



ARUNACHAL PRADESH INFORMATION COMMISSION
ITANAGAR.

An Appeal Case U/S 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005
Case No. APIC-843/2025.

(Summon to appear in person)
(Or.5, R.3 of CPC)

APPELLANT
RESPONDENT

:Shri Tam Tagam, Upper Dam Site Nlg.
:The PIO, o/o the Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College,
Lekhi, Naharlagun.

ORDER/SUMMON

This is an appeal under Section 19(3) of RTI Act, 2005 received from Shri Tam Tagam for non-furnishing of below mentioned information by the PIO, o/o the Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College, Lekhi, Naharlagun (A.P) as sought for by him under section 6(1) (Form-A) of RTI Act, 2005 vide his application dated 10.01.2025:

Details of information:

CTC of the Bank Statement of Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College official bank account particularly of financial year of 2018-2024.

This appeal was heard on 20.03.2026 and had passed order of even dated directing the PIO to *furnish the requested information i.e the accounts Statement comprising of the authority's Income, expenditure, receipt and payment to the appellants within 4 (four) weeks from the date of receipt of this order for further consideration of this appeal so as not to constrain this Commission to invoke the penal provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.*

In compliance with and in response to this Commission's order as above, the PIO had submitted written statement dt.20.04.26 reiterating her earlier replies furnished vide letter dt. 22.01.25 and upheld by the FAA vide order dt.13.06.2025 that *the information was denied under Section -8 Sub section-1 (e) & (g) of RTI Act 2005 which this Commission had already rejected for the reasons cited in the order dt. 20.03.26 and accordingly, directed the PIO to furnish the accounts Statement comprising of the authority's Income, expenditure/ receipts and payment.* The PIO was, hence, directed to furnish an appropriate reply/explanation to the appellant and report the compliance thereof on 03.06.2026, the next date of hearing making it clear at the same time that if the o/o the PIO does not hold the requested information then the appellant has to be furnished satisfactory reason for the denial of the same as per the provisions of section 7(8)(i) read with section-18(3)(c) of the RTI Act, 2005 and rule-5(vi) of the A.P Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2005.

On 03.06.2026, both the appellant and the respondent PIO (with the revised replies) appeared in person. The revised are replies dt.03.06.2026 are reproduced hereunder:

"Sir,

As Principal-cum-PIO of Binni Yanga Government Women's College, Poma, I respectfully submits the following points to justify the denial of the comprehensive unredacted bank account statements of the college to the appellant:

4. *Involvement of Third-Party Personal Information:* A college bank account statement is not a singular entry; it is a ledger containing hundreds of individual transactions. It contains sensitive personal information of third parties, including Students, Staff, Faculty, Vendor and Service Providers. Disclosing these statements in their raw form exposes the specific bank account numbers, IFSC codes, and transaction histories of third parties.

5. *Exemption under Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005:* The bank account numbers and personal financial transactions of individual students, staff & faculty, and service providers constitute "personal information." The disclosure of the personal banking coordinates of these third parties has no relationship to any public activity or interest, and revealing them would cause an unwarranted invasion of their privacy and expose them to financial security risks. The Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in *Girish Ramchandra Deshpande vs. Central Information Commissioner (2013)* held that financial parameters and personal details of individuals are protected from third-party RTI queries unless a compelling public interest is proven.

6. *Absence of Larger Public Interest:* The appellant has not demonstrated any larger, overarching public interest that justifies overriding the privacy rights of hundreds of individual students, staffs and faculty. The college maintaining transparency regarding its overall audited finances, budgets, and fee structures is already a matter of public record, the information of which have already been furnished to the appellant vide letters NO.BYGWC/106/RTI/2024/14893 dtd 25/06/2024 (enclosed as annexure-1); NO.BYGWC/106/RTI/2024/14934 dtd 30/08/2024 (enclosed as annexure-2); and NO.BYGWC/106/RTI/2024/15012/24 dtd 30/11/2024 (enclosed as annexure-3). However, sharing the actual raw bank account statement crosses the line from institutional accountability into an invasion of third-party privacy.

In light of the above facts, it is most respectfully prayed that this Hon'ble Information Commission may be pleased to:

1. Accept the justification of the PIO that full bank statements cannot be shared as they are heavily intertwined with third-party personal financial details.
2. Uphold the exemption under Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005, and dismiss the appellant's demand for the raw bank statements. However, as directed, enclosed herewith is the account statement comprising College's income, expenditure and balance for financial year 2018 to 2024 as annexure-4.

