Ltd -vrs- State of Maharashtra and Ors. (2) National Mineral Development Corporation –vrs- Government of India & Ors, case No.WP(C)No.8004/2007.

In J.C.Talukdar –vrs- C.E.(E), CPWD Kolkata (CIC/WB/C/2007/00104-105 dated 17th May, 2007, the Applicant / Mr. Talukdar, requested for certain information from the CPWD, Kolkata, in his capacity as the Managing Director of one Ganesh Electric Stores. The said request was refused under Section 3 of the RTI Act. Consequently Mr. Talukdar filed an appeal before the CIC. In the course of dealing with the said Appeal the CIC observed as follows:

“This is at heart a question of whether a company or its director will fall under the definition of citizen under the RTI Act. A company or a corporation is a “legal person” and, as such, it has a legal entity. This legal entity is distinct from their shareholders, managers, managing directors. This is a settled position in law since the Solomon’s case decided long back by the House of Lords. They have rights and obligations and can sue and are sued in a court of law. Section 3 of the RTI Act confers “right to information” on all “citizens”. A “citizen” under the Constitution Part II that deals with “citizenship” can only be a natural born person and it does not even by implication include a legal or a juristic person...

The objective of the Right to Information Act is to secure access to information to all citizens in order to promote transparency and accountability. The Hon’ble Supreme Court in Bennett Coleman Co. Vs. Union of India (1972) 2 SCC 788 held that a shareholder is entitled to protection of Article 19 and that an individual’s right is not lost by reason of the fact that he is a shareholder of the company. The Bank Nationalization Case has also established the view that the fundamental rights of shareholders as citizens are not lost when they associate to form a company. In Delhi Cloth & General Mills Co. Ltd. (decided on 21 July 1983), the Apex Court observed that the judicial trend is in the direction of holding that in the matter of fundamental freedoms guaranteed by Article 19 the right of shareholder and the company which the shareholders have formed are rather co-extensive and the denial to one of the fundamental freedoms would be denial to the others (Para 12).

Even if it were conceded that a company or a corporate body is a legal entity distinct from its shareholders and it is not in itself a citizen it is a fact that all superior courts have been admitting applications in exercise of their extraordinary jurisdiction from companies, societies and associations under Article 19 of the Constitution of which the RTI Act, 2005 is a child. Very few petitions have been rejected on the ground that the Applicants / Petitioners are corporate bodies or companies or associations and as such not “citizens”. This Commission also has been receiving sizeable number of

such applications from such entities. If the courts could give relief to such entities the PIOs also should not throw them out on a mere technical ground that the Applicant / Appellant happened to be a legal person and not a citizen. In conclusion we direct that an application / appeal from an association or a partnership firm or a Hindu Undivided Family or from some other group of individuals constituted as a body or otherwise should be accepted and allowed.”

The observations and opinion in J.C. Talukdar’s case have been followed in several subsequent cases by the CIC, viz. Shri. R.K. Sharma vs. Ministry of Home Affairs, Delhi Police (Appeal No. CIC/WB/A/2007/00264), Shri. Hitesh Kumar vs. Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions (Appeal No. CIC/WB/A/2007/00184) and the position that now emerges is clear that a company can apply for information under the provisions of the RTI Act. Such an application can be made through the company’s authorized representative / employee.

In the circumstances, the Public Information Officer (PIO), Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited, Corporate Affairs, Lumjingshai, Shillong is hereby directed to furnish the information within **15 days** from the date of receipt of this order.

Fix **29th May, 2019** for submission of compliance report to the Commission.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/23/2018/12

Shri Lawyerson War, Mynso, West Jaintia Hills - Complainant

- Vrs -

PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Deptt., J.H.A.D.C. - Respondent

24-5-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Lawyerson War is absent. The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai, Smti J. Pde is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Complainant, Shri Lawyerson War had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005, dated **17th October, 2018** on 10 items relating to the implementation of Normal Development Scheme, MDC Scheme and Special onetime Central assistance Scheme for the year, 2016-2019.

On **16th November, 2018**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Works Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/2**, informed the applicant, Shri Lawyerson War that the information sought for was very bulky, and compiling such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The PIO went on to quote from case **No.MIC/Appeal/7/2013/34** (Shri M.H.Dkhar vrs PIO & FAO, JHADC & another) where the Commission had observed that *“if one has to compile these information, it will take many man – hours and it is also not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The Act has not provided additional resources to the Public Authority to compile such type of bulky information, which is likely to effect the resources of the Public Authority u/s 7(1) of the Act”*. The PIO had however wrongly interpreted the decision of the Commission wrongly applied it as a ground not to provide information at all.

Hence the instant complaint dated **27-11-2018**.

The Commission admitted the complaint, and had asked the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter **No.MIC/Complaint/23/2018/4 Dt. 3rd December, 2018** to explain why information was not provided to the applicant.

On **9th January, 2019**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/4**, requested the Commission to furnish a copy of the said complaint to assist her to respond to the show cause.

The Commission vide letter **No.MIC/Complaint/23/2018/6 dt. 12th February, 2019** gave a copy of the complaint to the PIO directing her to reply by **19th February, 2019**.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/6 dated 18th February, 2019**, in compliance to the show cause call of the Commission, stated that:-

1. The information sought by the applicant included many details which would be too bulky and to compile such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005.
2. With regard to the statement made in para 2, of the Complaint the PIO stated that she had informed the applicant within 30 days that the information cannot be provided because of the reason stated in the previous paragraph.
3. With regard to statement in para 3, the PIO has no comment to make as the same relates to former PIO.
4. With regard to statement at para 4, the PIO reiterated the statement made in the foregoing para 1.

The Commission after perusing and examining the show cause of the PIO again on **18-3-2019**, suggested the PIO to fix the cost of the documents and to ask the applicant to pay the cost by a fixed date as early as possible.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/8 dated 2nd April, 2019**, requested the Commission to provide a copy of the order passed by the Meghalaya State Information Commission on the said complaint.

The Commission perused the letter **No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/8 dated 2nd April, 2019**, received from the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai in reply to the Commission's letter **No.MIC/Complaint/23/2018/9 dated 18th March, 2019**.

Since the Commission had not passed any order yet and after perusing and examining the reply of the PIO on 2nd April 2019 the Commission found that the PIO had been given more than the prescribed opportunity to correct the mistake, yet she did not seem to appreciate these opportunities. The Commission therefore ordered the PIO to submit a reply showing the reason why the information sought for should not be provided to the Complainant and why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to her for failure to provide the information in time, and fixed **24-5-2019 at 12:00 Noon** for submission of show cause reply and personal appearance before the Commission.

During the hearing the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai, Smti J. Pde submitted a report before the Commission, vide letter No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/11 dated 23-5-2019 in compliance to the order of the Commission dated 30-4-2019, informing the Commission that the applicant has been intimated vide office letter No. JHADC/CWD/RTI/251/2018/9 dated 5-4-2019 to collect the information sought for by him and the same had been furnished to him.

The Commission contacted the applicant over phone and he replied that he is satisfied with the information supplied to him by the PIO and requested the Commission to dispose off the case.

At the hearing on 24.05.2019 the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai apologized to the Commission that for the she delay in furnishing the information to the complainant even after certain

correspondences with the Commission and she assured that this will not happen again in future.

The Commission appreciated the fact that the Respondent did not try to provide any further excuse but rather readily admitted her mistake and apologizing for her failure to read the Act and her subsequent failure to provide the information in time.

The Commission noted that the information had been provided free of cost in spite of it being too bulky. It however noted that the information was provided beyond the mandatory period of 30 days, and only after the show cause notice was issued by the Commission.

The Commission noted that the PIO should have asked the applicant within the mandatory period to pay for making copies of such bulky documents, instead of finding reason not to give the documents and in the process misinterpreting the Act and a previous decision of the Commission. Had the payment been asked within 30 days the PIO would have complied with the provision of the Act. By not doing so she had failed to comply with the provisions of the RTI Act, and was therefore liable to penalty.

The Commission after hearing her verbal submission, imposed a penalty Rs.250/- on Smti J.Pde, PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai for her failure to provide the information in time with a warning not to repeat such failure in future.

She is required to deposit the penal amount by Treasury Challan to the State Bank of India at Jowai under the Head of Account **“0070-Other Administrative Services etc., 60-Other Services, 118-Receipt under the Right to Information Act, 2005 Volume – I under:- (02) Fees & Fines for the Penalty Amount Imposed by the Commission”** within the period of 30 days from the date of this Order and to send confirmation to this Commission immediately on such deposit having been made.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/03/2019/17

Shri Md Imran, Mawbah, near Little Angels School, Shillong - Complainant

- Vrs -

1.PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, Shillong }
2.Deemed PIO & Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels } Respondents

L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah.

24-5-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Md. Imran is present. The PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, Shillong, Smti M.Nongkhlaw is present. The Deemed PIO & Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah, Shri Riaz A. Azad is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Complainant, Shri Md. Imran had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005, dated **29.1.2019** on 28 items to the PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer (SDEO), Shillong. The PIO & S.D.S.E.O., Shillong, Smti M.Nongkhlaw on **1st February, 2019** forwarded the RTI application vide letter **No.SDSEO/MC/1/2019**, to the Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels L.P./U.P, School, Mawbah to provide the required information to the office of the PIO & S.D.S.E.O., Shillong. On **26-2-2019**, the Secretary, Little Angels School, Mawbah, Shillong furnished the information along with enclosures to the PIO & S.D.S.E.O., Shillong. On **1-3-2019** the PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer (SDEO), Shillong vide letter **No.SDSEO/MC/1/2019/95061** forwarded the information along with enclosures to the applicant Shri Md Imran. However, the applicant alleged that the information is incomplete and misleading. Hence, the instant complaint.

The Commission admitted the complaint, and had asked the PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, Shillong, Smti M.Nongkhlaw and the Deemed PIO & Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah, Shillong to

submit a written show cause reply and to appear in person on **24-5-2019 at 11:30 AM** for hearing of the case.

The Complainant, Shri Md. Imran during the hearing when asked by the Commission about his complaint, stated that he is not satisfied with the information given by Respondent No. 2, Deemed PIO & Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah, as the information is incomplete and misleading.

The Respondent No. 1, PIO & Sub-Divisional School Education Officer, Shillong, Smti M.Nongkhlaw submitted a written reply on the show cause.

The Respondent No. 2, Deemed PIO & Head Teacher/Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah, Shri Riaz A. Azad during the hearing submitted a written reply on the show cause.

During the hearing, the Commission discussed point by point on the 28 items of information sought by the complainant, Shri Md. Imran and the reply made by the Respondent No. 1 and Respondent No. 2.

During the discussion, the Commission found that although some of the information was available in the School records the Respondent No. 2, Deemed PIO & Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah, Shri Riaz A. Azad, did not understand the question on information sought by the complainant and instead of giving the information he stated 'Not available' under these items.

The Commission after a discussion and scrutiny of all the items decided as follows:-

- (1) The Deemed PIO & Secretary, Little Angels, L.P./U.P., School, Mawbah shall furnish information on the items which qualify to the given and which are available, to the complainant in two weeks time from the date of this order i.e. on or before **7th June, 2019**. While the Deemed PIO Secretary, Little Angels School, Mawbah, Shillong is not bound to provide information which is not in his custody or which is otherwise exempted as provided in Sec 8 of the RTI Act, he cannot use a "not available" claim for information which should be in the custody of the concerned school and can refuse information only for subjects which fall under Sec 8 of the Act.

- (2) The Deemed PIO before furnishing the information, shall inform the complainant the total amount of photocopying charges of information @ Rs.2/- per page for pages of A3 or lower size and as prescribed in the RTI Rule, and the Complainant shall make payment without delay so that the PIO can prepare the documents. The PIO shall proceed with the act of photocopying the documents only after receipt of the photocopying charges from the Complainant.
- (3) Permissible information which is in the custody of the PIO and Sub-Divisional School Education Officer (SDEO), Shillong, shall be provided by her and information which is in the custody of other PIOs may be provided by them after transfer of the request in respect of the items is made by the PIO and Sub-Divisional School Education Officer (SDEO), Shillong.

The complainant is at liberty to come back to the Commission if he is not satisfied with the information provided.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/24/2018/13

Shri Simon Dhar, Nongbah, West Jaintia Hills - Complainant

- Vrs -

PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Deptt., J.H.A.D.C. - Respondent

24-5-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Simon Dhar is absent. The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai, Smti J. Pde is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Complainant, Shri Simon Dhar had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005, dated **17th October, 2019** and **22nd October, 2018** on 12 items relating to development schemes in four constituencies of the JHADC.

On **16th November, 2018**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Works Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/3**, informed the applicant, Shri Simon .Dhar that the information sought for was very bulky, and compiling such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The PIO went on to quote from case **No. MIC/Appeal/7/2013/34** (Shri M.H.Dkhar vrs PIO & FAO, JHADC & another) where the Commission had observed that *“if one has to compile these information, it will take many man – hours and it is also not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The Act has not provided additional resources to the Public Authority to compile such type of bulky information, which is likely to effect the resources of the Public Authority u/s 7(1) of the Act”*. The PIO had however wrongly interpreted the decision of the Commission applying it as a ground not to provide information at all.

Hence the instant complaint dated **27-11-2018**.

The Commission admitted the complaint, and had asked the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter **No.MIC/Complaint/24/2018/5 Dt. 3rd December, 2018** to explain why information could not be provided and why she could not ask the applicant to pay for the information indicating the amount required for photo copying charges of the documents.

On **9th January, 2019**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/252/2018/5**, requested the Commission to furnish a copy of the said complaint to assist her to respond to the show cause.

