

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Cama Place,
New Delhi-110066

F. No. CIC/YA/C/2016/000212

Date of Hearing : 16.11.2017
Date of Decision : 16.11.2017
Complainant/Appellant : Mr. Deepak Juneja
Respondent : PIO
Through:-Dr. A K Rawat-PIO/DHO
Information Commissioner : **Shri Yashovardhan Azad**

Relevant facts emerging from appeal:

RTI application filed on : 17.03.2016
PIO replied on : 13.04.2016
First Appeal filed on : -
First Appellate Order on : -
2nd Appeal/complaint received on : 14.07.2016

Information sought and background of the case:

Vide RTI application dated 17.03.2016, the complainant sought information regarding issuance of Birth & Death certificates under 8 points. CPIO vide letter dated 13.04.2016 furnished information as available on record. Being dissatisfied with the information received, the complainant approached the Commission.

Relevant facts emerging during hearing:

Both parties appeared during the hearing. Complainant gave a brief background of the case stating that a close relative of his passed away while undergoing treatment in Delhi. Since she was a resident outside Delhi, hence as social responsibility, the complainant being a resident of Delhi offered to obtain the Death Certificate of the deceased on behalf of the family members. On approaching the Respondent Registrar, he was informed that in view of recent practice adopted by the office, no more than 5 original certificates can be provided simultaneously, in one go. After much toil undertaken by the complainant in visiting the Respondent thrice, he managed to obtain 20 certificates. But after going through the rigours of a sudden procedural change, the Complainant sought information through the RTI application.

But since the responses of the Respondent failed to satisfy the query of complainant and hence he approached the Commission and sought that an Enquiry into the matter be conducted.

The Respondent clarified during the hearing that since some cases of malpractice and improper and illegal usage of the multiple copies of Birth and Death certificates issued by miscreants had surfaced in October 2015, investigations were carried out. In order to prevent such misuse of the copies of Certificates, the Respondents had adopted the practice of issuing lesser number of Certificates at one go to an individual applicant, and even so, upon some cross checking and verification. He further volunteered that unlimited number of copies of certificates in an uneditable format can be obtained by applicants by applying online, but this facility also has security checks in the form of user-specific codes etc. Though further stringent checks are being devised such that strangers/unrelated persons are unable to obtain even such printouts from the website.

Decision:

After hearing parties and perusal of record, the Commission after hearing the submissions of both parties is in agreement with the importance of the issue raised by the complainant. In view of the fact that Respondent has shed light upon some very vital information during the course of hearing, and such information should be published to create public awareness, the Commission is of the considered opinion that a complete Report pertaining to the developments about issuance of specific number of certificates and measures taken by the Respondent to counter the menace of forged Birth and Death Certificates including submissions of the DHO-PIO during the hearing shall be submitted by the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Karol Bagh Zone, North Delhi Municipal Corporation, within two weeks of receipt of this order. A copy of the said Report shall be provided to the Complainant as well.

The case is disposed of as such.

(Yashovardhan Azad)
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy. Additional copies of orders shall be supplied against application and payment of the charges prescribed under the Act to the CPIO of this Commission.

(R.P.Grover)
Designated Officer

Copy to:-

