

1st July 2024

To,
The Public Information Officer
Invest Meghalaya Authority,
Govt. Of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject : Application Under the Right to Information Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

Please provide me with the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I would take the copies of the information after inspecting the original documents in their original file cover.

1. Please provide me with all the statutory disclosure made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act 2005, including the webaddress of such a disclosure?
2. Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?
3. Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and Various government departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.

I am submitting Rupees Ten towards the application fee. My Address is

Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lumpyngngad-Motinagar
Shillong 793014

Phone: 9863061770

Thanking you,
Sincerely Yours


Angela Rangad

Huntimai Nongsteng
Hycu
11/7/24

4

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No. PLR.17/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

To: Smt. Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lympyngngad – Motinagar
Shillong – 793014
Ph no: 9863061770

Subject: Information sought under the RTI Act, 2005

Madam,

With reference to the RTI Application sought by you vide letter No. Nil dated 01.07.2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2005, I am directed to furnish the information as per Annexure – 'A' enclosed.

Enclo: as above

Yours faithfully,


(K. Hynniewta)

PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

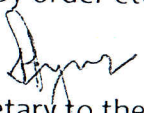
Memo. No. PLR.17/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

Copy to:-

The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, for favour of kind information.

By order etc.,


PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

20
15
1st July 2024

To,
The Public Information Officer
Invest Meghalaya Authority,
Govt. Of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject : Application Under the Right to Information Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

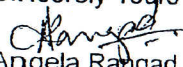
Please provide me with the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I would take the copies of the information after inspecting the original documents in their original file cover.

1. Please provide me with all the statutory disclosure made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act 2005, including the webaddress of such a disclosure?
2. Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?
3. Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and Various government departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.

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Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
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Phone: 9863061770

Thanking you,
Sincerely Yours

Angela Rangad

8

IMA

RO (WR)


17/7/24

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure? g	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
3.	Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.

Received Copy

8th August 2024

To,
DAA,
Invest Meghalaya Authority
Govt. of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject : First Appeal under RTI Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

1. I had applied for information from Invest Meghalaya Authority on 1st July 2024 (annexure 1). After six days of delay and after a phone call to the PIO enquiring about the status of my RTI Application, I was emailed the response (annexure 2) from the PIO while the hard copy of the response was delivered by hand on 7/08/2024 .

2. As you must have seen that my application includes exercising my Right to Inspection

Please provide me with the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I would take the copies of the information after inspecting the original documents in their original file cover.

The RTI Act 2005 in section 2(j) states

(1) "right to information" means the right to information accessible under this Act which is held by or under the control of any public authority and includes the right to—

(i) inspection of work, documents, records;

(ii) taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records;

(iii) taking certified samples of material;

(iv) obtaining information in the form of diskettes, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic mode or through printouts where such information is stored in a computer or in any other device;

And by not letting me inspect constitutes a denial of information as per the RTI Act 2005.

Therefore I appeal that my Right to Inspect as per the RTI Act 2005 is restored.

3. Draft Response as per the RTI response to my question 1 says:

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure?	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and	

The response by the PIO is not only incomplete but chooses to willfully misunderstand the query. Moreover his response is also mendacious.

8/8/24

a) Invest Meghalaya Authority is not just a subordinate institution set up under the Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development but an independent authority instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

b) As you are aware that section 2(h)(c) defines public authority as:

(h) "public authority" means any authority or body or institution of self- government established or constituted—

(c) by any other law made by State Legislature;

And therefore Invest Meghalaya Authority is a public authority that has to fulfill its obligations as a Public Authority and make its own statutory suo-moto disclosures as per the section 4 of the RTI Act 2005. Section 4 states:

4. Obligations of public authorities.—(1) Every public authority shall—

(a) maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information under this Act and ensure that all records that are appropriate to be computerised are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerised and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated;

(b) publish within one hundred and twenty days from the enactment of this Act,—

(i) the particulars of its organisation, functions and duties;

(ii) the powers and duties of its officers and employees;

(iii) the procedure followed in the decision making process, including channels of supervision and accountability;

(iv) the norms set by it for the discharge of its functions;

(v) the rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records, held by it or under its control or used by its employees for discharging its functions;

(vi) a statement of the categories of documents that are held by it or under its control;

(vii) the particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof

(viii) a statement of the boards, councils, committees and other bodies consisting of two or more persons constituted as its part or for the purpose of its advice, and as to whether meetings of those boards, councils, committees and other bodies are open to the public, or the minutes of such meetings are accessible for public;

(ix) a directory of its officers and employees;

(x) the monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation as provided in its regulations;

(xi) the budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made;

(xii) the manner of execution of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes;

(xiii) particulars of recipients of concessions, permits or authorisations granted by it;

(xiv) details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form;

(xv) the particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use;

(xvi) the names, designations and other particulars of the Public Information Officers;

(xvii) such other information as may be prescribed;

and thereafter update these publications every year;

(c) publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing the decisions which affect public;

(d) provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons.

(2) It shall be a constant endeavour of every public authority to take steps in accordance with the requirements of clause (b) of sub-section (1) to provide as much information suo motu to the public at regular intervals through various means of communications, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information.

(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1), every information shall be disseminated widely and in such form and manner which is easily accessible to the public.

(4) All materials shall be disseminated taking into consideration the cost effectiveness, local language and the most effective method of communication in that local area and the information should be easily accessible, to the extent possible in electronic form with the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, available free or at such cost of the medium or the print cost price as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—For the purposes of sub-sections (3) and (4), "disseminated" means making known or communicated the information to the public through notice boards, newspapers, public announcements, media broadcasts, the internet or any other means, including inspection of offices of any public authority.

c) PIO seems to have not even seen the web address www.megplanning.gov.in, where he expected me to find section 4 disclosure. Forget disclosure for Invest Meghalaya Authority, this web address does not even have section 4 disclosures for Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development itself. In the whole website there is no tab or link of Right to Information disclosure including those that can inform the citizens about the Public Information Officer and Appellate Authority (as per 07/08/2024)

PIO's reply therefore is wilfully wrong.

I appeal that I should be given section 4 disclosures of Invest Meghalaya Authority as per the RTI Act 2005.

3. In response to my query 2, PIO states

2. Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
3. Please provide me with the details of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	

This response is incorrect as the public authority Invest Meghalaya Authority was not approved by the cabinet but was instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

Moreover, this act in the form of a Bill would have been placed before the cabinet for deliberation before being placed in the Assembly. Proposal for the bill would have come from a public authority, there would have been discussions, opinions, meetings regarding the law and draft law, all of this is covered under my query and is liable to be disclosed.

Also PIO is referring to which section of section 8(1) to deny me information?

If it is section 8(1)(i) then also PIO is misreading the section to blanket deny me the information as sought by me.

The section says that

(i) cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers:

Provided that the decisions of Council of Ministers, the reasons thereof, and the material on the basis of which the decisions were taken shall be made public after the decision has been taken, and the matter is complete, or over:

Provided further that those matters which come under the exemptions specified in this section shall not be disclosed;

As any reading of the section makes it clear that only cabinet papers including records of deliberations' are exempt from disclosure. What is not exempt from disclosures are Notes and materials based on which decisions are taken are to be proactively disclosed after the decision has been taken. As you know there must be multiple decisions about the law and Invest Meghalaya Authority and all the decisions and material based on which such decisions have been taken including Notes and advice have to be disclosed.

<https://thewire.in/government/disclose-cabinet-note-annexure-related-to-constitution-amendment-for-ews-quota-cic>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cic-preparatory-info-of-cabinet-papers-can-be-disclosed-under-rti/articleshow/6543728.cms>

Moreover there is an overall proviso to section 8 that PIO overlooks and that is:

the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person.