The Commission vide letter **No.MIC/Complaint/24/2018/7 Dt. 14th February, 2019** gave a copy of the complaint to the PIO.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/252/2018/7 dated 7th March, 2019**, in compliance to the show cause call of the Commission, stated that:-

5. The information sought by the applicant included many details which would be too bulky and to compile such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005.
6. With regards to the statement made in para 2, of the Complaint the PIO stated that she had informed the applicant within 30 days that the information cannot be provided because of the reason stated in the previous paragraph. (Date of RTI application 17-10-2018, informed to applicant dt. 16-11-2018).
7. With regard to statement in para 3, the PIO has no comment to make as the same relates to former PIO.
8. With regard to statement at para 4, the PIO reiterated the statement made in the foregoing para 1.

The Commission after perusing and examining the reply of the PIO again on **25-3-2019**, suggested the PIO to fix the cost of the documents and to ask the applicant to pay the cost by a fixed date as early as possible.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/252/2018/9 dated 2nd April, 2019**, requested the Commission to

provide a copy of the order passed by the Meghalaya State Information Commission on the said complaint.

The Commission perused the letter **No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/252/2018/9 dated 2nd April, 2019**, received from the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai in reply to the Commission's letter **No.MIC/Complaint/24/2018/10 dated 25th March, 2019**.

Since the Commission had not passed any order yet and after perusing and examining the reply of the PIO on **24th April 2019** the Commission found that the PIO had been given more than the prescribed opportunity to correct the mistake, yet she did not seem to appreciate these opportunities. The Commission therefore ordered the PIO to submit a show cause reply as to why the information sought for should not be provided to the Complainant and why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to her for failure to provide the information in time, and fixed **24-5-2019 at 12:00 Noon** for submission of show cause reply and personal appearance before the Commission.

On **22-5-2019** the Commission received a letter No. Nil dated **21-5-2019** from the complainant, Shri Simon Dkhar informing the Commission that the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai had furnished the information vide letter **No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/252/2018/10 dated 5-4-2019** and that the same was collected by him on **9-4-2019** free of cost. He further requested the Commission to dispose off the case.

At the hearing on **24.05.2019** the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai apologized to the Commission that she had delayed in furnishing the information to the complainant even after certain correspondences with the Commission and she assured that this will not happen again in future.

The Commission appreciated the fact that the Respondent did not try to provide any further excuse but rather readily admitted her mistake and apologizing for her failure to read the Act and her subsequent failure to provide the information in time.

The Commission noted that the information had been provided free of cost in spite of it being too bulky. It however noted that the information was provided beyond the

mandatory period of 30 days, and only after the show cause notice was issued by the Commission.

The Commission noted that the PIO should have asked the applicant within mandatory period to pay for making copies of such bulky documents, instead of finding reason not to give the documents and in the process misinterpreting the Act and a previous decision of the Commission. Had the payment been asked within 30 days the PIO would have complied with the provision of the Act. By not doing so she had failed to comply with the provisions of the RTI Act, and was therefore liable to penalty.

The Commission after hearing her verbal submission, imposed a penalty Rs.250/- on Smti J.Pde, , PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai for her failure to provide the information in time with a warning not to repeat such failure in future.

She is required to deposit the penal amount by Treasury Challan to the State Bank of India at Jowai under the Head of Account **“0070-Other Administrative Services etc., 60-Other Services, 118-Receipt under the Right to Information Act, 2005 Volume – I under:- (02) Fees & Fines for the Penalty Amount Imposed by the Commission”** within the period of 30 days from the date of this Order and to send confirmation to this Commission immediately on such deposit having been made.

Sd/-
(**P.B.O.Warjri**)
C.I.C

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/25/2018/16

Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar, Moopyllaitsyiar, Khliehtyrshi - Complainant

- Vrs -

PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Deptt., J.H.A.D.C. - Respondent

24-5-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar is absent. The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai, Smti J.Pde is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Complainant, Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005, dated **17th October, 2018** on 10 items relating to the implementation of Normal Development Scheme, MDC Scheme and Special onetime Central assistance Scheme for the year, 2016 – 2019 of four constituencies of J.H.A.D.C.

The PIO, after receiving the RTI application, on **24th October, 2018** vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/3**, transferred the application to the PIO & Assistant Chief Engineer, i/c Development Committee, JHADC, Jowai in respect of items 8 & 9, asking him to furnish the information on these items directly to the applicant.

On the same date i.e. **24th October, 2018** vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/2**, the PIO also transferred the application to the PIO & Executive Engineer, PWD (B) Division, Jowai in respect of items 6 & 7 directing him to furnish the information directly.

On **16th November, 2018**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Works Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/4**, informed the applicant, Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar that the information sought for was very bulky, and compiling such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The PIO went on to quote from case No. **MIC/Appeal/7/2013/34** (Shri M.H.Dkhar vrs PIO & FAO, JHADC & another) where the Commission had observed

that *“if one has to compile these information, it will take many man – hours and it is also not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005. The Act has not provided additional resources to the Public Authority to compile such type of bulky information, which is likely to effect the resources of the Public Authority u/s 7(1) of the Act”*

The PIO had however wrongly read the provision of the RTI Act and wrongly interpreted the decision of the Commission applying it as a ground not to provide information at all.

Hence the instant complaint dated **27-11-2018**.

The Commission admitted the complaint, and had asked the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter **No.MIC/Complaint/25/2018/6 Dt. 4th December, 2018** to explain why information could not be provided and why she could not ask the applicant to pay for the information indicating the amount required for photo copying charges of the documents.

On **9th January, 2019**, the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/8**, requested the Commission to furnish a copy of the said complaint to assist her to respond to the show cause.

The Commission vide letter No.MIC/Complaint/25/2018/8 dt. 14th February, 2019 gave a copy of the complaint to the PIO.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/10 dated 8th March, 2019**, in compliance to the show cause call of the Commission, stated that:-

9. The information sought by the applicant included many details which would be too bulky and to compile such bulky information is not in accordance with the provision of the RTI Act, 2005.
10. With regards to the statement made in para 2, of the Complaint the PIO stated that she had informed the applicant within 30 days that the information cannot be provided because of the reason stated in the previous paragraph. (Date of RTI application 17-10-2018, informed to applicant dt. 16-11-2018).

11. With regard to statement in para 3, the PIO has no comment to make as the same relates to former PIO.
12. With regard to statement at para 4, the PIO reiterated the statement made in the foregoing para 1.

The Commission after perusing and examining the reply of the PIO again on **25-3-2019**, suggested the PIO to fix the cost of the documents and to ask the applicant to pay the cost by a fixed date as early as possible.

The PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, JHADC, Jowai vide letter No. **JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/12 dated 2nd April, 2019**, requested the Commission to provide a copy of the order passed by the Meghalaya State Information Commission on the said complaint.

The Commission perused the letter **No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/12 dated 2nd April, 2019**, received from the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai in reply to the Commission's letter **No.MIC/Complaint/25/2018/ 13 dated 25th March, 2019**.

Since the Commission had not passed any order yet and after perusing and examining the reply of the PIO on 24th April 2019 the Commission found that the PIO had been given more than the prescribed opportunity to correct the mistake, yet she did not seem to appreciate these opportunities. The Commission therefore issued a show cause notice to the PIO directing her to give reasons why the information sought for should not be provided to the Complainant and why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to her for failure to provide the information in time, and fixing **24-5-2019 at 12:00 Noon** for submission of show cause reply and personal appearance before the Commission.

On 22-5-2019 the Commission received a letter No. Nil dated 21-5-2019 from the complainant, Shri Wanbun N.Dkhar informing the Commission that the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai had furnished the information vide letter **No.JHADC/CWD/RTI/245/2018/13 dated 5-4-2019** and that the same was collected by him on **8-4-2019** free of cost. He further requested the Commission to dispose off the case.

At the hearing on 24.05.2019 the PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai apologized to the Commission for the delay in furnishing the information to the complainant even after certain correspondences with the Commission and she assured that this will not happen again in future.

The Commission appreciated the fact that the Respondent did not try to provide any further excuse but rather readily admitted her mistake apologizing for her failure to read the Act and her subsequent failure to provide the information in time.

The Commission noted that the information had been provided free of cost in spite of it being too bulky. It however noted that the information was provided beyond the mandatory period of 30 days, and only after the show cause notice was issued by the Commission.

The Commission noted that the PIO should have asked the applicant within the prescribed period to pay for making copies of such bulky documents, instead of finding reason not to give the documents and in the process misinterpreting the Act and a previous decision of the Commission. Had the payment been asked within 30 days the PIO would have complied with the provision of the Act. By not doing so she had failed to comply with the provisions of the RTI Act, and was therefore liable to penalty.

The Commission after hearing her verbal submission, imposed a penalty Rs.250/- on Smti J.Pde, PIO & Chief Engineer, Civil Work Department, Jaintia Hills Autonomous District Council, Jowai for her failure to provide the information in time with a warning not to repeat such failure in future.

She is required to deposit the penal amount by Treasury Challan to the State Bank of India at Jowai under the Head of Account **“0070-Other Administrative Services etc., 60-Other Services, 118-Receipt under the Right to Information Act, 2005 Volume – I under:- (02) Fees & Fines for the Penalty Amount Imposed by the Commission”** within the period of 30 days from the date of this Order and to send confirmation to this Commission immediately on such deposit having been made.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/10/2019/55

Shri Dimetri Marwein, Mawlai Nongpdeng & Others - Complainants

- Vrs -

The P.I.O. & E.E., Health Engineering Wing, Shillong - Respondent

19-11-2019

ORDER

Case was refixed for 19/11/2019

Case records put up today.

The Complainants, Shri Dimetri Marwein, Shri Kyndontylli Jyrwa are present. The PIO & Executive Engineer, Health Engineering Wing, Directorate of Health Services, Shillong, Shri M.Shylla is also present.

During the hearing the Commission asked the Respondent-PIO & Executive Engineer, Health Engineering Wing, Directorate of Health Services, Shillong, whether he has furnished all the information which have not been given to the Complainant earlier: It was seen that several parts needed to be clarified or further information given.

1. To furnish to the complainant the method and procedure of registering Contractors in writing.

The PIO stated that (right from the inception of the Health Engineering Wing, Shillong) the practice followed was that interested persons apply for fresh registration as Contractors Class III at any time and that no publicity or advertisement is given in the newspaper. Prescribed registration forms have to be filled up by applicants for scrutiny to examine if the applicants fulfill the prescribed criteria.

The PIO submitted that the eligibility requirement for registration is Income Tax certificate, and for Non-tribal applicants a Trading license is also required. The filled up forms are then submitted to the office of the Health Engineering Wing. New registration for Class III Contractor is done throughout the year.

Order: The PIO is directed to give information of the method and procedure along with the prescribed eligibility criteria to the applicant.

2. To furnish the correct dates of publication in the newspaper viz U Mawphor and Highland post, against the disputed dates and date of notification, date of publication by the newspaper and payment date.

The PIO provided the unrelated information, not matching the date of publication in the newspaper. Advertisement dates, pay order dates and payment date are different. The advertisement for inviting new application for registering as Class III Contractor is also not given.

Order: The PIO shall verify and furnish the correct information in writing.

3. The composite list of Contractors showing their names and addresses, their initial registrations and their subsequent upgradation with the respective dates.

Order: The PIO shall give this information. It should include the following:

- (i) **Public Notification inviting application for upgradation to Class II for the year 2018-2019.**
- (ii) **Government receipts for payment of the necessary fees for obtain upgradation to Class II as undertaken by the PIO during the hearing in the case of 7(seven) contractors**
- (iii) **Name of Class I Contractors including address and their initial registrations and this related to Part C as per RTI application dated 14.06.2019.**
- (iv) **Clarification as to the missing dates and years for initial registration in Class III and upgradation to Class II in the case of 28 Contractors.**
- (v) **To provide the list of registered Class II Contractors.**
- (vi) **Government receipt for payment of fees for upgradation of Class II contractors to Class I.**
- (vii) **Date of notification in the case of 8(eight) contractors who were upgraded to Class I and to verify correctness as they were upgraded before the dates of notification of their upgradation -**

PIO is not clear about the upgradation and he will verify from the records.

4. The reasons for the missing dates- information for the reason cannot be enquired under the RTI Act.
5. Notification for upgradation for the year 2019-2020. This is not part of the initial request of the applicant. He can submit fresh application to the PIO regarding this information.

The Commission after hearing both the parties directs the PIO to provide the specified information directly to the applicant by Monday the **25th November 2019** and a copy of it shall be submitted to the Commission by Tuesday the **26th November 2019**.

Sd/-
(**P.B.O.Warjri**)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Complaint/17/2019/18

Shri Mozidur Rahman, Moulakandi, Phulbari, West Garo Hills - Complainant

- Vrs -

1. FAA & Deputy Commissioner, West Garo Hills, Tura - Respondents
2. PIO & B.D.O., Demdema, C&RD Block, Damdema

21-11-2019

ORDER

Case put up today.

The Complainant, Shri Mozidur Rahman is absent.

The Public Information Officer, viz., Block Development Officer, Demdema C&RD Block, West Garo Hills, Shri P.R. Sangma is present.

The Commission examined the show cause reply of the PIO and heard the PIO. It is seen that the PIO had delayed to furnish the information to the complainant by almost three months. The PIO received the RTI application on 4-7-2019 and furnished the information only on 31-10-2019 by Registered post. The PIO admitted he had delayed.

The Commission before giving a final order hereby gives an opportunity to the PIO & Block Development Officer, Demdema C&RD Block, West Garo Hills, Shri P.R. Sangma to show cause as to why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to him for failure to furnish the information in time. The reply to the show cause should reach the office of the Commission by **29-11-2019**.