Enclosed:

- Annexure-1
- Annexure-2
- Annexure-3
- Annexure-4

Your faithfully,
Sd/-
(Dr. Aruna Gyati Lod)
Principal BYGWC Poma"

Account statement for the Sessions 2018-19 to 2024-25

Sl. No.	Particulars	Receipt	Expenditure	Balance
Session 2018-19				
1	College Fees	2313251	1643110	670141
2	University Fees	736755	736755	NIL
3	Government Fees	88800	88800	NIL
	Total	3038806	2468665	670141
Session 2019-20				
1	College Fees	2191141	1399922	791219
2	University Fees	485475	485475	NIL
3	Government Fees	86400	86400	NIL
	Total	2763016	1971797	791219
Session 2020-21				
1	College Fees	2145399	1303343	842056
2	University Fees	868445	868445	NIL
3	Government Fees	101861	101861	NIL
	Total	3115705	2273649	842056
Session 2021-22				
1	College Fees	3245111	2567495	677616
2	University Fees	1018945	1018945	NIL
3	Government Fees	163950	163950	NIL
	Total	4428006	3750390	677616
Session 2022-23				
1	College Fees	3565841	2778022	787819
2	University Fees	1269175	1269175	NIL
3	Government Fees	176700	176700	NIL
	Total	5011716	4223897	787819
Session 2023-24				
1	College Fees	3635614	2865393	770221
2	University Fees	1535775	1535775	NIL
3	Government Fees	193800	193800	NIL
	Total	5365189	4594968	770221
Session 2024-25				
1	College Fees	3500011	2517877	981234
2	University Fees	1374490	1374490	NIL
3	Government Fees	192300	192300	NIL
	Total	5066801	4084667	981234

This Commission upon perusal of the revised replies (supra) furnished by the PIO, concluded that the revised replies / information as furnished by the PIO *appear to be adequate and appropriate* requiring no further adjudication of the appeal by this Commission and accordingly, opined that no further hearing of the appeal is required. The appellant was, however, directed to go through the revised replies furnished by the PIO and report his satisfaction or otherwise therewith within 1(one) week from the date of receipt of the order for further consideration of the appeal.

The appellant has now, vide his written statement dt.09.06.2026, as reproduced hereunder, complained that he is not satisfied with the revise replies/statement of Income and Expenditure which is not what he has sought from the PIO i.e **Bank Statement of Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College official bank account particularly of financial year of 2018-2024.**

"MOST RESPECTFULLY SHEWETH:

1. *The Appellant begs to submit this Written Objection against the revised replies dated 03.06.2026 submitted by the PIO, and respectfully raising objection in respect of documents furnished which is beyond the scope and ambit of RTI Act, the reason cited for denial of supply of document is third party information, but no steps were taken by the PIO to comply the provisions of RT Act which deals with third party information. To that effect the detail objection is narrated below: -*
 - a) *The Respondent/PIO in its written submission cited several reasons among which they mostly relied the reason of third-party information and no public interest involved that a part the information falls under the preview of Section 8 sub section (e) and (1), if this commission will peruse the RTI Application the Information sought was for the larger interest of students of the collage and there is no information sought which relate directly to third party rather the information sought was related to fee collected from the students for transportation and connected to that the account statement were sought. Hence there is no fiduciary information involved.*
 - b) *That, the PIO is making excuses for not furnishing the information and even if for sake to consideration although not at all accepted if the information sought is third party then also it is mandatory to give information by complying the provisions of law provided under the Act. It is evident from their written submission that the PIO failed to comply with the provision as such PIO is liable to panelise for the wrong committed.*
 - c) *It is a settled principle of law that if information relates to or has been supplied by a third party and is treated as confidential, the PIO must strictly invoke the statutory mechanism prescribed under Section 11(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which provide that a statutory notice within 5(five) days of the receipt of application has to be issued to the third party for any claim and objection and if any objection raised the third party has to be heard along with applicant and thereafter the finality of the application have to be decided but in the instant case the PIO has denied to furnish the information without following the due process of law. As such the PIO is liable to be panelise and direction to be issued to furnish the documents sought without any further delay.*
 - d) *The PIO has completely failed to issue any notice or follow the mandatory procedure under Section 11 to invite claims/objections from the alleged third parties. Without issuing such notices and independently weighing the public interest, the PIO cannot unilaterally deny the information on third-party grounds.*

A copy of order dated 03.06.2026 is here with annexed and marked as ANNEXURE - I.
2. *The appellant begs to submits that, PIO claims that the bank account statement is a massive ledger containing intertwined third-party transactions, account numbers, and IFSC codes. Even if it is assumed that certain personal components (such as individual bank account numbers or IFSC codes of private staff/students) are sensitive, the PIO is bound by Section 10 (Severability Clause) of the RTI Act, 2005 read along with Sections 10 and 11 of the Arunachal Pradesh Right to Information Rules. The PIO should have severed/redacted only the highly sensitive personal numbers while furnishing the comprehensive actual transaction details, dates, and amounts of public funds spent. Instead, the PIO provided a self-prepared, condensed summary table of sessions from 2018-19 to 2024-25. A hand-made abstract table cannot substitute a Certified True Copy (CTC) of actual Bank Statements.*

3. The appellant begs submits that the PIO's reliance on the judgment *Girish Ramchandra Deshpande Vs. Central Information Commissioner (2013) 1 SCC 212* to deny institutional ledger details is completely misplaced and irrelevant to the present context. The *Girish Ramchandra* case explicitly pertains to the personal service career parameters of an individual employee (memos, disciplinary actions, personal income tax returns, assets, and liabilities). It has no application to the official bank account statement of a state-funded public educational institution (Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College). The financial records of a government college represent public funds and institutional spending, which are inherently tied to public activity. Furthermore, even if *Girish Ramchandra* were to be contextually considered regarding specific individual lines within the ledger, it can only be applied after strictly executing the mandatory third-party notice procedures under Section 11 of the RTI Act, 2005, which the PIO entirely ignored.

