

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
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File No. CIC/BS/A/2014/000290/7127
04 March 2015

Relevant Facts emerging from the Appeal:

Appellant : Mr. Jitendra Anandrao Chauhan
Prisoner No. C/6139, Circle – ¾,
Kolhapur Central Prison, Kalba,
Ta: Karvir, District: Kolhapur - 416007

Respondent : CPIO & Director (Mail Business)
Department of Posts
Dak Bhawan,
Sansad Marg,
New Delhi – 110001

The Secretary,
Department of Posts,
Dak Bhavan,
Parliament Street,
New Delhi – 110001

RTI application filed on : 24/09/2013
PIO replied on : 07/10/2013
First appeal filed on : 21/11/2013
First Appellate Authority order : 02/12/2013
Second Appeal dated : 11/01/2014

Information sought:-

Provide PIN code list of All India States, Cities, Districts and villages i.e. All India PIN Code Directory.

Grounds for the Second Appeal:

The CPIO has not provided the desired information.

Relevant Facts emerging during Hearing:

The following were present

Appellant: Mr. Jitendra Anandrao Chauhan through VC

Respondent: Mr. M B Gajbhiye CPIO

The CPIO stated that the appellant has asked for PIN code directory but the information is displayed on India Post website and can easily be accessed by any person. He informed that they have stopped printing the directory. The appellant argued that he is a poor person who is lodged in jail and has no access to computers. He further stated that great hardship is being faced by him and other prisoners as many times the letters mailed by them are returned undelivered for

want of PIN code. He vehemently pleaded that poor prisoners have no means for communicating with their family other than letters.

Decision notice:

The CPIO is directed to provide a printout of the PIN code directory to the appellant, free of cost, within 30 days from the date of the receipt of this order.

The appellant has submitted that poor prisoners face great hardship in sending letters to their family members as they have no access to the PIN code directory displayed on India Post website. This is, therefore, a humanitarian issue concerning larger public interest since the prisoners face hardship in communicating with their families. Hence, the Department of Post is requested to look into the issue and take appropriate steps to provide access to PIN code to prisoners lodged in various jails.

The appeal is disposed of accordingly.

BASANT SETH
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy:

(R. L. Gupta)
Dy. Registrar/Designated Officer