The Commission also directs the Complainant to inform the Commission by **29-11-2019** whether information furnished to him by the PIO & BDO Demdema C&RD Block has been received or not.

Inform parties accordingly.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Appeal/10/2018/24

Shri Abu Bakar Siddique, Holaidanga, West Garo Hills - Appellant

- Vrs -

PIO of Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya - Respondent

15-2-2019

ORDER

Case records put up today.

The Appellant, Shri Abu Bakar Siddique is absent. The PIO, Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya, Shri J.E.Massar is present.

The brief of the case is that, the Appellant, had filed an application for information under the RTI Act, 2005 dated **9-5-2018** to the PIO, Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya. He alleged that he had neither received the required information nor any communication from the PIO after the statutory period of 30 days. Then he preferred a first appeal on **22-6-2018**, to the First Appellate Authority, but there was no response from the First Appellate Authority. Hence, the instant second appeal to the Commission on **26-9-2018**.

The Commission on **30-11-2018** issued a show cause notice to the PIO, Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Govt. of Meghalaya, as to why the information sought for should not be provided to the Appellant and why penalty according to the Law should not be awarded to him for failure to provide the information in time and had fixed **19-12-2018** to submit the written show cause.

The PIO Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya, Shillong in compliance with the Commission's order, submitted a reply on 13-12-2018 written reply to the show cause notice relevant Annexures. After perusing and examining the reply of the show cause it shows that the period taken for processing the application filed by the Appellant was more than 3(three) months.

The Commission had fixed **15-2-2019** for hearing and passing of orders.

The PIO Directorate of Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya, Shillong in his verbal submission admitted that he had made a delay. When he received the RTI application he marked it to the Dealing Assistant to process the matter, unfortunately the husband of the Dealing Assistant expired and the Dealing Assistant took leave for about a month and due to heavy work load he forgot about the RTI application and the application was stuck in the Dealing Assistant's table. When he received the show cause from the Commission he came to know that the information had not been furnished to the applicant. The PIO apologized before the Commission about the delay which has occurred.

He also informed the Commission that the Block Development Officer, Selsella C&RD Block, West Garo Hills, has made available all the information and twice sent the Village Special Messenger to deliver the information but could not find the applicant. The information is still lying with B.D.O., Selsella C&RD Block.

The Commission after hearing the verbal submission made by PIO & Addl. Director, Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya, Shillong, Shri J.E.Massar, observes that:

1. The PIO & Addl. Director, Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya, Shillong has made all efforts with sincerity to provide the information, had forgotten that the RTI application was still with Dealing Assistant and had stated the reason. However, he was honourable enough to own for the delay without any further excuse.
2. The Commission after hearing and considering his very positive attitude and disposal and being convinced that the delay was not because of a neglectful attitude, imposed a penalty Rs.200/- only on the PIO & Addl. Director, Community & Rural Development, Meghalaya, Shillong, Shri J.E.Massar personally, for his delay. **This shall not be taken as a negative remark on his dossier. Rather his positive reaction should be reflected in his record.** He is required to deposit the penal amount by Treasury Challan to the State Bank of India at Shillong under the Head of Account “0070-Other Administrative Services etc., 60-Other Services, 118-Receipt under the Right to Information Act, 2005 Volume – I under:- (02) Fees & Fines for the Penalty Amount Imposed by the Commission” within the period

of 30 days from the date of this Order and to send confirmation to this Commission immediately on such deposit having been made.

3. The Commission also noted that the Departmental Appellate Authority & Commissioner & Secretary Community & Rural Development Department, Meghalaya did not entertain the Appeal which has been made by the applicant dated 22-6-2018. The DAA is asked to explain why the Appeal was not responded and not disposed off within 45 days. The explanation should reach the Commission by **28-2-2019**.
4. The information which has now been made available to the applicant should be provided free of charge as the PIO has failed to provide the information within the mandatory period.

Sd/-
(**P.B.O.Warjri**)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

...

No.MIC/Appeal/1/2019/7

Shri Michael N. Syiem

- Appellant

- Vrs -

PIO & Deputy Secretary, E.R.T.& S. Deptt., Govt. of Meghalaya - Respondent

2-4-2019

ORDER

In response to the Commission's order dated 19-3-2019, the Public Information Officer & Deputy Secretary, Excise, Registration, Taxation & Stamps Department Government of Meghalaya, Smti B.Syiemlieh vide letter No.ERTS(T)135/2011/248 dt. 25-3-2019 has given her reply.

The Commission has noted her apology. However, the information was delayed by 23 (twenty three) days. The RTI Act does not provide an excuse for delay on account of elections or because of obtaining information from other offices. Neither was any reply sent to the applicant explaining the delay.

The Commission has however taken note of the regret expressed by the PIO. However, as a case of neglect is evident, the Commission has decided to impose a penalty of Rs.100/- (Rupees one hundred) only upon the PIO & Deputy Secretary, Excise, Registration, Taxation & Stamps Department Government of Meghalaya, Smti B.Syiemlieh.

PIO & Deputy Secretary, Excise, Registration, Taxation & Stamps Department Government of Meghalaya, is required to deposit the penal amount by Treasury Challan to the State Bank of India at Shillong under the Head of Account **"0070-Other Administrative Services etc., 60-Other Services, 118-Receipt under the Right to Information Act, 2005 Volume – I under:- (02) Fees & Fines for the Penalty Amount Imposed by the Commission"** within the period of 30 days from the date of this Order and to send confirmation to this Commission immediately on such deposit having been made.

Sd/-
(**P.B.O.Warjri**)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

....
No. MIC/Appeal/7/2019/41

Isaiah Nongkhlaw, Laitumkhrah, New Coloby - Appellant

-Vrs-

PIO, Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong
FAA, Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong
Respondents

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Date of Hearing
19-08-2019

Case put up for hearing today.

The Appellant, Shri Isaiah Nongkhlaw is absent. The Public Information Officer & Controller of Examinations, Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong, Smti E Kharmon is present.

Briefly, the case is that, the Appellant, Shri Isaiah Nongkhlaw had filed an RTI application to the PIO, Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong on **14-12-2018** asking for the following information: (i) OMR sheets of the 576 candidates who cleared the Preliminary examination of the Meghalaya Civil Service Exam 2018. (ii) Marks attained by all the qualified candidates numbering 576 scored in both paper I and II. (iii) Answer Keys of Paper I and Paper II.

The PIO on **14-1-2019** vide letter No.MPSC/RTI-12/2018-2019/2 furnished information on item No. (iii), but not on items (i) & (ii) stating that the requested information was “*not of public interest under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005*”.

The aggrieved Appellant, on **14-2-2019**, filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority (FAA), Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong.

The FAA, on **20-3-2019**, conducted a hearing on the appeal. The FAA upheld the action of the PIO stating that “*the case of Shailendra Kumar Singh vs PIO, EPFO is*

different from the case of the Appellant as the information sought for was only of four candidates whereas the case of the Appellant is similar to the case decided by the Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal Nos.6159-62 of 2013 i.e. Union Public Service Commission and others vs Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530”.

The Appellant, not satisfied with the order passed by the FAA on **23-5-2019**, preferred a second appeal before the Commission. The Commission admitted the Appeal and issued notice to the PIO, Meghalaya Public Service Commission, Shillong asking her to submit a written show cause why the claim of the Appellant should not be accepted by the Commission.

During the hearing on 19.8.2019 the PIO & Controller of Examinations, M.P.S.C., Shillong, Smti E Kharmon in her verbal submission stuck to her written show cause reply stating that information on item No. (i) & (ii) cannot be provided as the information was not of public interest and so falls under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, further reiterating that it *“has no relationship with public interest”*.

Date of Order
23-9-2019

The Appellants are not satisfied with the PIO & Controller of Examinations, M.P.S.C., Shillong, acceding to only one of their requests namely, item No.(iii) of the application.

The PIO has contended that information on items (i) and (ii) cannot be provided as the information *“is not of any public interest under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005”*. This has been the steady contention of the MPSC in the reply of the PIO dated 14th January, 2019 given to the applicants, in the decision of the First Appellate Authority, dated 20th March, 2019 and in the reply of the PIO dated 19-8-2019 made in response to the show cause notice of the of the Commission of 26-7-2019.

The FAA , Meghalaya Public Service Commission, in her decision had referred to the decision of the Central Information Commission in Shailendra Kumar Singh vs PIO, EPFO dated 8-6-18 and the judgment of the Supreme Court in Civil Appeal Nos.6159-62 of 2013 i.e. Union Public Service Commission and others vs Angesh

Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530. The First Appellate Authority has reasoned that the information requested by the applicants *“is not of any public interest because the case of Shailendra Kumar Singh versus PIO, EPFO is different from the case of the Appellant as the information sought for is only of four candidates whereas the case of the Appellant is similar to the case decided by the Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal Nos.6159-62 of 2013 i.e. Union Public Service Commission and others vs Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530.”* Based on this interpretation the FAA has decided that the information in respect of item (i) & (ii) of the application also cannot be disclosed. No further argument has been made by the FAA to support her reason for deciding that the present case is similar to the Supreme Court decision in UPSC vs Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530.

The Appellant in his First Appeal has contended that the decision of the Central Information Commission in Shailendra Kumar Singh versus PIO, EPFO wherein the Central Information Commission had noted that *“Candidate can seek answer sheets of other candidates and that this is not marred by section 8 (1) e and section 8 (1) J of the RTI Act 2005”* is applicable in this case.

The Appellant in his appeal before this Commission has contended that the information sought for, viz., the marks obtained by each candidate cannot be personal information – he has however not forwarded substantial arguments to support this contention. He has however refuted the stand of the Respondent & PIO, MPSC, Shillong that it has no public interest reasoning that *“the marks obtained by each of the candidate cannot be said to be personal information which has no relevancy to any public activity or interest and or which would cause any unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual”*.

The Appellant contends that the Supreme Court decision in the UPSC case is not applicable to this present case as the answer papers here are not checked in the same manner as in the UPSC case, that is, the correction method is not subjective as the answers are already provided, and the examiner does not have to make his own subjective assessments and therefore the examiner’s decision is not exposed to public scrutiny as to make the examiners liable to any form of embarrassment by exposure of the marks.

The Appellant further contends that such revealing of the marks given by the examiners will not necessarily jeopardize the identity of the examiners for the same reason.

The Appellant also contends that providing the information will not encroach upon the domain of confidentiality of sensitive information and the information sought conforms to the intents and purpose of the RTI Act, which is achieving transparency and accountability.

The Appellant's plea is that the information sought concerns the marks obtained by the successful candidates in a recruitment examination conducted by a public body and cannot be therefore said to be personal information.

The Appellant's allegation that "*the tabulation is contrary to the conditions of the advertisement, which gives doubt to the appellant and many candidates who sat for the exam that manipulation or favoritism cannot be rule out and hence for the public interest the information are sought*" is a subject outside the jurisdiction of this Commission. This Commission is concerned with justification for granting or denying the information and whether the grounds for denial stand scrutiny under Section 8 of the RTI Act as well as under Section 3 and 4 of the Act.

Another plea of the Appellant "*that the instant appeal has been sought for the purpose of determining any manipulation which is suspect, and the denial of the information was mala fide and obstructionist in nature which is in complete defiance of the nature and intent of the act*" is also not a matter to be considered under the RTI Act of 2005. The Act does not require imputation of any purpose on the part of the information seeker in asking for any information or on the part of the Public Authority for deciding. This Commission's duty is to determine whether information sought is permissible for furnishing under the RTI Act 2005 without consideration of any purpose, stated or not, for such request or consequent denial if any. Such verification or determination is available in other forums and under other relevant laws.

The Respondent PIO and the FAA in the Meghalaya Public Service Commission have taken a negative argument to support the stand of the Public Authority. The PIO has taken shelter under the section which specifies the types of information which are exempted for disclosure, generally section 8, and more specifically clause (j) of sub-section (1) of Section 8. This clause specifies that information which is personal and the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual can be denied. However, both the PIO and the FAA have not given reason to prove that the information relates to “personal information” but both have rather reasoned that the information “*is not of any public interest because the case of Shailendra Kumar Singh vs PIO, EPFO is different from the case of the Appellant as the information sought therein is only of four candidates, whereas the case of the Appellant is similar to the case decided by the Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No.6159-62 of 2013 i.e. Union Public Service Commission and others versus Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530*”.

When a PIO considers whether information is of public interest or not such consideration must follow a prior decision made that the information cannot be given as it relates to personal information which cannot be disclosed. However, on such consideration, if he finds that “public interest” outweighs the harm to protected personal interest he may still decide, under subsection (2) of Section 8, to provide the information in spite of it being personal. Other primary protection of larger interests like internal security or endangering the life of any person, is provided through the other clauses in sub-section (1) of Section 8.

Instead of focusing and examining whether the requested information is personal or not the PIO and FAA have both focused on attempting to prove that the information sought is not of “public interest” under Section 8 (1) (j). The PIO has chosen to use this exception clause (i.e. 8(2)) to deny information. However, a careful reading of sub-section 2 of Section 8 shows that this section is meant to justify providing information in spite of the information being personal. The PIO and FAA has used sub-section 2 to deny information when it should be used to provide information in special circumstances. On the other hand the PIO as well as the FAA have failed to adequately address the question of whether the information sought for is personal information which can be withheld under clause (j) of subsection (1) of Section 8. The

PIO and FAA have instead used the provisions of subsection (2) to support their decision to deny furnishing the information, all the while stating that such denial is under Section 8(1)(j).

