

SENIOR CITIZEN : PRIORITY HEARING REQUESTED
INDEX FOR APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19(3) OF RTI ACT
AGAINST UNION MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (MEA) & NAI

Copies of documents submitted in duplicate

RTI petition dated 22.02.2013
MEA (UNP) CPIO's response dated 07.03.2013
First appeal at MEA (UNP) dated 16.03.2013
Appeal order MEA (UNP) dated 16.04.2013
MEA (Protocol) CPIO's response dated 22.03.2013
First appeal at MEA (Protocol) dated 06.04.2013
Appeal-order MEA (Protocol) dated 30.04.2013
CPIO (NAI) response dated 18.03.2013
First Appeal (NAI) dated 22.03.2013
Appeal-order (NAI) dated 09.04.2013
News-report dated 28.09.2010 from Telegraph (UK)
Second appeal dated 10.05.2013

SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba, Chandni Chowk

DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashmadhu.com

10.05.2013

SENIOR CITIZEN : PRIORITY HEARING REQUESTED
BEFORE HONOURABLE CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19(3) OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Petitioner

Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775 Kucha Lattushah, Dariba
Chandni Chowk, Delhi-110006

Respondents

Dr Aman Puri
Deputy Chief of Protocol (C) & CPIO
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
South Block, New Delhi-110011

Ms Ruchira Kamboj
Chief of protocol & Appellate Authority
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
South Block, New Delhi-110011

Shri S Gopalakrishnan
Director (UNP) & CPIO
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
Room # 270A, South Block
New Delhi-110011

Shri Sanjay Rana
Director (UNP) & Appellate Authority
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
South Block, New Delhi-110011

Ms Jayaprabha Ravindran
Assistant Director of Archives & CPIO
National archives of India (NAI)
Janpath, New Delhi-110001
&

Dr Ansarul Haque
Deputy Director of Archives & Appellate Authority
National Archives of India (NAI)
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Brief Facts & Prayer

I vide my RTI petition dated 22.02.2013 addressed at Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) sought complete information together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on under-mentioned aspects also relating to news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM' (TOI 21.02.2013) and my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013:

1. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on each aspect of my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013) either by MEA and/or any other public-authority where my said submissions might have been forwarded
2. Complete information on matters discussed with British Prime minister David Cameron during his last visit to India in February 2013 enclosing also copy of any joint-declaration/press-release etc issued after his visit
3. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on Indian government taking up matter of return of 'Kohinoor' diamond and/or other items taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence

4. List of items on record which were taken by erstwhile British rulers taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence mentioning also list of items claimed by Indian government; Please indicate values of all such items mentioning also value-date
5. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations enclosing also norms/charter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations
6. Complete information on controversy on protocol having been followed during CWG-2010 held at New Delhi on importance given to representative of British monarchy and President of India as also reported in media at that time
7. Complete information on status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has some special status
8. Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain
9. Any other related information
10. File-notings on movement of this RTI petition

CPIO at UNP Division of MEA vide response U.II/551/01/2013 dated 07.03.2013 in response to query (5) of RTI petition replied that no information on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations is available with UNP Division. But since such an important and basic information must lie at any of MEA departments and/or other concerned public-authorities like may be National Archives of India (NAI), I filed my first appeal dated 16.03.2013. I appreciate sincere efforts made by the Appellate Authority to trace the information but he ultimately could not trace the required documents as per order dated 16.04.2013. I appeal that MEA, NAI and/or any other concerned public-authority may kindly be directed to provide information sought under query (5) together with sought and related documents but now to be provided free-of-cost under section 7(6) of RTI Act. I also appeal for re-visit of query-numbers (7) and (8) in view of enclosures provided by the Appellate Authority in respect of query (5) where it is now clear that Britain has some special status on other nations of Commonwealth group.

CPIO at MEA (Protocol Division) declined information on query (6) as exempted under section 8(1)(a) of RTI Act. I filed my first appeal dated 06.04.2013 which was responded with a satisfactory reply No. DI/551/18/2012 dated 30.04.2012 but without any sought and related documents. I appeal MEA (Protocol Division) may kindly be directed to provide all related and sought documents in response to query (6) but with documents now to be provided free-of-cost under section 7(6) of RTI Act. Query is of utmost public and national interest where even British newspapers like Telegraph dated 28.09.2010 prominently mentioned about bitterness created on protocol to be observed in Opening Ceremony of CWG-2010 on issue of comparative prominence given to Queen's representative (Prince of Wales) and President of India.

