

MANIPUR INFORMATION COMMISSION
SECRETARIAT NORTH BLOCK, GROUND FLOOR,
BEHIND WESTERN BLOCK,
IMPHAL, MANIPUR.
Phone No: 0385-2456495



Appeal Case No. 135 of 2025

N. Ronnie Singh

- Appellant

-Vs-

SPIO/ SE, Khuga Project Circle, WR, Manipur & Anr.

- Respondents

DECISION

Dated: 03-11-2025

Both the State Public Information Officer (SPIO) and the Appellant are present.

Brief Facts of the Case:

The Appellant filed an RTI application dated 30-05-2025 to the SPIO on 29-05-2025 seeking details of sanctioned posts, implementation of the RPwD Act, 2016, PwD reservation in direct recruitment and promotion to Assistant Engineer (AE), year-wise fillings since 2016, and reasons for non-implementation. No response was received within 30 days, prompting a First Appeal on 04-07-2025. Information dated 25-07-2025 was furnished by the SPIO vide letter dated 31-07-2025. Dissatisfied with the response, the Appellant preferred this Second Appeal alleging incomplete, incorrect, and misleading information. Pursuant to the Commission's interim direction dated 23-09-2025, the SPIO furnished information dated 28-10-2025 vide letter dated 29-10-2025.

Summary of the Hearing:

The SPIO submitted afresh information confirming 58 sanctioned AE posts (24 direct, 34 promotion), implementation of 4% PwD reservation in direct recruitment vide OM No. 33/25/17-DR(For)/DP(Pt.I) dated 26-02-2020 (adopting DoPT OM No. 36035/02/2011-Estt(Res) dated 15-01-2018), and "nil" PwD appointments in both modes. The SPIO initially claimed absence of PwD officers in feeder cadres. The Appellant produced MPSC Form 16 filled in 2015 at the time of his selection to Section Officer Grade-I/II, clearly marking his "Handicapped" (PwD – locomotor disability) status. The SPIO acknowledged and accepted the Appellant's PwD status in the feeder cadre. The Appellant further clarified, after obtaining confirmation from the concerned authority, that Assistant Engineer is a Group A (Gazetted) post and Section Officer Grade-I is a Group B post, making the latter the immediate feeder cadre for promotion to AE.

Findings:

1. Direct recruitment: 4% PwD quota (≈1 post) via 2020 OM (adopting DoPT 15-01-2018); no recruitment since 2014 → nil filled.
2. Promotion: No quota for Group A AE (DoPT OM silent; 2009 OM limits to Group C/D).
3. SPIO's claim of "no PwD in feeder" incorrect; Appellant is PwD in Group B feeder since 2015 (MPSC Form 16).

Observation:

The presence of a PwD officer (the Appellant) in the Group B feeder cadre demonstrates availability of eligible candidates for future promotions. However, the DoPT OM dated 15-01-2018 (as adopted) is limited to direct recruitment. The 2009 OM restricts PwD promotion reservation to Group C and D posts. No extant rule provides PwD quota in promotion to Group A AE post.

Decision:

The appeal is disposed of as resolved. All RTI queries stand fully answered. The SPIO, WRD, shall issue a written clarification to the Appellant within 15 days admitting the error regarding absence of PwD officers and confirming his PwD status in Section Officer Grade-I (Group B). No penalty is imposed under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as the error was rectified and no malafide intent is established.

Typed by: -

Compared by: -



Sd/-

(K. Radhashyam Singh)
State Chief Information Commissioner,
Manipur Information Commission.

Authenticated by

(S. Inao Singh)

Deputy Registrar (Judicial -I)
Manipur Information Commission

Copy to: -

1. The FAA/ Commissioner/ Secretary (WR), Government of Manipur.
2. The SPIO/ SE, Khuga Project circle (KPC), WR, Manipur.
3. Shri N. Ronnie Singh,
Sagolband Thingom Leikai near community hall, Imphal, Manipur – 795001.

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