So I appeal that all the cabinet notes and advice regarding Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024 that sets up Invest Meghalaya Authority needs to be disclosed

4. Now for my final query no. 3 PIO has once again partially read my question

3.	Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.
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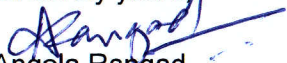
My query is not merely about Final transfer of Land to Invest Meghalaya Authority but also includes any plans regarding such transfers. For instance if Invest Meghalaya Authority has written to PWD querying about the land it holds in Shillong or elsewhere or to Soil Conservation department regarding parcels of land it holds for instance in Byrnihat or Urban Affairs department regarding land parcels in Shillong or Tura then all of such correspondences along with their enclosures need to be disclosed.

5. I would also like to know what does **RTI submitted by RBWO** mean that PIO's response refers to

Therefore I appeal to you to order the PIO to provide me with all the information sought by me as per my application.

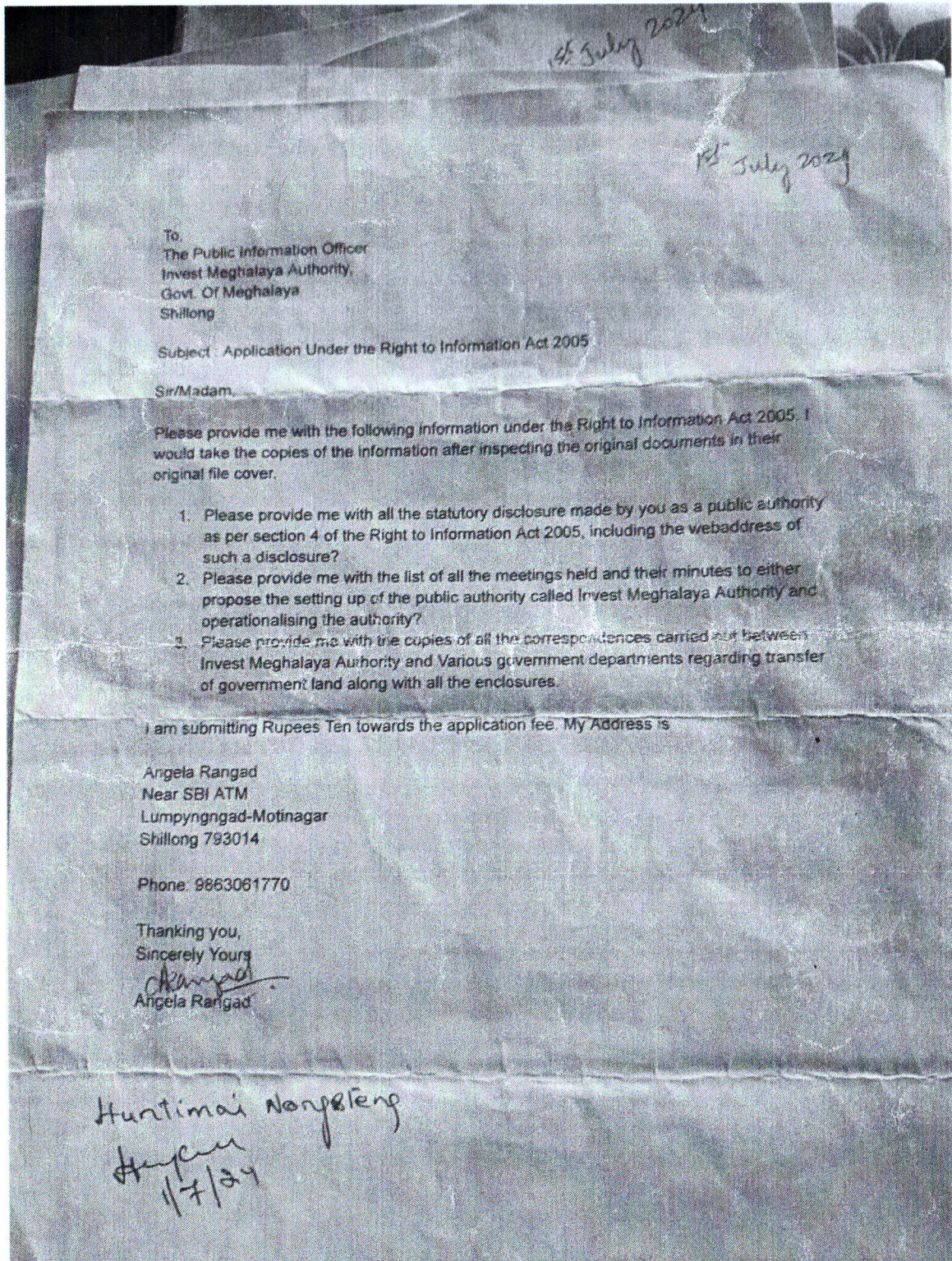
Thanking you,

Sincerely yours,


Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lumpyngngad-Motinagar
Shillong 793014

Ph: 9863097754

Annexure 1



Annexure 2

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No. PLR.17/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

To: Smt. Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lympynggad - Motinagar
Shillong - 793014
Ph no: 9863061770


Subject: Information sought under the RTI Act, 2005

Madam,

With reference to the RTI Application sought by you vide letter No. Nil dated 01.07.2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2005, I am directed to furnish the information as per Annexure - 'A' enclosed.

Encls: as above

Yours faithfully,


(K. Hynniewta)

PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

Memo. No. PLR.17/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

Copy to:-

The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, for favour of kind information.

By order etc.,


PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

Annexure "A"

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure?	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
3.	Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.

O/C

7/10/2024


To,
Chief State Information Commissioner
State Information Commission
Govt. of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject : Second Appeal under RTI Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

1. I had applied for information from Invest Meghalaya Authority on 1st July 2024 (annexure 1). After six days of delay and after a phone call to the PIO enquiring about the status of my RTI Application, I was emailed the response (annexure 2) from the PIO while the hard copy of the response was delivered by hand on 7/08/2024 .
2. Being dissatisfied with the response, I made my second appeal to the DAA, Invest Meghalaya Authority on 8th August 2024. Till date the DAA has not responded to my appeal, therefore I make this second appeal to you. (Annexure 3)

