# Right to Information Disclosures<sup>1</sup>

At the Center, we have collected significant environmental information from the Indian state, through the Right to Information Act, 2005.

We believe this information forms an irrefutable basis for community action to protect the environment, especially when it comes to the third pole—also complementing our already extensive and open access judicial tracking for the western Himalayas.

In order to make this information more streamlined, transparent and actionable, we will be using this post to lay out everything we receive (including refusals to provide information).

#### List

### Local Level (Dharamshala)

- 1. Dharamshala Smart City tree felling
- 2. Mcleodganj hotel permits and show cause notice

This work is licensed under Creative Commons

Regarding the issue of admissibility of information received under the RTI Act in a Court of Law, refer to Bhawnani, Gaurav and Mehta, Aditya (2020) "Admissibility and Proof of RTI Documents under the Indian Evidence Act," National Law School of India Review: Vol. 32: Iss. 1, Article 5, available here.

For a recent commentary on the importance of access to information, see "Report of the (UN) Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights in the context of climate change", available here. *See also* report of the (UN) Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression titled "Sustainable development and freedom of expression: why voice matters", available here.



Himalayan Advocacy Center

Registered as "Himalayan Advocacy Chambers" Address: Ward No. 10, Nagar Nigam Dharamshala Sham Nagar, Kangra, Himachal Pradesh, India - 176215 | CIN: U85300HP2022NPL009628 Email: himalayanadvocacy@gmail.com | Ph: +91 1892 315451 / +91 9990 900 500

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Last updated 17.10.2024 (1936 total pages).

Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International. This is considering efforts made by us at Himalayan Advocacy Center—including identifying potentially strategic pieces of information, filing applications and appeals under the Right to Information Act, 2005, following up with Government officials, and scanning and collating information.

3. Public Works Department Road Repair (Khada Danda Road)

### State Level

- 1. Himachal Pradesh Action Plan on Climate Change
  - a. Minutes
  - b. Full record
- 2. Himachal Pradesh Flood Files
  - a. 2023
    - Part I: Initial disclosures by NHAI Project Implementation Units at Shimla and Palampur
      - a. First Appeal + Decision: Appeal seeking further information, in addition to Part I
      - b. Post Decision Developments
      - c. Further proceedings seeking information from NHAI Project Implementation Unit, Mandi
    - Part II: Status report filed by the Deputy Commissioner, Kullu before the High Court of Himachal Pradesh regarding ongoing efforts to address impacts of flooding
    - Part III: Memorandum of Damages (as on 15.9.23) due to flash floods, floods, cloud bursts and landslides during monsoon season 2023—provided by the Public Works Department
  - b. 2024
    - Disclosures by the Directorate of Energy, Himachal Pradesh
    - Disclosures by Himurja
- **3**. Himachal Pradesh Town and Country Planning disclosures re planning
- 4. Directions re Himachal Pradesh online RTI disposal
- 5. Environmental degradation at Shrikhand Mahadev
- 6. Himachal Pradesh State Action Plan on Climate Change Appeal + Decision (Refusal)
- 7. Himachal Pradesh Draft Hill Conservation, Preservation, Cutting and Modification Policy, 2023



- 8. Mizoram Action Plan on Climate Change Record
  - Partial disclosure

## **Union Level**

- 1. Apex Committee for Implementation of Paris Agreement
  - Full record
    - a. Minutes of the first five meetings
    - b. Record leading up to formation of committee on 27.11.2020
- 2. Escazú Agreement (Refusal)
- 3. National Crisis Management Committee Meeting on Forest Fires and Heat Waves
- 4. Climate change in Kashmir (Refusal)
- 5. National Green Tribunal Eastern Zone cases
- 6. Prime Minister's Advisory Council on Climate Change select record
- 7. 2023 Lhonak Lake Glacial Lake Outburst Flood (GLOF), Sikkim
  - Partial disclosure as a result of directions by Ministry of Road Transport and Highways + Appeal decision
  - Disclosures from the National Disaster Management Authority
  - Disclosures from the Indian Space Research Organization
  - Rejection by National Hydroelectric Power Corporation + Appeal decision (Refusal)
- 8. ITLOS Advisory Opinion on Climate Change and its potential linkages with the Indian state (Refusal)
- 9. Inter Ministerial Committee on Human Rights
  - Partial disclosure