Similarly, the consideration of public interest can be used not merely to provide information in spite of it being otherwise deniable under sub-section (1) but it can also be a reason of considerable weightage in deciding to deny information. The decision of the Supreme Court in the UPSC vs Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530 shows that in spite of other reasons which support provision of the information, the information may nevertheless be denied as there is a likelihood of public interest being adversely affected by supply of the information.

The first item of information requested for is the OMR sheets of 576 candidates (Optimum Marks Reader as clarified by the PIO of MPSC).

These OMR sheets contain the answers given by each candidate for each question in Paper I and Paper II in his/her respective answer sheet. These are objective type questions, as clarified by the PIO, and the answers are compared to the answer keys. (It is noted that item (iii) of the request for information relates to answer keys and these have been supplied by the PIO of the MPSC in the first response to the application of the Appellants). The assessment is therefore reached on the basis of comparing the answer made by each candidate to the answer keys. In UPSC vs Angesh Kumar and Others (2018) 4SCC 530 various angles of the issues have been examined by the Supreme Court, including how the burden of supplying voluminous information would affect the working of the executive machinery. Non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information should not be such that it would cause the executive to be bogged down and to adversely affect the efficiency of administration.

Another issue examined is whether the free and frank atmosphere in which an examiner works could be adversely affected by revelation of detailed information which the examiner would normally assume to be confidential.

Importantly, the Court had noted that in examinations conducted to select candidates for specific jobs in the Government, the criterion, unlike that of academic examinations, is not absolute merit but relative merit. It is therefore possible that in such an examination conducted by the MPSC many candidates may secure marks which would give them a distinction in an academic examination yet may not be sufficient for selection in such a public service examination.

The Commission also noted from a copy of the first appeal filed before the Departmental Appellate Authority that the Appellant along with five others had filed a Writ Petition before the Hon'ble High Court of Meghalaya on the conduct of this examination by the MPSC. The Appellant did not provide any certificate, as required, to the Commission on this matter. However, in the interest of transparency and accountability by providing access to information under the control of Public Authorities, the Commission has decided to continue to hear the case even in the absence of such certification, and so asked the Appellant to provide a copy of the Writ Petition.

An examination of the Writ Petition and its enclosures show a copy of an RTI application dated 30-10-2018 made, not by the Appellant, but, by one Mr Dameshwa Rani who is also one of the Writ Petitioners in the W.P(c) No 510 of 2018. The matter under this mentioned RTI application did not come up for Appeal before the Commission.

The responsibility of this Commission is for matters related to the furnishing of information requested under the RTI Act. Legality of the conduct of the examination by the MPSC or its decision in the conduct of examination is not within the jurisdiction of this Commission.

This Commission restricts itself to matters under the jurisdiction of the RTI Act for decisions empowered to the Commission under this Act and issues orders strictly on these matters only, without prejudice to whatever decisions the Hon'ble High Court may make in matters within the broader subject of the conduct of the MCS Examination of 2018 by the Meghalaya Public Service Commission.

Having examined the case, this Commission makes the following order:

- (1) The furnishing of detailed information in the form of OMR sheets will certainly give the Appellant a detailed information of the performance of each and every candidate and promote transparency. However the objective of this examination is relative merit and not the assessment of the academic merit of each and every candidate. The furnishing of detailed OMR sheets of all 576 candidates will require the revelation of information showing the whole process of the assessment of the OMR sheets which will result in unnecessary work for the Public Authority. Such revelation also holds the possibility of compromising the integrity of the MPSC and the whole process of examination. It is therefore not in the public interest to disclose such detailed information. The PIO of the MPSC is therefore not required to furnish the details of the OMR sheets of the 576 candidates.
- (2) The furnishing of information in the form of marks obtained by each the 576 candidates in Paper I and Paper II will give the Appellant sufficient and reasonable information on the performance of each candidate without heaping unnecessary workload on the Public Authority viz., the MPSC. The information requested relates to performance of every candidate and this information is generated by the MPSC itself by computing from the OMR sheets. This information, even though it shows the performance of each candidate, is not information which belongs to the candidate, nor is this information generated by the actions of the candidate for his private and personal purpose. This information is generated by the actions of the candidate in his exercise of his right to compete fairly for appointment to a Government post or service. The generation of this information is under the control, supervision and authority of a body entrusted with the selection of candidates for appointment to a Government post of service. This information therefore does not belong to the candidate or held in his custody, nor personal to any candidate.

The PIO of the MPSC is therefore required to furnish this information relating to the total marks obtained by each of the 576 candidates in each of the papers I and II of the examination to the Appellant. This information shall be

provided to the Appellant immediately after receipt of this order and within 24 hours. This information shall be furnished free of any additional charges.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION, SHILLONG

....

No. MIC/Appeal/11/2019/18

Shri Arnold G Momin,

-

Appellant

-Vrs-

1. FAA & Deputy Inspector General of Police (Administration)
2. PIO & Asstt., Inspector General of Police (Administration)

}

Respondents

21-11-2019

ORDER

Case records put today.

The Appellant, Shri Arnold G Momin is absent.

The PIO & Deputy Commandant, 2nd Battalion Meghalaya Police, Goeragre, West Garo Hills, Shri Gilbaith W Momin is present.

Replies to item 2, 3 and 6 were not complete in the initial reply from the Commandant 2nd Battalion MLP. Further information was subsequently given as shown here:

Item 2: The PIO informed that he has furnished the appointment certificate under question 2 of the application as well as an extract of the joining record.

Item 3 : The PIO has provided the statement of basic pay of (L) Nallindra Sangma from the year 1976 to 1994. The original copies of the salary slip are not available. The salary statement has been made based on the records available in the office.

Item 5: The Departmental proceeding was drawn against (L) Nallindra Sangma. A copy of the order BO2440 dated 02.07.93 which had been provided earlier has been given to the applicant earlier.

An extract copy of the BO. No.2716 Dated 22.07.93 being a final order under the DP has also been provided to the applicant.

Item 6: The applicant has also been given information that (L) Nallindra Sangma did not get any promotion during his service but was allowed to function as un-paid Lance Naik w.e.f 16.09.1985 without any monetary benefit. Copy of the order had also been given to the applicant earlier.

Item 7: The PIO also informed the Commission that (L) Nallindra Sangma had resigned from the service and therefore was not entitled to retirement benefits. Subsequently his wife was not entitled to death cum-retirement benefits.

The Commission noted that the application was submitted to the PIO in the office of the Director General of Police on 27th May 2019. On the same day the PIO had transferred the application to the SP, West Garo Hills. SP, West Garo Hills replied to the application vide letter No.RO(G)/IV-2-2019/2977-78 Dated 14.06.2019 stating that (L) Nallindra Sangma did not belong to the West Garo Hills DEF. A copy of this letter was received by AIGP (A), office of the Director General of Police on 24.06.2019. The AIGP (A) then re-circulated the RTI application to all offices of the police department on 26.06.2019 vide letter No.FM/VIII-64/2016/103 in order to cover all possible places of posting of (L) Nallindra Sangma.

It was the Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion, Goeragre, West Garo, Hills who found that (L) Nallindra Sangma had been posted in the Battalion and subsequently replied to the applicant vide letter No.2BN/IX-41/2019/622, Dated 09.08.2019.

Meanwhile the first appeal had been filed by the applicant to the FAA and Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion, Goeragre on 01.08.2019 as the appellant had also received the letter dated 26/06/2019 transferring the RTI application under section 6(3) to various heads of office under the office of the Director General of Police.

The Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion then provided the information to the appellant on 09.08.2019. However, the information did not include several copies of documents requested by the applicant.

The applicant filed a second appeal before the Commission on 29.08.2019 as full information such as copies of orders and salary slips had not been furnished in the reply of the Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion in his letter dated 09.08.2019.

This Commission then asked the Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion vide order dated 30/10/2019 whether his letter dated 09.08.2019 was in response to the transfer of application under section 6(3) or whether it was a response to the first appeal as this could not be made out from the content of the letter dated 09.08.2019. As FAA he was not expected to reply but to decide an appeal.

In response to the order of the Commission the PIO and AIGP (A), Office of the Director General of Police had also replied vide letter No.2BN/IX-41/2019/2864 dated 05.11.2019

expressing the difficulties in finding out the places of posting and subsequently in finding out copies of the records as some of these records were more than 40 years old and these records had been transferred to subordinate offices including the 2nd Battalion in 1982. Consequently various copies requested could also not be located by the Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion. The difficulty in obtaining these records was understood by the Commission. However, inspite of these difficulties the Commandant 2nd MLP Battalion had subsequently been able to retrieve some documents and has been able to provide the details of the salary of (L) Nallindra Sangma right from 1976 to 1994 even though copies of the salary slips were not available. This information was extracted from the records available relating to (L) Nallindra Sangma.

Observation

The Commission had made its observations in its order dated 30.09.2019 where it had showed that information to the applicant should not have been made by the FAA. In his capacity as FAA the Commandant should have instructed the PIO who is second in Command to provide the information. The duty of the FAA is to examine the merits of an appeal and to direct the concern PIO to take necessary action. The various public authorities under the office of the Director General of Police, Meghalaya should be made aware of the rules of the RTI Act relating to the following:

- (i). Transfer of the application under section 6(3) should be made to the concerned PIO if the original PIO to whom the application is submitted does not hold custody of the information. Such transfer should be done within 5(five) days and the PIO to whom the application is transferred should then furnish the information directly to the applicant.
- (ii). The FAA need not reply to the applicant barring exceptional circumstances, but should direct the PIO concerned to reply. The FAA replying to a RTI request makes it subsequently impossible for him to examine the matter on appeal if there is a subsequent appeal to the FAA against the reply.

Let a copy of this order be sent to the Director General of Police Meghalaya to enable him to issue appropriate directions to the subordinate offices under his control.

Sd/-
(P.B.O.Warjri)
C.I.C.

Chapter 7

Implementation of the Right to Information Act, 2005 in the State during 2019

7.1 The Right to Information Act 2005 requires all the Government Departments to collect the relevant information from all the Public Authorities under their control and to furnish the same to the State Information Commission for preparation of the Annual Report for the year. The data contained in the Tables are compiled from the reports provided by the public authorities of the Government Departments. The data indicated in the Tables may not reflect the complete picture, due to the fact that some Departments did not submit the relevant information called for by the Commission. The list of defaulters is given in Table 7.6.1.

According to Section 25 (2) of the R.T.I. Act 2005, each Ministry or Department shall in relation to the public authorities within their Jurisdiction collect and provide such information to the Central Information or State Information Commission as the case may be, as is required to prepare the report under the section and comply with the requirements concerning the furnishing of that information and keeping of records for the purpose of this Section.

The Commission observes that inspite of the above legal provisions there are many Government Departments which are hesitant to comply with the direction of the Commission.

7.2 Disposal of information requests by the Public Information Officers
{Section 25 (3) (a)}

During the year 2019 a total number of 3293 requests were received by the Public Information Officers of those public authorities who have so far furnished their reports. 32 numbers of requests were carried over from the previous year; hence the total number of requests available with the PIOs for disposal is 3305. Out of these, 3173 requests were disposed of by the PIOs during the year which is about **96.91 %**. The remaining requests have been carried over to the next year for disposal. The total number of requests rejected and deemed to have refused by the

PIOs were 67 which is approximately about 1.41 % from the total number of requests received in the year 2019 by the PIOs.

7.2.1 Disposal of information requests by Public Information Officers/Public Authorities

Reporting Year: 2019

Sl. No	Name of Departmental Public Authorities	No. of requests pending at end of last year	No. of requests received during the year	Total No. of requests	No. of requests disposed	No. of requests rejected	No. of requests deemed to be refused: Sec. 7(2)	% of cases access to information denied
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Agriculture							
	Secretariat Deptt.	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Agriculture	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
	Directorate of Horticulture	0	7	7	6	0	1	50%
	Meghalaya State Agricultural Marketing Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Arts & Culture							
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Arts & Culture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	AH&Vety.							
	Secretariat Dept.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Directorate of AH &Vety.	0	30	30	30	0	0	0
	Directorate of Dairy Development	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
4	Border Areas Development							
	Secretariat Deptt	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of BAD	0	8	8	8	0	0	0
5	CM Secretariat							
	Secretariat Dept.	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
6	Cabinet Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	C & R D							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	27	27	27	0	0	0
	Directorate of C & R D	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	0	36	36	36	0	0	0
	Project Director, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin	0	1	1	1	0	0	0

	Project Director, Ribhoi District, Nongpoh							
	Project Director, West Jaintia Hills, Jowai	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Project Director, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Project Director, South Garo Hills, Bagmara							
	Project Director, West Garo Hills, Tura							
	Project Director South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat	0	6	6	6	0	0	0
	Project Director North Garo Hills, Resubelpara	0	8	8	8	0	0	0
	Project Director South West Garo Hills, Ampati							
	Project Director East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat							
8	Cooperation							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Registrar of Cooperative Societies	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Warehousing Corporation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MECOFED Ltd.	0	2	2	1	1	0	0
	MSHF Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSCU Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	The Meghalaya Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd.	0	4	4	4	3	Nil	75%
	MEGHALOOM Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Village Development & Promotion Tourism Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

