

Central Information Commission, New Delhi
File No. CIC/SH/A/2016/000011
Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)

Date of hearing : 13th January 2017

Date of decision : 13th January 2017

Name of the Appellant : SHRI MIR HYDER ALI RAZVI
H.NO.22-3-355, MAGAR KI BOWLI,
MIR ALAM MANDI, HYDERABAD,
ANDHRA PRADESH

Name of the Public Authority/Respondent : CENTRAL PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER,
SALAR JUNG MUSEUM
SALAR JUNG ROAD, DARULSHIFTA,
HYDERABAD- 500002

RTI Application filed on : 1. 24/06/2015 2. 24/07/2015

CPIO replied on : 1. 17/07/2015 2.27/08/2015

First Appeal filed on : —

First Appellate Authority order on : —

2nd Appeal received on : 30/11/2015

The Appellant was present at the NIC Studio, Rangareddy.

On behalf of the Respondents, Shri P. Nageshwar Rao, CPIO was present at the NIC Studio, Rangareddy.

Information Commissioner : **Shri Sharat Sabharwal**

Information sought

This matter concerns two RTI applications filed by the Appellant. Vide his application dated 24.6.2015, he sought complete digital images of manuscript titled “MASNAVIYAAT -E-HAKIM-E-AATISHI” on the subject of Adab Nazam, Manuscript No. 925, Catalogue No. 1899. In his application dated 24.7.2015, he sought copies of rules/laws/provisions by which only 30% of the Manuscript was provided.

The CPIO reply

The CPIO, vide letter dated 17.7.2015, stated that as per the practice of the Salarjung Museum, only 30% of the content would be provided to the scholars. Vide

letter dated 27.8.2015, he stated that in the absence of any rule/law/provision, certain norms were being followed.

Grounds of the First Appeal

No appeal filed.

Order of the First Appellate Authority

No order passed.

Grounds of the Second Appeal

Complete information not provided.

Relevant facts emerging during the Hearing, Discussion and Decision

The Appellant reiterated his request for digital image of the entire manuscript. The representative of the Respondents stated that only 30% of the above manuscript can be provided and added that this is in keeping with the normal practice followed by the Respondents as well as other museums. On being asked to explain the logic of providing only 30% of the manuscript, he was unable to make any submission, except for stating that it is a valuable manuscript. He was also unable to cite any order / circular of the Respondents or any other authority, as per which only 30% of manuscript can be provided to a scholar.

2. The Appellant stated that since he has sought the information under the RTI Act, it can be denied only if any provision of Section 8 or 9 of the Act is applicable. He claimed that the other libraries are not following the same practice and reiterated that he does not need the photocopy, but only the digital copy of the manuscript.

3. Since, as stated above, the representative of the Respondents was unable to cite any circular / instructions in the matter or explain the logic of providing only 30% of the manuscript, we adjourn this matter to be heard again on **21st February 2017 at 11.00 a.m.** through video-conferencing. In response to our query, the representative of the Respondents stated that Ms. Shefali Shah, JS, Ministry of Commerce is the acting Director of the Salarjung Museum and Shri Nagender Reddy is

the Joint Director and is based in Hyderabad. In view of the foregoing, we direct Shri Nagender Reddy, Joint Director to be either present in person during the next hearing on 21.2.2017 or be represented by a sufficiently senior officer of the Respondents, who can explain their policy on the issue under consideration and the rationale behind it. The venue for video-conferencing for the hearing on 21.2.2017 will be as follows:-

For the Appellant and the Respondents

NIC District Centre, Ground Floor,
Collectorate Office, Lakdi Ka Pool,
Rangareddy District, Hyderabad - 500004

(Contact Officer: Shri P. Kistappa (Scientist-C & DIO) contact No.: 040 - 23240153)

5. Copies of this order be given free of cost to the parties.

Sd/-
(Sharat Sabharwal)
Information Commissioner

Copy to: Ms. Shefali Shah, JS,
Ministry of Culture,
334-C, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi

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.

(Vijay Bhalla)
Deputy Registrar