

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION

Appeal No.2972/ICPB/2008

F. No. PBA/2008/00722

October 27, 2008

In the matter of Right to Information Act, 2005 – Section 19

[Hearing on 15.10.2008 at 5.30 p.m.]

Appellant: Ms. Alpana Bansal

Public authority: Ministry of Culture
Mr. B.M. Mallapa, Director & CPIO
Mr. N.C. Goyal, JS & Appellate Authority

Parties Present: For Respondent:
Mr. N.C. Goel, JS
Mr. Pravin Agrawal, Dy. Secretary
Mr. B.M. Mallappa, LIO

Ms. Alpana Bansal-Appellant
Mr. Pramod Bansal

FACTS:

The appellant has requested some information under RTI Act by her letter dated 29.11.2007 addressed to Director (Libraries) & CPIO, New Delhi pertaining to library staffing norms on the recommendations of the 5th Pay Commission. This particular application has been tossed between various officials in the Culture Ministry and the appellant has also filed appeal on 22.01.2008 and the appeal has also been not handled by the designated first AA. On account of this the appellant approached the Commission on 9.5.2008. Comments were called for vide letter dated 15.7.2008, which was received on 24.07.2008. This case was taken up for hearing on 15.10.2008, which was attended by Joint Secretary accompanied by the concerned officers. The appellant also attended the hearing in person accompanied by his companion.

DECISION:

2. I have gone through the RTI application as well as replies received in this connection. The appellant is working as Library staff in Category-II Library in the Power Ministry. She has requested certain information since as per the 5th Pay Commission report, Ministry of Culture has been asked to evolve a staffing scheme in respect of libraries and 5th Pay Commission has also given a recommendation that till such time norms are followed there should be a skeleton staff to be provided according to the status of the library. During the hearing it was not possible to get any information from the CPIO or the AA regarding efforts

taken by the Culture Ministry in evolving the staffing norm. The Culture Ministry during the hearing has submitted that the LIO, Formerly In-charge CSL of Central Secretariat Library by his letter dated 15.10.2008 has written to this Commission regarding this issue. The PIO has been directed to forward a copy of this letter to the appellant and he shall also provide the particulars of the first AA to the appellant. The Joint Secretary who attended the hearing may not be the in-charge of libraries, still he has undertaken the responsibility of going through this reply to the satisfaction of the Commission and he has also come forward to take up the follow-up action in respect of evolving staffing norms for the library as a whole. The Culture Ministry has assured the Commission that they would be submitting their reply to appellant and to the Commission within 15 days from the date of receipt of this decision. On the above lines, the appeal is disposed of.

Let a copy of this decision be sent to the appellant and CPIO.

Sd/-
(Padma Balasubramanian)
Central Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy :

(Prem Singh Sagar)
Under Secretary & Assistant Registrar

Address of parties :

1. Mr. B.M. Mallapa, Director & CPIO, Ministry of Culture, G-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
2. Mr. N.C. Goyal, JS & Appellate Authority, Ministry of Culture, G-Wing, Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi-110001
3. Ms. Alpana Bansal, R/o A-39, Moti Bagh-I, New Delhi.