

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION

2nd Floor, August Kranti Bhawan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066

Decision No. CIC/SB/A/2015/000066

Dated 23.09.2016

Appellant : Shri Harbansh Lal Sharma (H.L. Sharma)
A-17, Shivpark
Khanpur,
New Delhi-110080.

Respondent : The Central Public Information Officer,
Central Administrative Tribunal,
Principal Bench, New Delhi,
61/35, Copernicus Marg.
New Delhi-110001.

Date of Hearing : 23.09.2016

Relevant dates emerging from the appeal:

RTI application filed on : 30.03.2015
CPIO's reply : 24.04.2015
First appeal filed on : 18.05.2015
FAA's order : Date not given
Second appeal filed on : 24.06.2015

ORDER

1. Shri Harbansh Lal Sharma filed an application dated 30.03.2015 under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act) before the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO), Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) seeking (i) case status report of Shri Mahipal Verma & Ors. V/s MCD & Ors. OA No.4402/2013, (ii) case status report of information on Shri Shankar Miglani

V/s GNCTD & Ors. (OA No. 473/2013) and (iii) photo copies of reply or affidavit which the concerned department concerned has filed in the above mentioned cases.

2. The appellant filed a second appeal dated 24.06.2015 before the Commission on the grounds that the reply given by the CPIO is not satisfactory or clear and on appeal the FAA advised him to file 2nd Appeal before the Central Information Commission (CIC) if he was not satisfied with the decision of the FAA.

Hearing:

3. The appellant Shri Harbansh Lal Sharma was not present despite notice. The respondents S/Shri M.K. Jain, Deputy Registrar and Vijay Kumar, Deputy Registrar, CAT were present in person.

4. The respondent submitted that information on point nos. 1 and 2 of the RTI application was provided to the appellant on 24.04.2015. The respondent further submitted that in compliance with the order of the FAA information on point no.3 of the RTI application was provided to the appellant vide letter dated 19.09.2016. The respondent submitted that the order of the FAA dated 25.05.2015 was inadvertently not conveyed to the CPIO by the APIO, and the CPIO came to know about the FAA's direction only when the relevant file was accessed on receipt of the hearing notice from the CIC.

Decision:

5. The Commission, after hearing the submissions of the respondent and perusing the records, observes noted that the information sought has been provided to the appellant, though with a delay. The Commission takes a very serious view of this delay. The public information officers are entrusted with the responsibility of providing information to the citizen under the RTI Act. In

this case the CPIO did not discharge his responsibility properly. The CPIO is directed to ensure that in future the RTI applications received in CAT are dealt with due seriousness and the provisions of the RTI Act are implemented in letter and spirit.

6. With the above observations, the appeal is disposed of.
7. Copy of the decision be provided free of cost to the parties.

(Sudhir Bhargava)
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy

(V.K. Sharma)
Designated Officer