A copy of citation *Girish Ramchandra Deshpande Vs Central Information Commission (2013) 1 SCC 212* is herewith annexed and marked as ANNEXURE - II.

4. That the appellant begs to submits that, the decision to treat a self-made summary abstract as "adequate and appropriate" stands in direct contradiction to a parallel order passed by the very same State Information Commission, In Case No. APIC-738/2025 (*Shri Gollo Takar Vs. PIO, o/o Dera Natung Govt. College, Itanagar*) decided on 30.01.2026, this Hon'ble Commission expressly directed the PIO of another government college to provide: "copy of balance statements after expenditures of college bank account for each financial year, from the year 2018-19 to 2024-25. "Both Institutions are government colleges under the Directorate of Higher and Technical Education (DHTE), Arunachal Pradesh. Denying actual bank account statements to the Appellant in the present case while directing another college to provide the same financial records will be in conflict with its own decision double and would be contradiction within the Commission's decisions. As such the principle of judicial propriety should be maintain and a direction may be passed in conformity with the order of this commission.

A copy of order dated 30.01.2026 is herewith annexed and marked as ANNEXURE - III.

5. That the appellant begs to submits that Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College is a public institution running on public money. The official bank accounts hold public funds collected via government fees, university fees, and student collections. The public has an absolute right to see the actual raw flow of transactions to ensure there is no financial mismanagement or embezzlement. **A compiled single-page abstract table prepared by the administration cannot verify the legitimacy of bank transactions.**

6. That this written objection is made Bonafide and for the end of justice.

PRAYER:

In light of the facts and legal positions mentioned above, the Appellant most respectfully prays that this Hon'ble Commission may be pleased to:

- a) Reject the revised reply/abstract submitted by the PIO dated 03.06.2026 as legally non-compliant and inadequate.
- b) Direct the Respondent/PIO to furnish the actual, unedited Certified True Copies (CTC) of the College Bank Account Statements from FY 2018 to 2024.
- c) Penalty may be imposed for not furnishing the documents without following the due process of law mandated under the RTI Act.

- d) Fix a next date of hearing to meet the ends of justice.
e) Pass any other or further order(s) as this Hon'ble Court may deem fit and proper.

Sd/-
Tam Tagam"

This Commission, upon careful consideration of the submission made by the appellant in his written statement (supra), notices that the his contention, inter alia, that the ratio of Apex Court judgement in *Girish Ramchandra Deshpande Vs. Central Information Commissioner (2013) 1 SCC 212* case which the PIO had relied on in denying the requested information, has no application to this particular appeal, appears to have force in as much as the requested information in the instant appeal is "the Bank A/c Statements (Debit and Credit)" in respect of the public authority (College) itself and not of any other third party (whether faculty or students or staff) though such a statement would necessarily contain the sources and destinations of credit and debit but such entries in the statement can not be said to be exempted as being protected under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005 as long as the requested information does not pertain to individual bank account transection of the students, faculty members or staff or their personal information.

In view of the complaint from the appellant and the observation of this commission as above, this Commission directs the PIO to furnish the requested information, "**CTC of the Bank Statement of Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College official bank account particularly of financial year of 2018-2024.**" to the appellant in right earnest and report the compliance thereof to this Commission on 01.07.2026.

Given under my hand and seal of this Commission on this 15th June, 2026

NOW THEREFORE, you are hereby summoned to appear in person or online in the Hon'ble Court of Shri Sangyal Tsering Bappu, **SIC on 1ST July, Wednesday 2026 at 10:30 am** to answer the claims, and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your claims/defense.

Take notice that, in default of your appearance, on the day above- mentioned, the matter will be heard and determined in your absence.

Sd/-
(S. TSERING BAPPU)
State Information Commissioner,
APIC, Itanagar.

Memo No. APIC- 843/2025 / 895^r Dated Itanagar, the 15th June, 2026

Copy to:

- 1) *The Directorate of Higher and Technical Education, Govt. of A.P, ESS Sector Itanagar, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) for information.*
- 2) The PIO, o/o the Principle, Bini Yanga Govt. Women's College, Lekhi, Naharlagun (A.P) PIN : 791110 for information.
- 3) Shri Tam Tagam, Yawn colony, G sector Nlg. PIN: 791110 Mobile No. 8837009156 for information.
- 4) The Computer Programmer/Computer Operator for uploading on the Website of APIC, please.
- 5) Office copy.
- 6) S/Copy.

Pang...
Registrar/ Deputy Registrar
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