9	District Council Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
	KHADC	1	37	37	36	0	0	0
	JHADC	1	66	66	65	0	0	0
	GHADC	4	81	81	77	0	0	0
10	Education							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	6	6	6	0	0	0
	DHTE	0	86	86	86	0	0	0
	DERT	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
	MBOSE	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
	DSEL	0	15	15	15	0	0	0
11	Elections							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
	Deputy Commissioners	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
12	ERTS							
	Secretariat. Dept.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Taxes	0	14	14	13	1	0	0
	Commissioner of Excise	0	20	20	20	0	0	0
	Inspector General of Registration & Superintendent of Stamps	0	23	23	23	0	0	0
	Directorate of Meghalaya State Lottery	0	11	11	11	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Commission of Resource Mobilization	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Finance							
	Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
	Directorate of Small Savings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Institutional Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC 1) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Economic Affairs) Deptt.	0	18	18	18	0	0	0
	Finance (PR) Department	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Finance (Establishment) Department	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Finance (AF)	0	9	9	9	0	0	0

	Finance (PC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Local Fund Audit	0	6	6	6	0	0	0
	Finance (Budget)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC II)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Food & Civil Supplies							
	Sectt. Deptt.	0	68	68	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Food & Civil Supplies	0	68	68	68	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Forest & Envir.							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF & HoFF	0	38	38	38	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (Social Forestry & Env.)	0	71	71	71	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (CC, Research & Training)	0	41	41	41	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (Territorial)	1	97	98	98	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (WL & CWLW)	1	55	56	56	0	0	0
16	Fisheries							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Directorate of Fisheries	0	10	10	10	10	10	10
17	GAD							
	Office Estate Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zila Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GAD (B)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	GAD (A)	0	10	10	10	0	0	0
18	Home (Police)							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	6	6	5	0	0	0
	Director General of Police	3	556	556	553	13	2	0
19	Home Guards & Civil Defence							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	11	11	11	0	0	0

	Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards	0	11	11	11	0	0	0
20	Home (Jails)							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
	Director General of Prisons	0	24	24	24	0	0	0
21	Home (Passport)							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
22	Health & F.W.							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	29	29	29	0	0	0
	DHS (MI)	0	44	44	44	0	0	0
	DHS (MCH & FW)	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
	DHS (R)	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
23	Housing							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Housing	0	13	13	13	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Housing Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Commerce & Industries							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Commerce & Industries	0	45	45	45	0	0	0
	MIDC Ltd.							
	MCCL							
	MKVIB							
	MHHDC Ltd.							
	MBC Ltd.							
	MEDC Ltd.							
25	Information & Public Relations							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of IPR	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
26	Information Technology & Communication							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
27	Law							
	Law (A)	0	25	25	24	1	0	0
	Law (B)	0	36	36	36	0	0	0
28	Labour							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Directorate of Employment & Craftsmen Training	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	Office of the	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Administrative Medical Officer, Employees' State Insurance Scheme							
	Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories	0	16	16	16	0	0	0
	Labour Commissioner	0	13	13	13	0	0	0
	Commandant Meghalaya Civil Task Force	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Mining & Geology							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	20	20	19	1	0	0
	Directorate of Mineral Resources	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
30	Planning							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Directorate of Programme Implementation & Evaluation Department	0	8	8	8	0	0	0
	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	0	9	9	9	0	0	0
	MEDC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bio - Resource Development Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Council of Science & Technology & Environment, Shillong	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Shillong Science Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Planning Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Basin Development Authority	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Governance	0	1	1	1	0	0	0

	Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Science & Technology Cell	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	District Planning Officer	0	7	7	7	0	0	0
	Planning (Research)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
31	Personnel							
	Personnel & AR (A)	0	20	20	20	0	0	0
	Personnel & AR (B)	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	DC EK Hills, Shillong	0	72	72	72	0	0	0
	DC Ribhoi District	0	26	26	26	0	0	0
	DC West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	0	50	50	50	0	0	0
	DC West Khasi Hills	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
	DC West Garo Hills, Tura	1	81	81	78	0	0	0
	DC East Garo Hills	0	17	17	17	0	0	0
	DC South Garo Hills	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	MPSC	0	28	28	22	6	0	6%
	Commissioner of Divisions Shillong	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Personnel AR (ARC) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MATI	0	10	10	10	0	0	0
	DC South West Khasi Hills District	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	DC East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat	0	9	9	9	0	0	0
	DC North Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Garo Hills, Ampati	0	7	7	7	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Division, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Sohra	0	7	7	6	1	0	0
	SDO (C) Mairang	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Amlarem	0	5	5	5	0	0	0

	SDO (C) Dadenggre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Raksamgre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mawshynrut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Pynursla	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Chokpot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Ranikor	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	All India Service Pre-Examination Training Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Political							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	7	7	7	0	0	0
33	PHE							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Engineer	1	47	47	47	0	0	0
34	Power							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSERC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MNREDA	4	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Senior Electrical Inspector, Inspectorate of Electricity, Shillong	0	10	10	10	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited	4	28	32	27	0	1	0
	Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited	1	5	6	6	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Generation Corporation Limited	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited	0	51	51	36	1	0	0
35	Printing & Stationery							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Directorate of Printing & Stationery	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
36	P.W.D.							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	13	13	13	0	0	0
	CE PWD(R)	0	39	39	39	0	0	0
	CE PWD (NH)	0	39	39	39	0	0	0
	CE PWD (B)	0	9	9	9	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Govt. Construction Corporation Ltd.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
37	Parliamentary Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
38	Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	Revenue & Disaster Management							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Board of Revenue	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Directorate of Land Records & Survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	SAD							
	SAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (E)	0	9	9	9	0	0	0
	SAD (N)	0	10	10	10	0	0	0
	SAD (R)	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
41	Sports & Youth Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sports & YA	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
42	Social Welfare							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	Directorate of Social Welfare	0	42	42	42	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Social Welfare Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Women	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Commissioner for Person with Disabilities	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
	State Commission for Protection of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Child Rights							
	District Social Welfare Officer	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	District Programme Officer ICDS Cell	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Child Welfare & Probation Officer I/c Observation Home (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Training for Self Employment of Women in need of Care & Protection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Observation Home (G) Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43	Soil & Water Conservation							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
	Directorate of Soil & Water	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
44	Department of Textiles							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sericulture & Weaving, Department of Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zonal Officer (Weaving), Khasi & Jaintia Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sericulture Development Officer, Tikrikilla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	District Sericulture Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Williamnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Transport							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Transport	2	17	19	19	0	0	0
	MTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Secretary State Transport Authority	0	6	6	6	0	0	0
	District Transport Officer & Regional Transport Authority	5	176	176	167	4	0	0
46	Tourism							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
	Directorate of Tourism	0	28	28	28	0	0	0
	MTDC Ltd.	1	6	7	7	0	0	0
47	Urban Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Urban Affairs	1	27	28	28	0	0	0
	Shillong Municipal Board	0	19	19	19	0	0	0
	Jowai Municipal Board	0	3	3	3	0	0	0
	MUDA	0	10	10	10	0	0	0

	Tura Municipal Board	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Williamnagar Municipal Board	0	2	2	2	2	0	0
	Resubelpara Municipal Board	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Urban Development Agency, Shillong	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Baghmara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Legal Metrology Department							
	Controller of Legal Metrology	0	11	11	11	0	0	0
49	Meghalaya Legislative Assembly	0	5	5	5	0	0	0
50	Meghalaya High Court	0	99	99	90	9	0	0
	Chief Judicial Magistrate							
51	Governor's Secretariat, Raj Bhavan,	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
52	Meghalaya State Information Commission	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
53	Water Resources Department	0	12	12	12	0	0	0
54	Prisons Department	0	14	14	14	0	0	0
	Total:	32	3293	3305	3173	53	14	1.41%

Nota Bene : NA = (Information) Not Available

Table 7.2.2 below indicates *the year wise disposal of requests* during the last thirteen years

Table 7.2.2

Year	Total no. of requests	No. of requests disposed	No. of requests rejected
2006	310	291	28
2007	537	492	10
2008	360	335	2
2009	676	652	4
2010	836	816	4
2011	1074	1051	7
2012	1289	1231	16
2013	1625	1546	30
2014	1816	1770	23
2015	2663	2601	6
2016	2132	2049	1
2017	5231	5150	81
2018	2611	2531	69
2019	3305	3173	67

7.3. Disposal of First Appeals by the Departmental Appellate Authority (DAA)

Section 19 (1) provides “Any person who does not receive a decision within the time specified in Sub Section 11 (1) or Clause (a) of Sub-section (3) of Section 7, or is aggrieved by a decision of the Central Public Information Officer, or State Public Information Officer as the case may be, may within 30 days from the expiry of such period or from the receipt of such a decision prefer an appeal (First appeal) to such officer who is senior in rank to the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer as the case may be in each public authority.”

During the year, 116 appeals were preferred before the Departmental Appellate Authority (FAA) in the form of First Appeals under Section 19 (1) of the Act.

The disposal of the appeals by the First Appellate Authorities is given in Table 7.3.1

Table 7.3.1 Disposal of First Appeals by the First Appellate Authorities

(Reporting Year: 2019)

Sl. No	Name of Departmental Public Authorities	No. of First Appeals pending with Appellate Officers	No. of First Appeals preferred during the year	Total No. of appeals with Appellate Officers	No. of First Appeals disposed	No. of First Appeals rejected	% of First Appeals rejected	No. of First Appeals pending for more than 45 Days
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1	Agriculture							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Horticulture	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Agricultural Marketing Board, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Arts & Culture							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Arts & Culture	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	A.H.&Vety.							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of AH&Vety	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Dairy Development	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Border Areas Development							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of BAD	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
5	CM Secretariat							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	12	12	0	0	0	0
6	Cabinet Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	C&RD							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of C&RD	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Project Director, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	0	11	8	4	0	0	0
	Project Director, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, Ribhoi District,							

	Nongpoh							
	Project Director, West Jaintia Hills, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Project Director, South Garo Hills, Baghmara							
	Project Director, West Garo Hills, Tura							
	Project Director, South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, North Garo Hills, Resubelpara	0	0	8	8	0	0	0
	Project Director, South West Garo Hills, Ampati							
	Project Director, East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat							
8	Cooperation							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Registrar of Cooperative Societies	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Warehousing Corporation	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MECOFED Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSHF Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSCU Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	The Meghalaya Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd.	0	1	2	2	2	100%	0
	MEGHALOOM Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Village Development & Promotion Tourism Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	District Council Affairs							

	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	KHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	JHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GHADC	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
10	Education							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHTE	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	DERT	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MBOSE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DSEL	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Elections							
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Deputy Commissioners	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ERTS							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Excise	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Inspector General of Registration & Superintendent of Stamps	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Meghalaya State Lottery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Commission of Resource Mobilization	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Finance							
	Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Directorate of Small Savings	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Institutional Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC 1) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Economic Affairs) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (PR) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Establishment) Deptt.	0	0	10	0	0	0	0
	Finance (AF)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (PC)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Directorate of Local Fund Audit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Budget)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC II)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Food & Civil Supplies							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	7	7	0	0	0
	Directorate of Food & Civil Supplies	0	0	7	7	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Forests & Envir.							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF & HoFF	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (Social Forestry & Environment)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (CC, Research & Training)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (Territorial)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (WL & CWLW)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Fisheries							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	Directorate of Fisheries	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
17	GAD							
	Office Estate Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zila Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GAD (B)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	GAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Home (Police)							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Director General of Police	0	11	11	11	0	0	0
19	Home Guards & Civil Defence							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Home (Jails)							

	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Director General of Prisons	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Home (Passport)							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Health & FW							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHS (MI)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHS (MCH & FW)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHS (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Housing							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Housing Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Commerce & Industries							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Commerce & Industries	0	0	0	4	0	0	0
	MIDC Ltd.							
	MCCL							
	MKVIB							
	MHHDC Ltd.							
	MBC Ltd.							
	MEDC Ltd.							
25	Information & Public Relations							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of IPR	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Information Technology & Communication							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Law							
	Law (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Law (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Labour							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Employment & Craftsmen Training	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Administrative Medical Officer, Employees' State Insurance Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Inspector of	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Boilers and Factories							
	Labour Commissioner	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commandant Meghalaya Civil Task Force	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Mining & Geology							
	Secretariat Dept	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Mineral Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Planning							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Programme Implementation & Evaluation Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	MEDC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bio - Resource Development Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Council of Science & Technology & Environment	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Shillong Science Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Planning Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Basin Development Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Governance	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Science & Technology Cell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Planning Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Planning (Research)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

31	Personnel							
	Personnel & AR (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Personnel & AR (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC EK Hills, Shillong	0	1	2	2	0	0	0
	DC Ribhoi District	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC West Khasi Hills	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	DC West Garo Hills, Tura	1	2	3	6	0	0	0
	DC East Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MPSC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Divisions Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Personnel AR (ARC) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MATI	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Khasi Hills District	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC East Jaintia Hills District , Khliehriat	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC North Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Garo Hills, Ampati	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Division Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Sohra	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mairang	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Amlarem	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Dadenggre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Raksamgre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mawshynrut	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Pynursla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Chokpot	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SDO (C) Ranikor	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	

	All India Service Pre-Examination Training Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Political							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
33	PHE							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Engineer	0	18	18	18	0	0	0
34	Power							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSERC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MNREDA	0	4	4	4	0	0	0
	Senior Electrical Inspector, Inspectorate of Electricity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited	2	23	16	14	0	0	4
	Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Generation Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited	0	1	0	1	0	0	0
35	Printing & Stationery							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Printing & Stationery	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	PWD							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD(R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (NH)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Govt. Construction Corporation Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
37	Parliamentary Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	Revenue & Disaster							

	Management							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Board of Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Land Records & Survey	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	SAD							
	SAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (E)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (N)	0	1	1	1	0	0	0
	SAD (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	Sports & Youth Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sports & Y.A.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
42	Social Welfare							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Social Welfare	1	0	1	1	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Social Welfare Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Women	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner for Person with Disabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Protection of Child Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Social Welfare Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Programme Officer ICDS Cell	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Child Welfare & Probation Officer I/c Observation Home (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Training for Self Employment of Women in need of Care & Protection	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Observation Home (G) Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
43	Soil & Water Conservation							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
44	Department of Textiles							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sericulture and Weaving, Department of Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zonal Officer (Weaving), Khasi & Jaintia Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sericulture Development Officer, Tikrikilla	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Williamnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Transport							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Transport	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MTC	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Secretary State	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Transport Authority							
	District Transport Officer & Regional Transport Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
46	Tourism							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Tourism	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MTDC Ltd.	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
47	Urban Affairs							
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Urban Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shillong Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jowai Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MUDA	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Tura Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Williamnagar Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Resubelpara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Urban Development Agency, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Baghmara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Legal Metrology Department							
	Controller of Legal Metrology	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
49	Meghalaya Legislative Assembly	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	Meghalaya High Court	0	2	2	2	0	0	0
	Chief Judicial Magistrate							
51	Governor's Secretariat, Raj Bhavan, Shillong	0	9	9	9	0	0	0
52	Meghalaya State Information Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	Water Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Department							
54	Prisons Department	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	4	116	130	121	21	100%	4

Nota Bene: NA = (Information) Not Available

Table 7.3.2 below indicates *the year wise disposal of first appeals* by the Departmental Appellate Authorities during the last thirteen years

Table 7.3.2

Year	No.of First Appeals received	No. of First Appeals disposed	No. of First Appeals rejected
2006	21	20	1
2007	108	106	2
2008	23	23	0
2009	39	39	0
2010	42	36	6
2011	94	94	Nil
2012	118	117	1 no. carried over
2013	78	66	No. of disposals include pending ones of the previous year
2014	123	120	
2015	122	131	
2016	112	154	
2017	239	237	2
2018	77	71	6
2019	130	121	21

7.4 Information requests rejected by the Public Information Officers/Public Authorities

Section 7 (1) empowers the Public Information Officer to reject the request for information for any of the reasons specified under sections 8 and 9 of the Right to Information Act, 2005.

