

Central Information Commission, New Delhi
File No.CIC/SM/A/2012/001924
Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)

Date of hearing : **8 May 2013**

Date of decision : **8 May 2013**

Name of the Appellant : **Sh. S Kumar Minz,**
Radhey Shyam Vihar Colony, Gali No. 4,
Murad Nagar, Ghaziabad-201001

Name of the Public Authority : **Central Public Information Officer,**
All India Radio,
EE(E), CCW, AIR, Doordarshan Complex,
Frozen Road, Patna

The Appellant was not present in spite of notice.

On behalf of the Respondent, Shri Madhav Rao, PIO was present.

Chief Information Commissioner : **Shri Satyananda Mishra**

2. We heard the submissions of the Respondent.

3. In his RTI application, the Appellant had sought the copies of the transfer TA bill of Sri MM Rao as well as the receipt for the rent for the month of May 2012 for his residence. He had also wanted the details of the house rent and transport allowance paid to this officer. Instead of sending the information, the CPIO had asked him to send a proof of his identity and address but the envelope containing this letter was returned by the postal authorities with the

remarks that the addressee was not found. The Appellant had preferred an appeal in the meanwhile complaining that he had received no information. The Appellate Authority had directed that the matter be looked into and the information sent.

4. The Respondent submitted that the CPIO had doubts that it was a pseudonymous RTI application and, therefore, he had asked the Appellant for the proof of his identity and address. According to him, his doubts were confirmed when the envelope containing the letter was returned undelivered. Even so, in our opinion, there is no need for the CPIO to ask for any proof of identity or address. As long as there is a name and address on an RTI application, it should be presumed that the information seeker exists at that particular address. Subsection 2 of section 6 of the Right to Information (RTI) Act clearly mandates that the information seeker should not be asked to provide any detail about himself other than his address. We hope the CPIO shall keep this in mind in future.

5. As far as the present application is concerned, we are of the view that the CPIO must send the desired information at the address mentioned in the RTI application irrespective of whether it is delivered there or returned. Therefore, we direct the CPIO to send the copies of all the relevant documents to the Appellant within 10 working days of receiving this order at the same address as mentioned in the RTI application.

6. The appeal is disposed of accordingly.

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

(Satyananda Mishra)
Chief Information Commissioner

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