

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

Appeal No. CIC/VS/A/2014/003459/MOEAF

Appellant: Mr. Hardik Mehta
C/o Hardik Traders,
Jay Mataji Chowk.
Bhachau- Kutchi- 370140
Gujarat

Respondent: Central Public Information Officer
M/o External Affairs,
Passport Office.
Opp. LD Engg. College Hostel Gulbai Tekra,
Ahmedabad- 380006.

Date of Hearing: 16.02.2017

Dated of Decision: 16.02.2017

ORDER

Facts:

1. The appellant filed RTI application dated 23.05.2014 seeking as to whether is it mandatory for all applicants to furnish marriage certificate or affidavit with joint photograph of both husband and wife with their signature; whether in case change of surname, publication of name in official gazette of Gujarat is a valid document for passport application etc.
2. The CPIO responded on 01.08.2014. The appellant filed first appeal dated 01.09.2014. The FAA responded on 30.09.2014. The appellant filed second appeal on 03.11.2014 before the Commission on the ground that information should be provided to him.

Hearing:

3. The respondent participated in the hearing through his counsel in person. The appellant did not participate in the hearing.

4. The respondent stated that birth and marriage certificate is mandatory for the passport application as per directive of Supreme Court of India. The respondent further stated that information has been duly supplied to the appellant though not point wise.

Discussion/ observation:

5. The respondent has not furnished categorical reply to the appellant as far as point no. 2 and 4 of the RTI application is concerned. Point no. 2, it has not been informed whether rules permit intimation of affidavit for marriage instead of marriage certificate. In point no. 4, similar query has been made about birth certificate. The respondent shall furnish the reply clearly giving the rule position.

Decision:

6. The respondent is directed to provide a reply as per para 5 above to the appellant within a period of three weeks.

7. 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