The number of requests rejected by the PIOs/Public Authorities is indicated in the Table 7.4.1 below.

Table 7.4.1

Reporting Year: 2019

Sl. No	Name of Department/ Public Authorities	Total No. of requests rejected	No. of requests rejected Section 8	No. of requests rejected Section 9	No. of requests rejected Section 11	No. of requests rejected Section 24	No. of requests rejected Other Sections
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Agriculture						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Agriculture	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Horticulture	3	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Agricultural Marketing Board, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	Arts & Culture						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Arts & Culture	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	AH&Vety.						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of AH&Vety.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Dairy Development	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Border Areas Development						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of BAD	0	1	1	1	0	0
5	CM Secretariat						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	Cabinet Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	C&RD						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of C&RD	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, Ribhoi District, Nongpoh						
	Project Director, West Jaintia Hills, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director,	0	0	0	0	0	0

	East Garo Hills, Williamnagar						
	Project Director, South Garo Hills, Baghmara						
	Project Director, West Garo Hills, Tura						
	Project Director South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director North Garo Hills, Resubelpara	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director South West Garo Hills, Ampati						
	Project Director East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat						
8	Cooperation						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Registrar of Cooperative Societies	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Warehousing Corporation	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MECOFED Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSHF Coop.Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSCU Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	The Meghalaya Cooperarive Apex Bank Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MEGHALOOM Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Village Development & Promotion Tourism Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	District Council Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	KHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	JHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	Education						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHTE	0	0	0	0	0	0

	DERT	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MBOSE	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DSEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Election						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Deputy Commissioners	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ERTS						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Taxes	1	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Excise	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Inspector General of Registration & Superintendent of Stamps	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Meghalaya State Lottery	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Commission of Resource Mobilization	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Finance						
	Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Small Savings	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Institutional Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC 1) Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Economic Affairs) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (PR) Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Establishment) Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (AF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (PC)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Local Fund Audit	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Budget)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC II)	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Food & Civil Supplies						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Food & Civil Supplies						
	Meghalaya State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Forest & Envir.						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF & HoFF	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (Social Forestry & Environment)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (CC, Research & Training)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF (Territorial)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Addl. PCCF (WL & CWLW)	0	0	0	0	0	0
16	Fisheries						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Fisheries	0	10	10	10	10	10
17	GAD						
	Office Estate Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zila Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GAD (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0
18	Home (Police)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Director General of Police	0	0	0	0	0	0
19	Home Guards & Civil Defence						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	Home (Jails)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Director General of Prisons	0	0	0	0	0	0
21	Home (Passport)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Health & FW						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHS (MI)	0	0	0	0	0	0

	DHS (MCH & FW)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DHS (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Housing						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Housing	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Housing Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Commerce & Industries						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Commerce & Industries	0	7	0	0	0	0
	MIDC Ltd.						
	MCCL						
	MKVIB						
	MHHDC Ltd.						
	MBC Ltd.						
	MEDC Ltd.						
25	Information & Public Relations						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of IPR	0	0	0	0	0	0
26	Information Technology & Communication						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
27	Law						
	Law (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Law (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0
28	Labour						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Employment & Craftsmen Training	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o Administrative Medical Officer, Employees' State Insurance Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Labour Commissioner	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commandant Meghalaya Civil Task Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Mining & Geology						

	Secretariat Dept	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Mineral Resources	0	0	0	0	0	0
30	Planning						
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Programme Implementation & Evaluation Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MEDC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bio - Resource Development Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Council of Science & Technology & Environment,	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shillong Science Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Planning Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council,	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Basin Development Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Governance	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Science & Technology Cell	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Planning Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Planning (Research)	0	0	0	0	0	0
31	Personnel						
	Personnel & AR (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Personnel & AR (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC EK Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC Ribhoi	0	0	0	0	0	0

	District						
	DC West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC West Khasi Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC West Garo Hills Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC East Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MPSC	6	2	0	0	0	4
	Commissioner of Divisions Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Personnel & AR (ARC) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MATI	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Khasi Hills District	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC North Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Garo Hills, Ampati	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Division, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Sohra	1	1	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mairang	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Amlarem	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Dadenggre	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Raksamgre	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mawshynrut	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Pynursla	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Chokpot	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Ranikor	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All India Service Pre-Examination Training Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Political						
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0

33	PHE						
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Engineer	0	0	0	0	0	0
34	Power						
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSERC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MNREDA	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Senior Electrical Inspector Inspectorate of Electricity, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Generation Corporation Limited	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited	1	0	0	0	0	1	
35	Printing & Stationery						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Printing & Stationery	0	0	0	0	0	0
36	PWD						
	Secretariat Dept.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD(R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (NH)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (B)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Meghalaya Govt. Construction Corporation Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0	
37	Parliamentary Affairs						
	Secretariat Dett.	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	Revenue & Disaster Management						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Board	0	0	0	0	0	0

	of Revenue						
	Dte.Land Records & Survey	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	SAD						
	SAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (E)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (N)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SAD (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	Sports & Youth Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sports & YA	0	0	0	0	0	0
42	Social Welfare						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Social Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Social Welfare Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Women	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner for Person with Disabilities	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Protection of Child Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Social Welfare Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Programme Officer ICDS Cell	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Child Welfare & Probation Officer I/c Observation Home (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Training for Self Employment of Women in need of Care & Protection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Observation Home (G) Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
43	Soil & Water Conservation						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Soil & Water	0	0	0	0	0	0
44	Department of						

	Textiles						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sericulture & Weaving, Department of Textiles	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zonal Officer (Weaving), Khasi & Jaintia Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sericulture Development Officer, Tikrikilla	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Williamnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Transport						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Commissioner of Transport	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MTC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Secretary, State Transport Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Transport Officer & Regional Transport Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
46	Tourism						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Tourism	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MTDC Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
47	Urban Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Urban Affairs	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shillong Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Jowai Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MUDA	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Tura Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Williamnagar Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Resubelpara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Urban Development Agency, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Baghmara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Legal Metrology Department						
	Controller of Legal Metrology	0	0	0	0	0	0
49	Meghalaya Legislative Assembly	0	0	0	0	0	0
50	Meghalaya High Court	9	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Judicial Magistrate						
51	Governor's Secretariat Raj Bhavan, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0

52	Meghalaya State Information Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0
53	Water Resources Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
54	Prisons Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Total	21	21	11	11	10	15

Nota Bene : NA = (Information) Not Available

7.5. Amount of fees & other charges collected by each Public authority

A total of Rs. 68,602.00 was collected by the Public Information Officers/Public Authorities in the form of fees and charges during 2019. Out of this Rs. 6,205.00 was collected under Section 4(4), being the cost of the printed materials in which form the information was provided; Rs. 18,534.00 is the total amount of application fees collected under Section 6(1); Rs. 30,473.00 was collected under Section 7(1) being the cost of the photo copies made; Rs. 10,188.00 was collected under section 7(5) being the cost of information provided in electronic format and Rs. 3,202.00 is the miscellaneous charges collected by Public Information Officers and Public Authorities.

The details of fees and other charges collected department-wise during the year are indicated in Table 7.5.1 below.

Table 7.5.1

Summary of Costs, Fees & Charges collected by Public Authorities

Reporting Year : 2019

Sl. No.	Name of Departments/ Public Authorities	Cost Collected Section 4(4)	Fee Collected Section 6(1)	Fee Collected Section 7(1)	Fee Collected Section 7(5)	Other charges collected (specify)	Total Collection
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Agriculture						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Agriculture	0	80	2126	0	0	2206
	Directorate of Horticulture	2397	50	20	0	0	2467
	Meghalaya State Agricultural Marketing Board,	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Shillong						
2	Arts & Culture						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Arts & Culture	0	0	0	0	0	0
3	AH&Vety.						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of AH&Vety	0	300	0	0	0	300
	Directorate of Dairy Development	0	0	0	0	0	0
4	Border Areas Development						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of BAD	0	30	0	0	0	30
5	C.M.Secretariat						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	50	0	0	0	50
6	Cabinet Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	C&RD						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of C&RD	0	10	82	0	0	92
	Project Director, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	100	258	5124	538	14	6034
	Project Director, West Khasi Hills, Nongstoin	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Project Director, Ribhoi District, Nongpoh						
	Project Director, West Jaintia Hills, Jowai	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Project Director, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar	0	10	0	0	30	40
	Project Director, South Garo Hills, Baghmara						
	Project Director, West Garo Hills, Tura						
	Project Director, South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrwat	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director, North Garo Hills, Resubelpara	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Project Director,						

	South West Garo Hills, Ampati						
	Project Director, East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat						
8	Cooperation						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Registrar of Cooperative Societies	0	40	0	0	0	40
	Meghalaya State Warehousing Corporation	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MECOFED Ltd.	0	10	0	0	0	10
	MSHF Coop:Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSCU Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	The Meghalaya Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd.	0	40	0	0	0	40
	MEGHALOOM Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Village Development & Promotion Tourism Cooperative Society Ltd.	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	District Council Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	10	0	0	0	10
	KHADC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	JHADC	0	590	6609	0	0	7199
	GHADC	408	696	2264	408	85	3861
10	Education						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	60	0	0	0	60
	DHTE	0	270	1326	0	0	1596
	DEPT	0	10	90	0	0	100
	MBOSE	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DSEL	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	Election						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Deputy Commissioners	0	0	0	0	0	0
12	ERTS						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Commissioner of Taxes	0	140	26	0	0	166
	Commissioner of Excise	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Inspector General of Registration & Superintendent of Stamps	100	174	116	6	0	396
	Directorate of Meghalaya State Lottery	24	0	0	0	0	24
	Meghalaya Commission of Resource Mobilization	0	0	0	0	0	0
13	Finance						
	Directorate of Accounts & Treasuries	0	50	0	0	46	96
	Directorate of Small Savings	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Institutional Finance	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC 1) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (Economic Affairs) Deptt.	0	30	6	0	0	36
	Finance (PR) Department	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Finance (Establishment) Department	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (AF)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (PC)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Local Fund Audit	0	10	18	0	0	28
	Finance (Budget)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Finance (EC II)	0	0	0	0	0	0
14	Food & Civil Supplies						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	336	170	160	0	666
	Directorate of Food & Civil Supplies	0	336	170	160	0	666
	Meghalaya State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission	0	0	0	0	0	0
15	Forest & Envir.						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	O/o PCCF & HoFF	0	130	130	0	0	260
	O/o Addl. PCCF (Social Forestry &	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Environment)						
	O/o PCCF (CC, Research & Training)	0	10	70	10	0	90
	O/o PCCF (Territorial)	0	1258	540	0	0	1798
	O/o Addl. PCCF (WL & CWLW)	491	20	194	0	0	705
16	Fisheries						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	10	0	7	0	17
	Directorate of Fisheries	0	20	0	0	1118	1138
17	GAD						
	Office Estate Officer	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Zila Sainik Welfare	0	0	0	0	0	0
	GAD (B)	0	10	16	0	0	26
	GAD (A)	0	10	0	0	0	10
18	Home (Police)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	93	50	0	0	0	143
	Director General of Police	120	3360	0	0	10	3490
19	Home Guards & Civil Defence						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	10	0	0	10
	Directorate of Civil Defence & Home Guards	0	0	10	0	0	10
20	Home (Jails)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	50	0	0	0	50
	Director General of Prisons	0	40	0	0	0	40
21	Home (Passport)						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
22	Health & FW						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	100	0	150	0	250
	DHS (MI)	778	100	0	0	0	878
	DHS (MCH & FW)	10	40	0	0	0	50
	DHS (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
23	Housing						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Housing	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Meghalaya State Housing Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
24	Commerce & Industries						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Directorate of Commerce & Industries	0	120	90	0	0	210
	MIDC Ltd.						
	MCCL						
	MKVIB						
	MHHDC Ltd.						
	MBC Ltd.						
	MEDC Ltd.						
25	Information & Public Relations						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of IPR	0	60	0	0	0	60
26	Information Technology & Communication						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	The RTI applications are indirect requests received from various Departments. Hence, no fees collected.	N.A.
27	Law						
	Law (A)	0	70	0	0	0	70
	Law (B)	0	63	110	0	0	173
28	Labour						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Directorate of Employment & Craftsmen Training	0	30	0	0	0	30
	O/o Administrative Medical Officer, Employees State Insurance Scheme	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories	0	20	0	0	0	20
	Labour Commissioner	130	0	0	0	0	130
	Commandant Meghalaya Civil Task Force	0	0	0	0	0	0
29	Mining &						