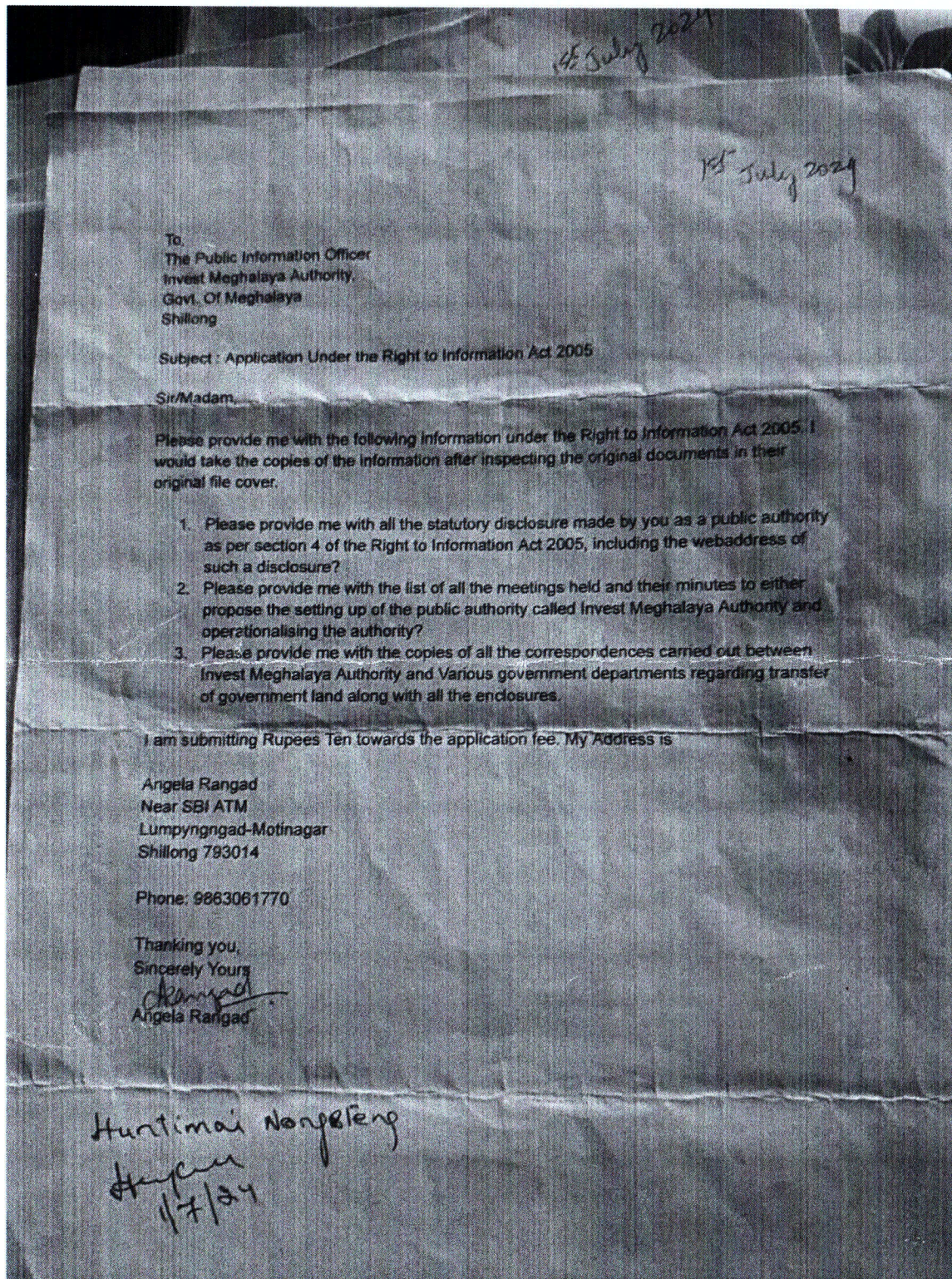
Thanking you,
Sincerely yours,


Angeia Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lumpyngngad-Motinagar
Shillong 793014

Ph: 9863097754


Private Secretary to the
Chief Information Commissioner
Meghalaya

Annexure 1



Annexure 2

GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION & SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

No. PLR.17/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

To: Smt. Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lympynggad - Motinagar
Shillong - 793014
Ph no: 9863061770

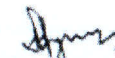
Subject: Information sought under the RTI Act, 2005

Madam,

With reference to the RTI Application sought by you vide letter No. Nil dated 01.07.2024 under the Right to Information Act, 2005, I am directed to furnish the information as per Annexure - 'A' enclosed.

Encls: as above

Yours faithfully,



(K. Hynniewta)

PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

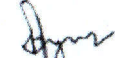
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Dated Shillong, the 5th August, 2024

Copy to:-

The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, for favour of kind information.

By order etc.,



PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure?	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
3.	Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.

Annexure 3

Received 6/1/24
3rd August 2024

To:
DAA,
Invest Meghalaya Authority
Govt. of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject: First Appeal under RTI Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

1. I had applied for information from Invest Meghalaya Authority on 1st July 2024 (annexure 1). After six days of delay and after a phone call to the PIO enquiring about the status of my RTI Application, I was emailed the response (annexure 2) from the PIO while the hard copy of the response was delivered by hand on 7/08/2024.

2. As you must have seen that my application includes exercising my Right to Inspection

Please provide me with the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I would take the copies of the information after inspecting the original documents in their original file cover

The RTI Act 2005 in section 2(j) states

(i) "right to information" means the right to information accessible under this Act which is held by or under the control of any public authority and includes the right to—
(i) inspection of work, documents, records;
(ii) taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records;
(iii) taking certified samples of material;
(iv) obtaining information in the form of diskettes, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic mode or through printouts where such information is stored in a computer or in any other device;

And by not letting me inspect constitutes a denial of information as per the RTI Act 2005. Therefore I appeal that my Right to Inspect as per the RTI Act 2005 is restored.

3. Draft Response as per the RTI response to my question 1 says:

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure?	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a body set up under the Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Authority may be accessed by the website www.megpladep.org.in
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the chapters held and	

The response by the PIO is not only incomplete but chooses to withhold information and the query. Moreover his response is also mendacious.

a) Invest Meghalaya Authority is not just a subordinate institution set up under the Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development but an independent authority instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

b) As you are aware that section 2(h)(c) defines public authority as:

(h) "public authority" means any authority or body or institution of self- government established or constituted—

(c) by any other law made by State Legislature;

And therefore Invest Meghalaya Authority is a public authority that has to fulfill its obligations as a Public Authority and make its own statutory suo-moto disclosures as per the section 4 of the RTI Act 2005. Section 4 states:

4. Obligations of public authorities.—(1) Every public authority shall—

(a) maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information under this Act and ensure that all records that are appropriate to be computerised are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerised and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated;

(b) publish within one hundred and twenty days from the enactment of this Act,—

(i) the particulars of its organisation, functions and duties;

(ii) the powers and duties of its officers and employees;

(iii) the procedure followed in the decision making process, including channels of supervision and accountability;

(iv) the norms set by it for the discharge of its functions;

(v) the rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records, held by it or under its control or used by its employees for discharging its functions;

(vi) a statement of the categories of documents that are held by it or under its control;

(vii) the particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof

(viii) a statement of the boards, councils, committees and other bodies consisting of two or more persons constituted as its part or for the purpose of its advice, and as to whether meetings of those boards, councils, committees and other bodies are open to the public, or the minutes of such meetings are accessible for public;

(ix) a directory of its officers and employees;

(x) the monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation as provided in its regulations;

(xi) the budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made;

(xii) the manner of execution of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes;

(xiii) particulars of recipients of concessions, permits or authorisations granted by it;

(xiv) details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form;

(xv) the particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use;

(xvi) the names, designations and other particulars of the Public Information Officers;

(xvii) such other information as may be prescribed;

and thereafter update these publications every year;

(c) publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing the decisions which affect public;

(d) provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons.

(2) It shall be a constant endeavour of every public authority to take steps in accordance with the requirements of clause (b) of sub-section (1) to provide as much information suo. motu to the public at regular intervals through various means of communications, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information.

(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1), every information shall be disseminated widely and in such form and manner which is easily accessible to the public.

(4) All materials shall be disseminated taking into consideration the cost effectiveness, local language and the most effective method of communication in that local area and the information should be easily accessible, to the extent possible in electronic form with the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, available free or at such cost of the medium or the print cost price as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—For the purposes of sub-sections (3) and (4), "disseminated" means making known or communicated the information to the public through notice boards, newspapers, public announcements, media broadcasts, the internet or any other means, including inspection of offices of any public authority.

c) PIO seems to have not even seen the web address www.megplanning.gov.in, where he expected me to find section 4 disclosure. Forget disclosure for Invest Meghalaya Authority, this web address does not even have section 4 disclosures for Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development itself. In the whole website there is no tab or link of Right to Information disclosure including those that can inform the citizens about the Public Information Officer and Appellate Authority (as per 07/08/2024)

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Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department
Government of Meghalaya

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Key Initiatives

- e-Procurement System
- Mr-MeS
- CM Dashboard
- e-Office
- Mr-CamScanner

Entities

State Planning Board

Economics & Statistics

Science & Technology

Meghalaya Basin MRDA

Meghalaya Aerial Survey

Meghalaya State Investment Promotion Board

Shillong Science Centre

Invest Meghalaya Authority

Schemes/Programmes

- NITIAayee
- MIDCNER
- MOTA
- Minority Affairs
- Finance
- EAP

Web Directory

- Meghalaya State Portal
- NITIAayee
- Ministry of Development of North East
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs
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- E-Procurement System for Provision of Services to Government of Meghalaya
- E-Procurement System for Provision of Services to Government of Meghalaya

Moreover, clicking on the link for Invest Meghalaya Authority takes you to the page that does not have section 4 disclosures but merely a list of clickable notifications.

