

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Decision No. CIC/SM/A/2010/001467/SG/14430
Appeal No. CIC/SM/A/2010/001467/SG

Relevant facts emerging from the Appeal:

Appellant : Mrs. Mary V . Abraham
P R A- 323, Paruthikinnu,
Engineering college- P.O
Trivandrum, Kerela - 695016

Respondent : Mr. S. Satish
PIO & Director
ISRO-Department of Space
Antariksh Bhawan,
New Bel Road, Bangalore-94

RTI application filed on : 28/06/2010
PIO replied on : 27/06/2010
First Appeal filed on : 05/05/2010
First Appellate Authority order on : Not mentioned.
Second Appeal received on : 12/10/2010

Sl.	Information Sought	Reply of PIO
1.	Please provide the minutes of the 87 th ISRO Council meeting. Which discussed about Para-Medical Staff for bringing them at par with the career availability of Diploma/ITI holders?	Concerned PIO replied that the required information has been exempted under the RTI Act. Hence the information cannot be furnished.

Grounds for the First Appeal:

PIO did not provide the requisite information.

Order of the First Appellate Authority (FAA):

No response had been provided by FAA.

Ground of the Second Appeal:

Information furnished by the PIO was not satisfactory and there was no response to the first appeal.

Relevant Facts emerging during Hearing:

The following were present

Appellant: Mrs. Mary V . Abraham on video conference from NIC-Thiruvananthapuram Studio;

Respondent Mr. S. Satish, PIO & Director on video conference from NIC-Bengaluru Studio;

The PIO claimed exemption from giving the complete minutes of the meeting of the ISRO Council explain that the minutes would contain discussions about strategic matters and hence disclosing this would be exempt under Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act. Given the nature of work done by ISRO the Commission did see the validity of the exemption claimed by the PIO. The Appellant however pointed out that he was only interested in getting he part relating to the discussion about the para-medical staff. The PIO admitted that there was some discussion which had been mentioned in the minutes of the meeting. No exemption can be claimed for this part of the minutes of the meeting.

Section-10 (1) of the RTI Act state, “Where a request for access to information is rejected on the ground that it is in relation to information which is exempt from disclosure, then, notwithstanding anything contained in this Act, access may be provided to that part of the record which does not contain any information which is exempt from disclosure under this Act and which can reasonably be severed from any part that contains exempt information.” Thus it is possible to sever the information which is exempt from disclosure and give only the part that can be disclosed. The Commission therefore directs the PIO sever the rest of the information and only provide information relating to the discussion about the para-medical staff from the minutes 87th ISRO Council.

Decision:

The Appeal is allowed.

The PIO is directed to provide the information as directed above regarding Para-Medical Staff from the Minutes of the 87th ISRO Council Meeting to the Appellant before 25 September 2011.

This decision is announced in open chamber.

Notice of this decision be given free of cost to the parties.

Any information in compliance with this Order will be provided free of cost as per Section 7(6) of RTI Act.

Shailesh Gandhi
Information Commissioner
06 September 2011

(In any correspondence on this decision, mention the complete decision number. (AM))