	Geology						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Mineral Resources	0	190	0	0	430	620
30	Planning						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	20	20	20	0	60
	Directorate of Programme Implementation & Evaluation Deptt.	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	0	40	68	0	0	108
	MEDC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Bio - Resource Development Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Council of Science & Technology & Environment	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Shillong Science Centre, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya State Planning Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Resource & Employment Generation Council, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Basin Development Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Governance	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Science & Technology Cell	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Planning Officer	0	20	0	102	0	122
	Planning (Research)	0	10	10	10	0	30
31	Personnel						
	Personnel & AR (A)	0	70	0	10	0	80
	Personnel & AR (B)	0	10	126	0	0	136
	DC EK Hills, Shillong	100	3091	30	0	168	3389
	DC Ribhoi	0	326	1266	0	0	1592

	District						
	DC West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	0	40	2702	0	0	2742
	DC West Khasi Hills	0	110	163	6	0	279
	DC West Garo Hills, Tura	0	60	72	2932	10	3074
	DC East Garo Hills	0	170	0	0	0	170
	DC South Garo Hills	0	20	0	0	0	20
	MPSC	0	280	0	386	0	666
	Commissioner of Divisions Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Personnel AR (ARC) Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MATI	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Khasi Hills District	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC East Jaintia Hills District, Khliehriat	0	90	0	0	0	90
	DC North Garo Hills	0	0	0	0	0	0
	DC South West Garo Hills, Ampati	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Commissioner of Division, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Sohra	0	30	4004	0	0	4034
	SDO (C) Mairang	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Amlarem	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Dadenggre	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Raksamgre	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Mawshynrut	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Pynursla	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Chokpot	0	0	0	0	0	0
	SDO (C) Ranikor	0	0	0	0	0	0
	All India Service Pre-Examination Training Centre	0	0	0	0	0	0
32	Political						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	60	0	28	0	88
33	PHE						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Chief Engineer	70	202	35	1628	198	2133
34	Power						

	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MSERC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	MNREDA	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Senior Electrical Inspector, Inspectorate of Electricity	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited	100	130	0	0	0	230
	Meghalaya Power Transmission Corporation Limited	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Meghalaya Power Generation Corporation Limited	0	10	0	0	0	10
	Meghalaya Energy Corporation Limited	280	40	154	50	0	524
35	Printing & Stationery						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Printing & Stationery	0	10	0	0	0	10
36	PWD						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	40	0	0	0	40
	CE PWD(R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (NH)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	CE PWD (B)	0	30	0	0	334	364
	Meghalaya Govt. Construction Corporation Ltd.	0	10	0	0	0	10
37	Parliamentary Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
38	Meghalaya Bharat Scouts & Guides	0	0	0	0	0	0
39	Revenue & Disaster Management						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	484	0	0	0	484
	Meghalaya Board of Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Land Records & Survey	0	0	0	0	0	0
40	SAD						
	SAD (A)	0	0	0	0	0	0

	SAD (E)	0	30	86	0	0	116
	SAD (N)	0	10	0	0	0	10
	SAD (R)	0	0	0	0	0	0
41	Sports & Youth Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	40	0	0	0	0	40
	Directorate of Sports & YA	40	0	0	0	0	40
42	Social Welfare						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Social Welfare	0	110	720	0	0	830
	Meghalaya State Social Welfare Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
	State Commission for Women	20	0	0	0	0	20
	Commissioner for Person with Disabilities	0	0	0	0	30	30
	State Commission for Protection of Child Rights	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Social Welfare Officer	0	98	0	0	0	98
	District Programme Officer ICDS Cell	10	0	0	0	0	10
	Child Welfare & Probation Officer I/c Observation Home (Boys)	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Training for Self Employment of Women in need of Care & Protection	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Superintendent Observation Home (G) Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
43	Soil & Water Conservation						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	20	0	180	0	200
	Directorate of Soil & Water Conservation	0	110	210	0	0	320
44	Department of Textiles						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate of Sericulture & Weaving, Department of	0	0	0	0	0	0

	Textiles						
	Zonal Officer (Weaving), Khasi & Jaintia Hills, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Sericulture Development Officer, Tikrikilla	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Tura	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Williamnagar	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Sericulture Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongstoin	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Jowai	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Nongpoh	0	0	0	0	0	0
	District Handloom Officer, Baghmara	0	0	0	0	0	0
45	Transport						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	40	0	0	0	40
	Commissioner of Transport	0	190	272	0	0	462
	MTC	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Secretary, State Transport Authority	0	60	0	0	0	60
	District Transport Officer & Regional Transport Authority	568	820	0	0	0	1388
46	Tourism						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	20	0	0	46	66

	Directorate of Tourism	0	10	0	0	20	30
	MTDC Ltd.	0	60	176	0	0	236
47	Urban Affairs						
	Secretariat Deptt.	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Directorate.of Urban Affairs	0	272	0	2932	0	3204
	Shillong Municipal Board	0	30	0	0	0	30
	Jowai Municipal Board	0	10	24	0	0	34
	MUDA	0	70	816	0	0	886
	Tura Municipal Board	0	40	0	0	0	40
	Williamnagar Municipal Board	230	0	0	0	0	230
	Resubelpara Municipal Board	36	10	0	0	0	46
	Meghalaya Urban Development Agency, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Baghmara Municipal Board	0	0	0	0	0	0
48	Legal Metrology Department						
	Controller of Legal Metrology	0	20	202	0	0	222
49	Meghalaya Legislative Assembly	30	0	0	0	420	450
50	Meghalaya High Court	0	1500	0	0	0	1500
	Chief Judicial Magistrate						
51	Governor's Secretariat, Raj Bhavan, Shillong	0	0	0	0	0	0
52	Meghalaya State Information Commission	30	0	0	0	0	30
53	Water Resources Department	0	120	0	465	243	828
54	Prisons Department	0	50	0	0	0	50
	Total	6205	18534	30473	10188	3202	68602

Nota Bene: NA = (Information) Not Available

7.6. The data presented in Tables 7.2.1, 7.3.1 and 7.4.1 may not reflect the complete picture of the RTI activities that had taken place during the year as some Public Authorities have failed to comply with the legal requirement to furnish the relevant information for the Annual Report. Table 7.6.1 below indicates the names of such defaulting Public Authorities.

Table 7.6.1 below shows the names of the Departments and Public Authorities who failed to furnish the requisite information for incorporating the same in the Annual Report 2019.

Sl.No.	Name of the Department	Name of the defaulter Public Authority
1	C & RD Deptt.	Project Director, Ribhoi District, Nongpoh
		Project Director, South Garo Hills, Baghmara
		Project Director South West Garo Hills, Ampati
		Project Director, East Jaintia Hills, Khliehriat
		Project Director, West Garo Hills, Tura
2	Commerce & Industries	MIDC Ltd.
		MCCL
		MKVIB
		MHHDC Ltd.
		MBC Ltd.
		MEDC Ltd.

Chapter 8

Key initiatives undertaken by some Government Departments and Public Authorities in implementing the RTI Act, 2005

(Record management, computerization & networking, suo motu disclosures, etc.)

Reporting Year 2019

Sl. No.	Name of Departments/ Public Authorities	Key initiatives undertaken during the year / Remarks
1	2	3
1	Agriculture	
	Directorate of Horticulture	Care has been taken for proper Record Management and for smooth and transparent disclosure of information. Reply was provided as per the request tendered by the person concerned. If there are RTI applications, these are always being given top most priority and information sought there upon is being provided to the Applicants within the stipulated time. Dedicated staffs for dealing RTI applications are always being maintained in the office. No RTI seeker has approach so far. Office copy of all the correspondences available.
2	Arts & Culture	
	Directorate of Arts & Culture	1. Separate Register being maintained for all RTI related records. 2. Computerised.
3	Border Areas Development	
	Secretariat Deptt.	1. Necessary steps has been taken to supply the information to the public in time as per provision of the Act. 2. Schemes/Projects sanctioned have been duly displayed for public information through media networks and Notice Boards in office.
	Directorate of Border Areas Development	1. Files and records pertaining to Implementation of schemes under SCA are available and maintained in the office. 2. Suo Moto disclosed by displaying various schemes undertaken by the Department in the Notice board for Public Information. 3. Feedback is given and will always be ready to support Appellate Authorities on any matter concerning the Department with regards to implementation of the RTI Act. 4. Voluntary Organizations and other NGOs are encouraged to use the RTI Act, 2005 for any matter or grievance with regard to schemes or Department. 5. RTI guidelines are displayed in office notice board and separate office file is being maintained.

4	C & RD	
	Project Director, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	Record Management
	Project Director, South West Khasi Hills, Mawkyrawat	Uploading of key benefits implemented through the Department in the Portal of South West Khasi Hills District (Disclosure of information)
	Project Director, East Garo Hills, Williamnagar	Applicant applied by giving fees seeking information and relevant information giving within 30 days.
5	Cooperation	
	Registrar of Cooperative Societies	Pro-active mechanism has been put in place for disseminate information as and when applications are obtained.
	MECOFED Ltd.	Every step is taken to keep and maintain all records in order so as to facilitate any information that may be furnished as and when required.
	The Meghalaya Cooperative Apex Bank Ltd.	Necessary steps for prompt disclosure of information have been taken. Attended training programme conducted by MATI on on-line portal.
6	District Council Affairs	
	KHADC	As soon as the request for R.T.I. , myself on my part I have taken my initiative.
7	Education	
	DHTE	All the Departmental notifications are regularly uploaded in the website.
	DERT	Updated content with regards to Directorate on Sou muto disclosures.
8	Finance	
	Directorate of Local Fund Audit	Necessary steps has been taken to provide the information within the stipulated time as per provision of the Act.
9	Food & Civil Supplies	
	Secretariat Deptt.	RTI applications are disposed of in time.
	Directorate of Food & Civil Supplies	RTI applications are disposed of in time.
10	Forest & Envir.	
	O/o PCCF & HoFF	Maintain & Record in the Register.
	O/o Addl. PCCF (Social Forestry & Environment)	Prompt disposal of RTI application.
	O/o PCCF (CC, Research & Training)	The requisite information available in the office record has been furnished.
	O/o PCCF (Territorial)	Maintain & Record in the Register.
	O/o Addl. PCCF (WL & CWLW)	Office record properly kept/maintained and computerized.
11	GAD	
	GAD (A)	Maintenance of Record Management of RTI Register for quick disposal of information.

12	Home (Police)	
	Director General of Police	Prompt action and disposal of RTI queries were being replied and addressed to the applicant within the stipulated time frame. As mandate Section 4 of the Act, various information has been uploaded in the official website for the benefit of the general public.
		Replies to RTI queries are being submitted to the concerned applicant(s) within the stipulated time period.
		Several awareness programmes regarding RTI Act, 2005 led by the PIO of the district has been conducted all around West Jaintia Hills jurisdiction.
		All information sought has been replied accordingly.
		All efforts being made to ensure that all queries under the Act are addressed to within the stipulated time without any unnecessary delay(s).
		All information sought were promptly replied and addressed to. During the year 2019, 2(two) request cases have been received and prompt disposal of these cases have already been taken.
13	Housing	
	Secretariat Deptt.	Proper record is maintained.
	Directorate of Housing	Care has been taken for Proper Record Management and record Computerization. And Networking has improved the smooth and transparent disclosure of information.
14	Labour	
	Directorate of Employment & Craftsmen Training	1) Framing and uploading of Citizens' Charter in the Directorate Web's Portal. 2) Framing of Result Frame Work Document.
	Chief Inspector of Boilers and Factories	Materials, required information have been supplied to NIC Department for creation of Departmental Website to comply with Section 4 of the RTI Act, 2005 in which the same is under process.
	Commandant Meghalaya Civil Task Force	The Directorate/Office has already procured a computer and printer and this will help in providing information on any matter required by the public.
15	Mining & Geology	
	Secretariat Deptt.	Records, Management are maintained in a register.
	Directorate of Mineral Resources	Record, Management, Computerizing and networking is still going on.
16	Planning	
	Secretariat Deptt.	Planning Department is trying to update all the information every year. Regard Sou Muto disclosures etc. the Department is trying to update which is now under process.
	Directorate of Programme Implementation & Evaluation Deptt.	Updated RTI Manual for the year 2019 was placed on the Department's website.
	Directorate of Economics & Statistics	The Directorate including its District Offices is trying to update all information through its various publications released every year. Computers are also supplied to all District Offices for smooth and quick updating of official records.