Search [Go](#) [Skip to main content](#) | [Screen Access Reader](#) | Text Size [A](#) [A](#) [A](#) | Contrast Options [A](#) [A](#) [A](#) | Character Spacing [On](#) [Off](#)

Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department
Government of Meghalaya

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Invest Meghalaya Authority

[Appointment of Shri P. Bakshi, IAS Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya as the Additional Chief Executive Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority](#)

[Appointment of Shri R. Chitturi, IAS Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya as the Joint Chief Executive Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority](#)

[Appointment of Dr. Vijay Kumar D, IAS Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya as the Chief Executive Officer of Invest Meghalaya Authority](#)

[Appointment of Shri K. Hynniewta, Officer on Special Duty & ex-officio Joint Secretary Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department as the Chief Administrative Officer of Invest Meghalaya Authority](#)

[Constitution of the District Investment Committee for Investment Promotion and Facilitation](#)

[Constitution of the Governing Council for Investment Promotion and Facilitation](#)

[Constitution of the High-Powered Committee for Investment Promotion and Facilitation](#)

[Constitution of the State Investment Committee for Investment Promotion and Facilitation](#)

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Last updated on July 29, 2024Last updated on undefined NaN, NaN

PIO's reply therefore is wilfully wrong.

I appeal that I should be given section 4 disclosures of Invest Meghalaya Authority as per the RTI Act 2005.

3. In response to my query 2, PIO states

2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
3.	Please provide me with the copies of all the ...	

This response is incorrect as the public authority Invest Meghalaya Authority was not approved by the cabinet but was instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

Moreover, this act in the form of a Bill would have been placed before the cabinet for deliberation before being placed in the Assembly. Proposal for the bill would have come from a public authority, there would have been discussions, opinions, meetings regarding the law and draft law, all of this is covered under my query and is liable to be disclosed.

Also PIO is referring to which section of section 8(1) to deny me information?

If it is section 8(1)(i) then also PIO is misreading the section to blanket deny me the information as sought by me.

The section says that

(i) cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers:

Provided that the decisions of Council of Ministers, the reasons thereof, and the material on the basis of which the decisions were taken shall be made public after the decision has been taken, and the matter is complete, or over:

Provided further that those matters which come under the exemptions specified in this section shall not be disclosed;

As any reading of the section makes it clear that only cabinet papers including records of deliberations' are exempt from disclosure. What is not exempt from disclosures are Notes and materials based on which decisions are taken are to be proactively disclosed after the decision has been taken. As you know there must be multiple decisions about the law and Invest Meghalaya Authority and all the decisions and material based on which such decisions have been taken including Notes and advice have to be disclosed.

<https://thewire.in/government/disclose-cabinet-note-annexure-related-to-constitution-amendment-for-ews-quota-cic>

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cic-preparatory-info-of-cabinet-papers-can-be-disclosed-under-rti/articleshow/6543728.cms>

Moreover there is an overall proviso to section 8 that PIO overlooks and that is:

the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person.

So I appeal that all the cabinet notes and advice regarding Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024 that sets up Invest Meghalaya Authority needs to be disclosed

4. Now for my final query no. 3 PIO has once again partially read my question

3. Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.
--	---

My query is not merely about Final transfer of Land to Invest Meghalaya Authority but also includes any plans regarding such transfers. For instance if Invest Meghalaya Authority has written to PWD querying about the land it holds in Shillong or elsewhere or to Soil Conservation department regarding parcels of land it holds for instance in Byrnihat or Urban Affairs department regarding land parcels in Shillong or Tura then all of such correspondences along with their enclosures need to be disclosed.

5. I would also like to know what does **RTI submitted by RBWO** mean that PIO's response refers to

Therefore I appeal to you to order the PIO to provide me with all the information sought by me as per my application.

Thanking you,
Sincerely yours,

Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lumpyngngad-Motinagar
Shillong 793014

Ph: 9863097754

**MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION
LACHUMIERE, SHILLONG**

...
No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/15

Smti. Angela Rangad

- Appellant

- Vrs -

PIO/FAA of Invest Meghalaya Authority

- Respondent

10-11-2024

ORDER

Case record put up today:

1. The Appellant Smt. Angela Rangad assisted by Shri. Tarun Bhartiya, were present for the hearing today. Shri. K. Hynniewta, Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority and Smt. D. Sayo, PIO and Under Secretary, Planning (A) Department were also present.
2. The Appellant informed that on 1-07-2024, she had lodged an RTI application with the PIO of the Invest Meghalaya Authority, Government of Meghalaya and reply was made only on the 5-08-2024 after a gap of six days from the stipulated time of thirty days provided under the Act. Further, the reply was not satisfactory and the Appellant was also not given the right to inspect the documents as requested in her RTI application dated 1-07-2024.
3. The Commission, during the hearing examined the queries and directed the Chief Administrative Officer to provide the documents required under query (1) and allow the Appellant to inspect the documents. 17-12-2024 has been fixed as the date of inspection. The Chief Administrative Officer is to liaise with the Appellant for according her time for inspection.
4. On query (2) the denial under Section 8 (i) of RTI Act is incorrect, as the proposal for setting up the authority has already been approved by Cabinet and proviso to Section 8 (i) of the RTI Act, allows for the same. Further, the Invest Meghalaya Authority was instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March, 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March, 2024. The Chief Administrative Officer is directed to provide the Cabinet memo and the approval thereof including relevant documents if any, in setting up of the Authority.
5. Query (3) relates to correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Government Departments on the proposed transfer of Government land to the Authority. The Chief Administrative Officer stated that there has been no transfer of land in the Authority, to which the Appellant countered the statement with a document bearing the signature of the Chief Administrative Officer himself. She alleged that such perjury should not be tolerated by the Commission. On perusal of the document, it is found that there have been correspondences between Invest Meghalaya Authority and Soil & Water

Conservation Department under the signature of the Chief Administrative Officer. Although there is no transfer of land but there exist a correspondence which Invest Meghalaya Authority had issued to Soil & Water Conservation Department relating to the subject matter.

The Chief Administrative Officer is hereby cautioned not to issue such irresponsible statements in future without verifying facts. The Chief Administrative Officer is directed to supply the correspondences if any; to the Appellant, free of cost.

6. Compliance report should be filed by PIO and Under Secretary, Planning Department & CAO, Invest Meghalaya Authority by 6-01-2025.


Sd/-
(R.Lyngdoh)
I.C

Memo.No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/15-A

Dated Shillong, the 10th December, 2024.

Copy to:-

1. FAA O/o Invest Meghalaya Authority, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong for information and necessary action.
2. The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority for information and necessary action.
3. PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Planning (A), Department for information and necessary action.
- ✓ 4. Smti.Angela Rangad, Near SBI ATM Lumpynggad-Motinagar Shillong-793014 Ph:9863097754 for information.


