

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
2nd Floor, 'B' Wing, August Kranti Bhawan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi -110066
Tel : +91-11-26186535

Appeal No. CIC/SA/A/2016/001530

Appellant: Ram Chandra Biswas
Ground Floor, Flat No. 2, 27/2 Buxarah Road,
Howrah-711110 West Bengal

Respondent: Central Public Information Officer
(Link), Dy. Legal Adviser, M/o Law & Justice, Deptt.
of Legal Affairs, Judicial Section, Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi.

Date of Hearing: 16.05.2017
Dated of Decision: 16.05.2017

ORDER

Facts:

1. The appellant filed RTI application dated 14.12.2015 seeking information regarding empanelment of counsels (name mentioned in the RTI application) of Calcutta High Court and CAT in violation of O.M. No. 44 (02)/2010 dated 17.03.2010 etc.
2. The CPIO responded on 17.02.2016 that the sought for information is in nature of query and not covered in the definition of 'information' under section 2(f) of the RTI Act. The appellant filed first appeal on 18.03.2016 with First Appellate Authority (FAA). The FAA responded on 09.05.2016 and upheld the decision of the CPIO. The appellant filed second appeal on before the Commission on 03.05.2016 the ground that information should be provided to him.

Hearing:

3. The appellant did not participate in the hearing. The respondent participated in the hearing through VC.

4. The respondent stated that the appellant has been informed that Central Government Counsels are engaged on the recommendation of the concerned Law Officer/ Asstt. Solicitor General & on the basis of their experience, professional competence, interest, reputation and standing at Bar etc. The respondent stated that at present, no rules exist with regard to empanelment of the counsels.

Discussion/ observation:

5. The Commission observed that the reply should have been given pointwise to the appellant.

Decision:

6. The respondent is directed to give pointwise reply to the appellant within 15 days of this order.

The appeal is disposed of. Copy of the order be given to the parties free of cost.

(Radha Krishna Mathur)
Chief Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy
(S.C. Sharma)
Dy. Registrar