	Bio. Resource Development Centre, Shillong	The Centre has complied to requirement of Public Authorities in Section 4(1) (b).
	State Council of Science & Technology & Environment	RTI Act implemented as per rules Records Management-maintained computerization & Networking Sou Muto Disclosures etc.
	Meghalaya Basin Development Authority	On going.
	Science & Technology Cell	The information requests under RTI Act 2005 have been disposed off within the stipulated time to concerned applicants.
	District Planning Officer	Any matter relating to RTI are given top most priority and disposed off immediately. Regarding basic information (under Sou Moto disclosures) are updated from time to time in the official website of the District through the PIO of the District. Brief introduction in respect of this office was uploaded in the district's website by NIC, Jowai such as:- (a) Aims & Objectives (b) Functions (c) Details of Appellate Authority, PIO and Asstt. PIO's Schemes and Programmes implementing by this Office. Information sought furnished in time.
17	Personnel	
	Personnel & AR (A)	Launching of RTI portal for online Application of RTI requests by the Chief Secretary. Training of officials/PIOs in respect of Deputy Commissioners/Departments of the Government o RTI online conducted by MATI, Shillong throughout the year. Setting up of RTI Cell and nomination of Nodal Officer in MATI.
	Deputy Commissioner, East Khasi Hills, Shillong	The process of scanning of old records is continuing in the Branch to make the process of retrieval of information hassle free. Replied to Shri Thomas Passah, Khun Hynniewtrep National Awakening Movement (KHNAM) vide letter NO.SHEL.V/63/2016/138, dated 04.02.2019. Replied to Shri R.G.Pradhan, President, Social Welfare Organisation vide letter NO.SHEL.V/63/2016/138, dated 04.02.2019. Required information furnished to Personnel & AR(B) Department vide letter NO.E.16/17/2019/35, dated 10.09.2019. Case disposed. Reply vide letter NO.EKH.20/7/2006/205/23, dated 16.01.2019. Basic information (under Sou moto disclosure) are updated from time to time in the official website of the District through the DIO of the District. Replied to Shri V.Tulsi Nair, Vishnu Nivas, Silk Nagar, Peringandoor, Kerela vide letter No.E.16/24/2016/57, dated 20.01.2019. Replied to Shri Teibor Laloo, Umsohsun, Shillong vide letter No:E.16/24/2016/61, dated 01.07.2019. Replied to Shri S. Marpan, Advocate, Shillong Bar Association vide

	letter NO:E.16/24/2016/63, dated 31.10.2019.
	Replied to Mahak Sharma, Bestec Business Tower, Sector 66 Mohali, Punjab vide letter NO:E.16/24/2016/65, dated 19.11.2019.
DC West Jaintia Hills District, Jowai	Brief introduction in respect of this Office is being upload in the District's website by NIC, Jowai such as:- (a) Aims & Objectives (b) Functions (c) Details of FAA/PIO/APIO (d) Schemes & Programmes implementing by this Office
	Files and records pertaining to implementation under SCA are available and maintained in the Office.
	Sou moto disclosed by displaying various Schemes undertaken by the Department in the Notice Board for public information.
	Feedback is given and will always be ready to support Appellate Authorities on any matter concerning the Department with regards to implementation of the RTI Act.
	Voluntary Organisations and other NGOs are encouraged to use RTI Act, 2005 for any matter or grievance with regard to Scheme or Department.
	Reply as sorted.
Deputy Commissioner, West Khasi Hills	Proactive disclosure of information under Section 4(1) B of the Right to Information Act, 2005.
	All application filed under RTI Act, 2005 have already been disposed off in time.
	Sou moto disclosures will be sent to DIO, Nongstoin to display in the District Website for document registered by this office for the reporting year 2019.
	Record is being maintained and prepared for sou muto declaration under Section 4 RTI Act.
DC West Garo Hills, Tura	Record Management.
	Forward the information to PIO, DHS (MCH & FW), Shillong letter No.DFWB/WGH/RTI/2019/2862.
	Implementation of Schemes published through Notice Board records are modify available for inspection compilation and networking yet to be done.
	Office website is developed and yet to be approved.
	All the RTI reply have been furnished within the permissible period prescribed under the Rules.
	No expenditure is made due to non-availability of fund for the year 2019-2020.
MATI	1. Training on RTI Act, 2005 at District Sub Division and Block Level.
	2. Trainings of Trainers programme on RTI Act, 2005 held for the Middle Level Officers of all Districts of Garo Hills with effect from 8 th – 9 th July, 2019 and Advanced ToT on RTI for the Middle Level Officers of all Districts of Meghalaya with effect from 11 th – 12 th July, 2019 to enhance pool of trainers on RTI Act, 2005.
	3. Training on online TI for PIOs and Nodal Officers of the Head of Department and Directorates of the State of Meghalaya.
DC South West Khasi Hills	Sou moto disclosure have been uploaded in the District website.
	No Officer initiatives undertaken during the year 2019.

	District	Records are being properly maintained and computerization of Judicial Branch is also undertaken for important files. No initiatives undertaken during the year 2019.
	DC South West Garo Hills, Ampati	Online RTI Training conducted by NIC, Shillong on 31.10.2019 through video conference PIO & APIO. Computerize recording of RTI were maintained by the respective branch, PIO/APIO, office of the Deputy Commissioner, South West Garo Hills, Ampati.
	SDO (C) Sohra	1. As per scheduled of Summary Revision received from Election Commission of India Form 6,7,8,8A filed are being maintained. Manuscript pertaining to Revision Programme from time to time. 2. Maintenance of register pertaining to issue of EPIC. 3. Stock register of EVMs maintained. 4. Hard and soft copy of Electoral roll (Photo and normal) are being maintained in respect to Revision Programme as announced by Election Commission of India.
	SDO (C) Dadenggre	Most of the information generally sought are put on the Official website or the notice board which generally reduces the RTI applications.
	SDO (C) Ranikor	Conducted Training Programme on RTI Act, 2005 for the Govt. officials, beneficiaries, Women Group and Traditional Heads of Ranikor Civil Sub-Division on 15.01.2019.
18	Political	
	Secretariat Deptt.	All information requested by applicants have been provided.
19	PHE	
	Chief Engineer	1. The fees for the request and disposed request were paid and issued with proper receipt to the concerned. 2. Information request were properly kept in the concerned file/register along with the copies of the disposed request which are kept in safe custody. 3. All records furnished in time. 4. Necessary information has been displayed in the offices notice board. 5. All information regarding implementation of schemes/projects has been fed online. 6. Creating awareness to the public on all ongoing schemes. 7. Providing of necessary information Suo Moto to the public at regular intervals through various means of communication.
20	Power	
	MNREDA	To disposed the RTI Case at a stipulated time and to ensure the satisfaction of the compliant.
	Meghalaya Power Distribution Corporation Limited	Online reply to applicants wherever accessible.
	Meghalaya Power Generation Corporation Limited	Record Management
21	Printing &	

	Stationery	
	Directorate of Printing & Stationery	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. All information advertisements and the Meghalaya Gazette are being posted in the website for Public Awareness. 2. Installation of Machineries at the Press and Post-Press levels of printing at Govt. Presses at Shillong, Tura and Jowai.
22	P.W.D	
	C.E.PWD (B)	P.W.D. (R&B), Secretariat is the Public Authority of P.W.D. Buildings. Hence it does not arise.
	C.E.PWD (R)	Maintenance of RTI Register for quick disposal of information.
	C.E.PWD (NH)	Maintenance of RTI Register for quick disposal of information.
23	Revenue & Disaster Management	
	Directorate Land Records & Survey	Land Records Management.
24	Social Welfare	
	Directorate of Social Welfare	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed during the same year.
	District Social Welfare Officer	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed during the same year.
	District Programme Officer ICDS Cell	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed during the same year.
	Child Welfare & Probation Officer I/c Observation Home (Boys)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed

		during the same year.
	Superintendent Training for Self Employment of Women in need of Care & Protection	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed during the same year.
	Superintendent Observation Home (G) Shillong	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Record of requests for information and disposal of requests are being maintained in the Registers. 2. Maintenance of Appropriate Register under RTI Act, 2005 by the Public Authorities in Accordance with the Proforma. 3. Office Staff were orientated to facilitate collection of information by any body interested/desired on to maintain transparency. 4. All request received during the year 2019 has been disposed during the same year.
25	Soil & Water Conservation	
	Secretariat Deptt.	Information sought from the Department through the RTI is being provided to the applicant from time to time.
	Directorate of Soil & Water	All relevant records are kept properly in documentation. As such information sought by applicants under RTI Act, 2005 could be disposed accordingly. Sou Moto Disclosures. Prompt action taken on all queries.
26	Transport	
	Commissioner of Transport	Notification etc, has been issue to all concern of the State.
	District Transport Officer & Regional Transport Authority	No computerization was done to IT. Notification etc, of the RTI Act duly published and displayed in the office Notice Board. Immediate response and action on information sought, taken up the matter with post office for delaying the letter in delivery, directing the office staffs to take immediate action on the information sought.
27	Tourism	
	Directorate of Tourism	SOU MOU Public proactive Sec-4 of RTI Act, 2005. Sec-4 (1) (b) (i) Sec-4 (1) (b) (xvi) Sec-4 (1) (c) Sec-4 (1) (b) (vi)
28	Urban Affairs	
	Jowai Municipal Board	Records manage through Register and file.
29	Meghalaya State Information Commission	Information has been furnished as time bound.
30	Water Resources Department	Necessary steps have been taken to provide information to all the R.T.I. application within the stipulated time. Records are also maintained by the Department.

“Sir, it has been found that it is not enough that Governments should go to the people once in five years. It is necessary to find other means of empowering our citizens to feel that processes of governance truly serve the public purpose. The right to information is a quest for that sort of mechanism, which will empower our citizens with information, which enables them to judge for themselves whether or not Governments are functioning in accordance with what can be considered as public interest in the widest possible sense of the term. Sir, it goes without saying that all information can be misused also. Therefore, much will depend upon how information seekers approach their tasks. I do recognize the dangers that are inherent in such a situation because in our society information is power. But, one way of ensuring that this power is as widely distributed as possible is to ensure that access to information is not a monopoly of the few. Therefore, I do feel that there is not going to be that much danger of the misuse of the powers that the right to information confers on our citizens. Therefore, I feel, with the passage of this Bill, we see the dawn of a new era in governance processes – an era which will ensure that benefits of growth flow to all sections of society, an era which will eliminate the scourge of corruption, an era which will bring the common man’s concerns to the heart of all the process of governance, an era which will truly fulfil the hope of the founding fathers of our Republic” [*Address of Dr. Manmohan Singh, Hon’ble Prime Minister, in the Rajya Sabha during the debate on the RTI Bill on 12.05.2005*].

Important provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005

- The Act was enacted with a view to set out a practical regime for the citizens to secure information as a matter of right.
- A citizen has the right to seek from a public authority such information which is held by it or which is under its control. This right includes inspection of work, documents and records; taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records; and taking certified samples of information held by the public authority. A citizen has the right to obtain information from a public authority in the form of diskettes, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic medium or through print-outs, provided such information is already stored in a computer or in any other electronic device.
- In the normal course, information to an applicant shall be supplied within 30 days from the receipt of application by the public authority. If information sought concerns the life or liberty of a person, it shall be supplied within 48 hours. If an applicant is not supplied information within the prescribed time or is not satisfied with the information furnished to him, he may prefer an appeal to the Department Appellate Authority (DAA) or First Appellate Authority (FAA) who is an officer senior in rank to the Public Information Officer (PIO). Such an appeal should be filed within a period of thirty days from the date on which the information or decision of the PIO is received. The FAA shall dispose of the appeal within a period of 30 days or in exceptional cases within 45 days of the receipt of the appeal. If the FAA fails to pass an order on the appeal within the prescribed period or if the appellant is not satisfied with the order of the FAA, he may prefer a second appeal with the Information Commission within 90 days from the date on which the decision should have been made by the FAA or was actually received by the appellant.
- A citizen who desires to seek some information from a public authority is required to send, along with the application, a demand draft or a banker's cheque or an Indian Postal Order of Rs. 10/- (Rupees ten), payable to the Accounts Officer of the public authority as fee prescribed for seeking information. The payment of fee can also be made by way of cash to the public authority or to the Assistant Public Information Officer (APIO), against a proper receipt. The applicant may also be required to pay further fee towards the cost of providing the information, details of which shall be intimated to the applicant by the PIO as prescribed by the RTI Rules 2012. Rates of fee as prescribed in the Rules are given below: (a) rupees two (Rs. 2/-) for each page (in A-3 or smaller size paper); (b) actual cost or price of a photocopy in larger size paper; (c) actual cost or price for samples or models; (d) rupees fifty (Rs. 50/-) per diskette or floppy; (e) price fixed for a publication or rupees two per page of photocopy for extracts from the publication and (f) so much of postal charges involved in supply of information that exceeds fifty rupees. For inspection of records, the public authority shall charge no fee for the first hour. But a fee of rupees five (Rs. 5/-) for each subsequent hour (or fraction thereof) shall be charged. A below poverty line (BPL) applicant, having proper documentary proof, is not required to pay any fee.
- The decisions of the Commission are binding. The public authority should ensure that the orders passed by the Commission are implemented. If any public authority or a PIO is of the view that an order of the Commission is not in consonance with the provisions of the Act, it may approach the High Court by way of a Writ Petition.
- If the PIO has, without any reasonable cause, refused to receive an application for information or has not furnished information within the time specified under sub-section (1) of section 7 or malafidely denied the request for information or knowingly given incorrect, incomplete or misleading information or destroyed information which was the subject of the

request or, obstructed in any manner in furnishing the information, the State Information Commission shall impose a penalty of Rs. 250/- each day till application is received or information is furnished, however, the total amount of such penalty shall not exceed Rs. 25000/-; provided that the PIO shall be given a reasonable opportunity of being heard before any penalty is imposed on him: provided further that the burden of proving that he acted reasonably and diligently shall be on the PIO. The State Information Commission shall recommend for disciplinary action against the PIO under the service rules applicable to him, besides pecuniary penalty {Section 20 (1) & (2)}.