(D. Phawa, MCS)
Secretary,
Meghalaya Information Commission.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/29

Dated Shillong, the 26th November, 2024

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,


Shri K. Hynniewta,
Officer on Special Duty & Ex-officio
Joint Secretary, Planning (R) Department.

Subject: ORDER relating to RTI.

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith a copy of the letter No.MIC/Appeal /10/2024/14, dated 22.11.2024 (in original) received from the Secretary, Meghalaya Information Commission for compliance of the Order.

Yours faithfully,


PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/30


Dated Shillong, the 16th December, 2024

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,
Smt. Angela Rangad,
Near SBI ATM,
Lumpynggad- Motinagar,
Shillong – 793014.
Ph : 9863097754

Subject: ORDER dated 22.11. 2024

With reference to the letter cited above, I am directed to inform you that the inspection timing on the 17th December will be at 11 Am. You are kindly requested to contact PIO, at her room No.111, Main Building.


PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

**MEGHALAYA INFORMATION COMMISSION
LACHUMIERE, SHILLONG**

...
No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/14

Smti. Angela Rangad

- Appellant

- Vrs -

PIO/FAA of Invest Meghalaya Authority

- Respondent

22-11-2024

ORDER

1. Seen the Appeal filed by Smt. Angela Rangad dated 7-10-2024, wherein she has expressed dissatisfaction on the reply of the PIO.
2. The Commission had called for show cause from the FAA as to why action was not taken on the first Appeal, to which the response was made only on the 13-11-2024 and received by this office on 18-11-2024, that the first Appeal has been disposed vide letter No.IMA.4/2024/40 dated 13-11-2024.
3. The Appellant vide letter dated 13-11-2024, informed the Commission that she had not received any response to her first Appeal till date.
4. Fix **10-12-2024 at 11:30 AM** for hearing in the Commission's office. The Appellant may indicate if she would like to attend the hearing by online mode and the same should be intimated to the Commission at least 3 days in advance.


Sd/-
(R.Lyngdoh)
I.C

Memo.No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/14-A

Dated Shillong, the 22nd November, 2024.

Copy to:-

1. FAA O/o Invest Meghalaya Authority, East Khasi Hills District, Shillong for information and to appear on **10th December, 2024 at 11:30 AM.**
2. The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority for information and to appear on **10th December, 2024 at 11:30 AM.**
3. PIO & Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya, Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department for information and to appear on **10th December, 2024 at 11:30 AM.**
4. ✓ Smti.Angela Rangad, Near SBI ATM Lumpyngngad-Motinagar Shillong-793014 Ph:9863097754 for information and to appear on **10th December, 2024 at 11:30 AM** or to opt for an online mode.


(D. Phawa, MCS)
Secretary,
Meghalaya Information Commission.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/27

Dated Shillong, the 26th November, 2024

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,

Shri K. Hynniewta,
Officer on Special Duty & Ex-officio
Joint Secretary, Planning (R) Department.

Subject: RTI application from Smt. Angela Rangad.

Sir,

With reference to the letter cited above, I am directed to forward herewith under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 the original copy of the RTI application dated 15.11.2024 received from Smt. Angela Rangad which is self explanatory and to request you kindly take necessary action as requested therein as the subject matter concerns your office.

Yours faithfully,

PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

Memo No. PLA.1/2020/Pt./27-A

Dated Shillong, the 26th November, 2024.

Copy for information to:-

✓ Smt. Angela Rangad, Near SBI ATM, Lumpyngngad- Motinagar, Shillong-793014, Phone 9863097754.

By order etc.,

PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

received
23/10/24

PRIORITY.
FIXED DATE.

MEGHALAYA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

NEW ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING, LOWER LACHUMIERE
EAST KHASI HILLS, MEGHALAYA – 793001

No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/11

Dated Shillong, 21st October, 2024

From : Shri. Sarad Pradhan
Under Secretary,
Meghalaya State Information Commission, Shillong.

To : First Appellate Authority,
O/O Invest Meghalaya Authority,
East Khasi Hills District, Shillong - 793001,

Sub : Appeal filed by Smt. Angela Rangad,
Dated 07/10/2024 – regarding.

Sir/Madam,

In inviting a reference to the subject cited above, enclosed herewith is a copy of Appeal dated 7.10.2024 along with enclosures received from Smt. Angela Rangad, which is self explanatory.

In this connection, **I am directed to issue this Show Cause and let this Commission know as to why action was not taken on the 1st (First) Appeal.**

Your reply thereto should reach this Commission **within 15 (fifteen) days of receiving this letter** positively.

This has the order of the “Competent Authority”.

Yours faithfully,

- self -

Under Secretary,
Meghalaya State Information Commission,

✓

Memo.No.MIC/Appeal/10/2024/11-A

Dated Shillong, 21st October, 2024

Copy to.

- ✓ 1. Smt. Angela Rangad, Near SBI ATM Lumapynngad-Motinagar, Shillong – 793014.
(Contact No: - 9863097754) for information.

By Order, etc.

Sarad Pradhan
Under Secretary,
Meghalaya State Information Commission,

DC: 1B Nov 202

To

The Chief Information Commissioner,
Meghalaya State Information Commission
Shillong

Subject: Your letter dt. 21 Oct 2024 in
response to my 2nd Appeal dt. 7/10/24

Sir,

Kindly refer to your show cause notice
MFC/appeal/10/2024/11, dt. 21 Oct 24, to
Invest Meghalaya Authority.

The show cause gave 15 days time to the
Authority to respond, and it is now more than
the time given. Kindly update me on the
response from Invest Meghalaya Authority, also
intimate when a hearing on the same can be
held as the RTI is now very much delayed.

Thanking You.

Sincerely,

Rangad

(ANGELA RANGAD)

Ph: 9863097754.

13/11/24
Private Secretary to the
Chief Information Commissioner
Meghalaya

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/40

Dated Shillong, the 17th December, 2024

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,

Shri K. Hynniewta,
Officer on Special Duty & Ex-officio
Joint Secretary, Planning (R) Department.

Subject: Inspection conducted on 17.12.2024.

Sir,

With reference to the letter date 17.12.2024 on the subject cited above, I am directed to forward herewith under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 the original copy of the RTI application dated received from Smt. Angela Rangad and to request you to kindly take necessary action accordingly.

Yours faithfully,

PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

Memo No. PLA.1/2020/Pt./40-A

Dated Shillong, the 17th December, 2024.

Copy for information to:-

✓ Smt. Angela Rangad, Near SBI ATM, Lumpyngngad- Motinagar, Shillong-793014, Phone 9863097754.

By order etc.,

PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

17 Dec 2024

To
The PIO
Invest Meghalaya Authority
Govt. of Meghalaya
Subject: RTI Inspection conducted on
17 Dec 2024

17/12/24

Madam,

Today I had come to inspect files
pertaining to my RTI dt. 15 July 2024
pertaining to an order of Meghalaya Information
Commission dt. 10.11.24.

The files I was shown have been
indicated in the Annexure here &
copies of documents including notisheets
I wish to take physical Xerox copies of
are also indicated.

Please note that no Rules to the Act
were shown to me. Also salary files of
those employed under the Authority.

Further, files on operationalising of the Authority
including engaging of consultancy firms / Agency / Persons

and empanelment have not been shown.
will require all documents & noteshets on this.
Sec. 4 disclosures including notification
of PIO / DAA etc not available.

Kindly provide me copies of all
documents & noteshets indicated in
the annexure at the earliest considering
that the RTI has been inordinately
delayed since my first filing on
1st July 2024.

Thanking You.

Sincerely,
Rangad.

(ANGELA RANGAD)

Ph: 9863097754.

(1)

I PLR 22/2024 / Pt.

Matters Relating to Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Bill (MSIPF) 2024

(1) Note sheet Pgs. 1 - 4

(2) NO. LL(B) 10/2024/32 Dt. 15 Feb 2024
Pg. 1 - 22

(3) NO. PLR 22/2024/31 Dt. 12 Feb 2024

(4) Draft. Cabinet Memo. Pg 1 - 29

(5) No. PLR 22/2024/Pt/23 Dt. 20 Feb 2024

(6) Bill Pg. 24 - 48.

(7) PLR 22/2024/Pt/49 - Dt. 15 March 2024

(8) Notification Dt. 14 March 2024. (Pg. 98)

Chapter II Constitution, Powers (Gazette of Meghalaya
Extraordinary March 14
2024)
Pg. 72.

II PLR. 22/2024

Matters Relating to Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Bill (MSIPF) 2024

(1) Note sheet Pg. 1 - 11

(2)

- (2) note to cabinet dt. 15 Feb 2024
(11 pages + office notes read to sl. 1-31)
- (3) draft Meghalaya State Investment & Business Facilitation Bill 2024 (23 pages)
- (4) PLR 22/2024/31 dt. 12 Feb 2024 sl. 31
- (5) PLR 22/2024/23 dt. 20 Feb 2024
sl. 32
- (6) LCB 10/2024/59 dt. 21 Feb 2024
sl. 33 - 59
- (7) Bill Pg. 1-21
- (8) Memorandum Regarding Delegated Legislation
+ Statement of object & Reasons
~~40 pages~~ + Financial Memorandum (4 Pgs)
- (9) PLR 22/2024/60 dt. 22 Feb 2024
sl. 60
- (10) PLR 22/2024/72 dt. 14 March 2024
Notification of CEO of Invest Megh. Authority
- (11) PLR 22/2024/74 dt. 13 March 2024
- (12) March 14 2024 Notification Pt. 75-97

(3)

- 13) PLR 22/2024/98 Dt. 14 March 2024
Notification - Functions of IMA
Sl. 98.
- 14) Memo PLR 22/2024/98-A 14 March 24
Sl. 99.
- 15) Notification PLR 22/2024/100 ~~2024~~ 14 March
2024.
Sl. 100 - 102.
- 16) Notification PLR 22/2024/103
Dt. 14 March 2024.
Sl. 103 - 105.
- 17) Notification PLR 22/2024/106
Dt. 14 March 2024. Sl. 106 - 108
- 18) Notification PLR 22/2024/109 Dt. 14 March
2024
Sl. 109 - 111

III Invest Mughalaya Authority (IMA) File IMA/1/24

- ① Not sheets - 1 - 11.
- ② IMA 1/2024/1 Dt. 20 May 2024

- (3) PLR 22/2024/109 (4) Dt. 14 March 2024
sl. 2 - 4
- (4) IMA .1/2024/6 Dt. 5 June . 2024 .
creation of New Industrial Estate
+ Memo No. IMA .1/2024/1-A Dt. 5 June 2024
- (5) No. IMA .2/2024/7 Dt. 12 June 2024
- (6) sl. 8. Minutes of the Review meeting
- sl. 10, sl. 11
held on 13 June 2024
- (7) PLR 22/2024/Pt. 1/47 Dt. 9 Aug 2024
sl. 12 - 13
- (8) IMA .1/2024/14 Dt. 20 Aug 2024
meeting of Task force Committee
- (9) minutes of meeting of Task force .
21 Aug . 2024 . (7) - sl. 17
- (10) SCD 5/2016/99 Dt. 20 Aug . 2024
sl. 18
- (11) sl. A. - 23
- (12) sl. 24 - objection to creation of
New Industrial Estate at Bynihat.
Umphur.

(5)

- (13) Sl. 27. No. GCW / MIA / 2023 / 43 30 sept '24
- Sl 30
- (14) SCD 46 / 2024 / 42 Dt. 19 NOV 2024
Sl. 31
- (15) Sl. 32 - My. / Seil - 12 / 396 (Bl. B1) / 4871
Dt. 5 NOV 2024.
- (16) Sl. 33 Letter from HT TO
- (17) Meghalaya Industrial & Investment Promotion
Policy 2024
- (18) Invest Meghalaya Authority @ gov. in...
↓ (Not accessible. only available info include following
- Notification of Appointment of CEO etc.
Salaries - ? Not available
No sec 4 disclosures on site

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/43

Dated Shillong, the 17th December, 2024

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,

✓ Smt. Angela Rangad,
Near SBI ATM,
Lumpyngngad- Motinagar,
Shillong – 793014.
Ph : 9863097754

Subject: Reply to the Inspection conducted on 17.12.2024.

With reference to your letter dated 17.12.2024 cited above, I am directed to forward herewith all the relevant documents provided by the Chief Executive Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority for your information.

Yours faithfully,

PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

Recd

No. IMA. 4/2024/59

Dated Shillong, the 17th November, 2024

To,

✓ Smti. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
PIP&SD Department, Shillong

Subject: - RTI Inspection conducted on the 17.12.2024

Madam,

I am directed to refer to the subject indicated above and to furnish herewith the clarification as sought by Smti. A. Rangad during the RTI inspection on 17.12.2024. The details are as indicated below:

#	Details	Reply
1.	Physical xerox copies of files (notesheet and documents)	Copies of all documents and notesheet as requested are enclosed.
2.	Rules to the Act	No rules have been framed.
3.	To furnish a copy of the salary files employed under IMA.	No staffs have been engaged under IMA, hence salary files is not available.
4.	Operationalizing of the authority	As mandated in the MSIPF Act, 2024.
5.	Engaging of the consultancy firm/agency/empanelment.	No consultancy firm has been engaged by IMA.
6.	Notification of the PIO/FAA	Under process.

This is for favour of information and necessary action from your end

Yours faithfully,



[K. Hynniewta]

Chief Administrative Officer,
Invest Meghalaya Authority

Memo No. IMA. 4/2024/59-A

Dated Shillong, the 17th November, 2024

Copy to:

1. The Chief Executive Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, for favour of kind information.
2. The OSD & Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya, Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department, Shillong.

By order etc.,



Chief Administrative Officer,
Invest Meghalaya Authority

17/12/24

(14) (50)

REMINDER

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION & SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No. PLA.02/2007/260

Dated Shillong, the 10th December, 2024.

From: Smt. D. Sayo,
Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,

1. Member Secretary Meghalaya Economic Development Council, Shillong.
2. Member Secretary Bio. Resource Development Council, Shillong.
3. Member Secretary Shillong Science Centre, Shillong.
4. The Chief Executive Officer, Meghalaya Basin Development Authority/ STEMS.
5. The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority.
6. The Director General Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship, Shillong
7. The District Planning Officers :-
North Garo Hills District, Resubelpara .

Sub **Nomination of officers for appointment of Appellate Authority / Public Information Officer / Assistant Public Information Officer.**

Reference: **No. PLA.02/2007/252, Dated 29.10. 2024.**

Sir/ Madam,

With reference to this Department's letter cited above, I am directed to remind you to kindly furnish the required information urgently so as to enable this Department to take further necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

Memo No. PLA.02/2007/260-A

Dated Shillong, the 10th December, 2024.

Copy forwarded to :-

- (1) Research Officer I/c Science & Technology Cell
- ✓ (2) Special Officer & Ex-officio, Deputy Secretary, Planning (Research Wing) Meghalaya, Shillong.

By Order etc.,

Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

IMA
ARO (WK)
→ (WN)

2450
17/12/24

①

15. NOV. 2024

To.

Smt. D. Sayoo
under secy. Planning Administration
Govt. of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject: Ref: Your letter dt: 14 Nov 2024 NO. PLA. 1/2020/Pt. II/22

Madam,

I have come to your office today in connection with my RTI dt. 1st July 2024 to Invest Meghalaya Authority, responding to your telephonic conversation asking me to come and collect information.

Please note, that this RTI has been inordinately delayed. I have filed a first appeal to DAA on 8th August 2024, and there was no response, so a 2nd appeal was also filed to the CIC on 7th October '24. A showcause from CIC, copy of which was sent to me was sent to Invest Meghalaya on 21 Oct 2024. When I followed up on this on expiry of the 15 days notice to Invest Meghalaya Authority, I was informed that the office could not be located and after much searching the letter was finally delivered just recently 11 Nov 2024.

Received
15/11/24

(2)

On 14th Nov 2024 your office called me on phone asking to come and collect the information that Invest Meghalaya Authority has sent to your office - Planning Administration. I informed you that my RTI specifically states that I wish to inspect all original files along with notisheets and documents.

Today, 15th Nov 2024, at your office I am only given a letter No. PLA. 1/2020 / Pt. 11 / 22 dt. 14 Nov 24

which only contains copies of my RTI, appeal, etc. No documents in original files along with notisheets has been given to me to inspect.

This entire process is in contravention of the letter and spirit of the RTI act, and this signature correspondence through another department and not Invest Meghalaya Authority is nothing but willful denial of information which attracts penal action against the PIO, DAA of Invest Meghalaya Authority.

I insist that as per my original RTI, I must be provided all documents and not-

importantly my right ⁽³⁾ to inspect all original
files and notesheets.

Thanking you -

Sincerely,

~~Kangas~~

(ANGELA KANGAS)

Lumpynagar, Motinagar,

Shillong.

Ph: 986309 7754.

**GOVERNMENT OF MEGHALAYA
PLANNING, INVESTMENT PROMOTION AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT**

No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/22

Dated Shillong, the 14th November, 2024


From: Smt. D. Sayo,
PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.

To,
✓ Smt. Angela Rangad,
Near SBI ATM,
Lumpynggad- Motinagar,
Shillong – 793014.
Ph : 9863097754

Subject: Reply to RTI request dated 1.7.2024

Reference: First Appeal under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

With reference to your letter cited above, I am directed to forward herewith the information as desired for favour of your information.


PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.


Memo No.PLA.1/2020/Pt.II/22-A

Dated Shillong, the 14th November, 2024

Copy for information:

1. Joint Secretary, Planning (R) with reference to their letter I/D No.PLR.61/2007/Pt.III/108, dated 22.10.2024.

By order etc.,


PIO & Under Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable
Development Department.


I/D NO PLR.61/2007/Pt.III/108
Dated Shillong 22nd October, 2024

✓ PIO, Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department
(Administration Wing) I/D

Subject: Application for First Appeal under RTI Act, 2005

Reference: Letter dated received from Smti. Angela Rangad

With reference to the above, under section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005, please find enclosed herewith a copy of first appeal under the RTI Act, 2005 received from Smti. Angela Rangad and a copy of a reply received from Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, Meghalaya to the information sought by Smti. Angela Rangad under RTI Act. You are requested to kindly furnish the information to the applicant as the agency, Invest Meghalaya Authority has yet to appoint a Public Information Officer.


[K.Hynniewta]

Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department


Memo. I/D NO PLR.61/2007/Pt.III/108
Copy to:-

Dated Shillong, the 22nd October, 2024

1. The Chief Administrative Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, Shillong for kind information.

By order


Joint Secretary to the Govt. of Meghalaya
Planning, Investment Promotion &
Sustainable Development Department


23/11/24

1. PIP & SD Department
2. FTS No. 106374
3. I/D No.
4. Date 23/10/24
5. D/Assessment Hw m

INVEST MEGHALAYA AUTHORITY

A Government of Meghalaya Undertaking

Invest Meghalaya Authority,
4K Complex, Golflinks Pdengshnong,
Shillong - 793001
investmeghalayaauthority@gmail.com
+91 70857 41695

No. IMA. 4/2024/24

Dated Shillong, the 8th October, 2024

To,

The OSD & Joint Secretary to the Government of Meghalaya,
Planning, Investment Promotion & Sustainable Development Department,
Shillong.

Subject: - First appeal under the Right to Information Act, 2005.

Sir,

I am directed to enclose herewith a copy of the first appeal under the Right to Information Act, 2005 filed by Smti. A. Rangad, vide letter No. Nil dated 08.08.2024 and to furnish herewith a copy of the response as indicated at **Annexure "A"** which is in accordance to the RTI Act, 2005 for kind information.

It may be informed that since the Invest Meghalaya Authority (IMA) is housed under PIP&SD Department, you are requested to kindly take up the matter from your end and the responses to be provided by the PIO of the Department.

Yours faithfully,



[K. Hynniewta]

Chief Administrative Officer,
Invest Meghalaya Authority

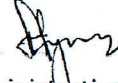
Memo No. IMA. 4/2024/24-A

Dated Shillong, the 8th October, 2024

Copy to:

The Chief Executive Officer, Invest Meghalaya Authority, for favour of kind information.

By order etc.,



Chief Administrative Officer,
Invest Meghalaya Authority

Annexure "A"

RESPONSE TO FIRST APPEAL UNDER RTI ACT, 2005 FILED BY APPLICANT

SI No.	Response
1.	The statutory disclosures of Invest Meghalaya Authority (IMA) as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 may be accessed from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	<p>The MSIPF Act, 2024 is available on the Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department's website i.e. www.megplanning.gov.in. The same may be accessible by the applicant.</p> <p>The deliberations of the Cabinet meeting cannot be disclosed as it attracts the provision of Section 8 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005.</p> <p>However it may be noted that the deliberations resulted into approval of MSIPF Bill, 2024 and such deliberations are not part of the record.</p>
3.	No transfer of Government land has taken place, as per the records.

Other query raised in the first appeal under RTI Act, 2005 by the applicant:

1. I would also like to know what does "RTI submitted by RBWO" mean.

Response: Due to typing error and oversight, you are requested to kindly read "RTI submitted by applicant" instead of "RTI submitted by RBWO".

2. My application includes exercising my right to inspection and by not letting me inspect constitutes a denial of information as per RTI Act, 2005, therefore I appeal that my right to inspect as per RTI Act, 2005 is restored. [As per section 2(j)]

Response: All the required information have already been provided in the website, hence inspection is no longer required.

8th August 2024

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To,
DAA,
Invest Meghalaya Authority
Govt. of Meghalaya
Shillong

Subject : First Appeal under RTI Act 2005

Sir/Madam,

1. I had applied for information from Invest Meghalaya Authority on 1st July 2024 (annexure 1). After six days of delay and after a phone call to the PIO enquiring about the status of my RTI Application, I was emailed the response (annexure 2) from the PIO while the hard copy of the response was delivered by hand on 7/08/2024.

2. As you must have seen that my application includes exercising my Right to Inspection

Please provide me with the following information under the Right to Information Act 2005. I would take the copies of the information after inspecting the original documents in their original file cover.

The RTI Act 2005 in section 2(j) states

- (i) "right to information" means the right to information accessible under this Act which is held by or under the control of any public authority and includes the right to—
- (i) inspection of work, documents, records;
 - (ii) taking notes, extracts or certified copies of documents or records;
 - (iii) taking certified samples of material;
 - (iv) obtaining information in the form of diskettes, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or in any other electronic mode or through printouts where such information is stored in a computer or in any other device;

And by not letting me inspect constitutes a denial of information as per the RTI Act 2005. Therefore I appeal that my Right to Inspect as per the RTI Act 2005 is restored.

3. Draft Response as per the RTI response to my question 1 says:

Sl No.	Details (RTI submitted by RBWO)	Draft Response
1.	Please provide me with all the statutory disclosures made by you as a public authority as per section 4 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, including the web address of such a disclosure?	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .
2.	Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and	Invest Meghalaya Authority is a newly set up institution under Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department and the statutory disclosures made by Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development Department may be accessed by the applicant from its website www.megplanning.gov.in .

The response by the PIO is not only incomplete but chooses to willfully misunderstand the query. Moreover his response is also mendacious.

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a) Invest Meghalaya Authority is not just a subordinate institution set up under the Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development but an independent authority instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

b).As you are aware that section 2(h)(c) defines public authority as:

(h) "public authority" means any authority or body or institution of self- government established or constituted—

(c) by any other law made by State Legislature;

And therefore Invest Meghalaya Authority is a public authority that has to fulfill its obligations as a Public Authority and make its own statutory suo-moto disclosures as per the section 4 of the RTI Act 2005. Section 4 states:

4. Obligations of public authorities.—(1) Every public authority shall—

(a) maintain all its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner and the form which facilitates the right to information under this Act and ensure that all records that are appropriate to be computerised are, within a reasonable time and subject to availability of resources, computerised and connected through a network all over the country on different systems so that access to such records is facilitated;

(b) publish within one hundred and twenty days from the enactment of this Act,—

(i) the particulars of its organisation, functions and duties;

(ii) the powers and duties of its officers and employees;

(iii) the procedure followed in the decision making process, including channels of supervision and accountability;

(iv) the norms set by it for the discharge of its functions;

(v) the rules, regulations, instructions, manuals and records, held by it or under its control or used by its employees for discharging its functions;

(vi) a statement of the categories of documents that are held by it or under its control;

(vii) the particulars of any arrangement that exists for consultation with, or representation by, the members of the public in relation to the formulation of its policy or implementation thereof

(viii) a statement of the boards, councils, committees and other bodies consisting of two or more persons constituted as its part or for the purpose of its advice, and as to whether meetings of those boards, councils, committees and other bodies are open to the public, or the minutes of such meetings are accessible for public;

(ix) a directory of its officers and employees;

(x) the monthly remuneration received by each of its officers and employees, including the system of compensation as provided in its regulations;

(xi) the budget allocated to each of its agency, indicating the particulars of all plans, proposed expenditures and reports on disbursements made;

(xii) the manner of execution of subsidy programmes, including the amounts allocated and the details of beneficiaries of such programmes;

(xiii) particulars of recipients of concessions, permits or authorisations granted by it;

(xiv) details in respect of the information, available to or held by it, reduced in an electronic form;

(xv) the particulars of facilities available to citizens for obtaining information, including the working hours of a library or reading room, if maintained for public use;

(xvi) the names, designations and other particulars of the Public Information Officers;

(xvii) such other information as may be prescribed;

and thereafter update these publications every year;

(c) publish all relevant facts while formulating important policies or announcing the decisions which affect public;

(d) provide reasons for its administrative or quasi-judicial decisions to affected persons.

(2) It shall be a constant endeavour of every public authority to take steps in accordance with the requirements of clause (b) of sub-section (1) to provide as much information suo motu to the public at regular intervals through various means of communications, including internet, so that the public have minimum resort to the use of this Act to obtain information.

(3) For the purposes of sub-section (1), every information shall be disseminated widely and in such form and manner which is easily accessible to the public.

(4) All materials shall be disseminated taking into consideration the cost effectiveness, local language and the most effective method of communication in that local area and the information should be easily accessible, to the extent possible in electronic form with the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, available free or at such cost of the medium or the print cost price as may be prescribed.

Explanation.—For the purposes of sub-sections (3) and (4), "disseminated" means making known or communicated the information to the public through notice boards, newspapers, public announcements, media broadcasts, the internet or any other means, including inspection of offices of any public authority.

c) PIO seems to have not even seen the web address www.megplanning.gov.in, where he expected me to find section 4 disclosure. Forget disclosure for Invest Meghalaya Authority, this web address does not even have section 4 disclosures for Department of Planning, Investment Promotion and Sustainable Development itself. In the whole website there is no tab or link of Right to Information disclosure including those that can inform the citizens about the Public Information Officer and Appellate Authority (as per 07/08/2024)

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PIO's reply therefore is wilfully wrong.

I appeal that I should be given section 4 disclosures of Invest Meghalaya Authority as per the RTI Act 2005.

3. In response to my query 2, PIO states

2. Please provide me with the list of all the meetings held and their minutes to either propose the setting up of the public authority called Invest Meghalaya Authority and operationalising the authority?	Invest Meghalaya Authority was approved by the Cabinet in its meeting dated 15.02.2024 and the disclosures of Cabinet discussions attracts the provisions of Section 8(1) of RTI Act, 2005.
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This response is incorrect as the public authority Invest Meghalaya Authority was not approved by the cabinet but was instituted by an Act of Legislature, namely Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024.

Moreover, this act in the form of a Bill would have been placed before the cabinet for deliberation before being placed in the Assembly. Proposal for the bill would have come from a public authority, there would have been discussions, opinions, meetings regarding the law and draft law, all of this is covered under my query and is liable to be disclosed.

Also PIO is referring to which section of section 8(1) to deny me information?

If it is section 8(1)(i) then also PIO is misreading the section to blanket deny me the information as sought by me.

The section says that

(i) cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers;

Provided that the decisions of Council of Ministers, the reasons thereof, and the material on the basis of which the decisions were taken shall be made public after the decision has been taken, and the matter is complete, or over;

Provided further that those matters which come under the exemptions specified in this section shall not be disclosed;

As any reading of the section makes it clear that only cabinet papers including records of deliberations are exempt from disclosure. What is not exempt from disclosures are Notes and materials based on which decisions are taken are to be proactively disclosed after the decision has been taken. As you know there must be multiple decisions about the law and Invest Meghalaya Authority and all the decisions and material based on which such decisions have been taken including Notes and advice have to be disclosed.

<https://thewire.in/government/disclose-cabinet-note-annexure-related-to-constitution-amendment-for-ews-quota-cic>

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<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/cic-preparatory-info-of-cabinet-papers-can-be-disclosed-under-rti/articleshow/6543728.cms>

Moreover there is an overall proviso to section 8 that PIO overlooks and that is:

the information which cannot be denied to the Parliament or a State Legislature shall not be denied to any person.

So I appeal that all the cabinet notes and advice regarding Meghalaya State Investment Promotion & Facilitation Act, 2024 (Act No. 6 of 2024) that received the assent of the Governor on 12th March 2024 and was gazetted on 14th March 2024 that sets up Invest Meghalaya Authority needs to be disclosed

4. Now for my final query no. 3 PIO has once again partially read my question

3. Please provide me with the copies of all the correspondences carried out between Invest Meghalaya Authority and various Govt Departments regarding transfer of government land along with all the enclosures.	No transfer of Government land has taken place.
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My query is not merely about Final transfer of Land to Invest Meghalaya Authority but also includes any plans regarding such transfers. For instance if Invest Meghalaya Authority has written to PWD querying about the land it holds in Shillong or elsewhere or to Soil Conservation department regarding parcels of land it holds for instance in Byrnihat or Urban Affairs department regarding land parcels in Shillong or Tura then all of such correspondences along with their enclosures need to be disclosed.

5. I would also like to know what does RTI submitted by RBWO mean that PIO's response refers to

Therefore I appeal to you to order the PIO to provide me with all the information sought by me as per my application.

Thanking you,
Sincerely yours,


Angela Rangad
Near SBI ATM
Lumpyngngad-Motinagar
Shillong 793014

Ph: 9863097754