My petition was also transferred to National Archives of India (NAI) for query-numbers (3) & (4). But the CPIO at NAI vide letter dated 18.03.2013, declined information as providing information would involve some research-work. I filed my first appeal dated 22.03.2013 which was dismissed vide an order dated 09.04.2013. If having knowledge of relevant file at a public-authority by CPIO is some research-work, then no public-authority can ever respond to even a single query of any RTI petition! After all MEA transferred petition to NAI after due consideration, and files in which information may exist can only known to NAI and not the petitioners. CPIO's response cannot be more irrelevant if he/she requires petitioner to know file-number at NAI where information may exist. Queries of this RTI petition are of great public-importance. I appeal that NIA may kindly be directed to provide information on query-numbers (3) and (4) with sought and related documents now to be provided free-of-cost under section 7(6) of RTI Act. In case sought information does not exist at NIA, it should be mentioned specifically, and in such a case my RTI petition may kindly be directed to be transferred and/or reverted back to concerned public-authority. It is prayed accordingly.

I once again endorse my note of appreciation for MEA for their sincere efforts to respond to my various queries despite points raised in this appeal.

Humbly submitted

SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

10.05.2013

Verification

I, Subhash Chandra Agrawal s/o late Shri Om Prakash and resident of 1775, Kucha Lattushah, Dariba, Delhi-110006 verify that the facts mentioned in my this appeal are correct to best of my knowledge.

SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

10.05.2013

Copies enclosed:

RTI petition dated 22.02.2013

MEA (UNP) CPIO's response dated 07.03.2013

First appeal at MEA (UNP) dated 16.03.2013

Appeal order MEA (UNP) dated 16.04.2013

MEA (Protocol) CPIO's response dated 22.03.2013

First appeal at MEA (Protocol) dated 06.04.2013

Appeal-order MEA (Protocol) dated 30.04.2013

CPIO (NAI) response dated 18.03.2013

First Appeal (NAI) dated 22.03.2013

Appeal-order (NAI) dated 09.04.2013

News-report dated 28.09.2010 from Telegraph (UK)

Commonwealth Games 2010: Prince Charles and Pratibha Patil to share ceremonial duties

The Prince of Wales will formally announce the Commonwealth Games in Delhi to be "open", but the Indian president, Pratibha Patil, will welcome athletes and then declare the Games "to begin" after a diplomatic row threatened to engulf Sunday's opening ceremony.

The Indian government has been keen to have a prominent role in the Games ever since the Head of the Commonwealth, the Queen, announced that she would not be attending, and instead sending the Prince as her representative.

A statement from Clarence House made clear that the Prince would declare the Games open, but Indian media continued to report the elevated status of the president.

"Both the Prince of Wales and the President of India will have a prominent role in the opening ceremony in Delhi," a Clarence House spokeswoman said.

"The Prince will read out the Queen's baton message, ending by declaring the Games open."

But Indian sources say it has taken several months to determine the two forms of opening and beginning the Games to satisfy protocol demands from both countries.

Ruchira Kamboj
Chief of Protocol



Time Bound/RTI Matter

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

No. DI/551/18/2012

Dated: April 30, 2013

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal,
1775, Kucha Lattushah,
Dariba, Chandni Chowk,
New Delhi – 110006 (India)

Subject: Decision on appeal under Right to Information Act, 2005

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application dated 22.01.2013 and First Appeal dated April 06, 2013.

2. Reply with respect to point 6 is as follows:

According to the Commonwealth Games Federation Guidelines, Commonwealth Games have to be opened by the Queen of England being Head of the Commonwealth, or her representative. As the event was being held in India and the Queen of England was not visiting India to inaugurate the Games, HRH Prince of Wales was nominated to open the Games on her behalf; therefore, after due deliberations, it was decided that it would be appropriate if the Games were jointly opened by the President of India being the Head of State and HRH the Prince of Wales.

Thus, HRH Prince of Wales had delivered the Queen's Message from within the Queen's Baton, ending by declaring the Games open. Then, finally President of India had delivered her address on the occasion and ended her speech signaling formal commencement of the games saying ' Let the Games Begin'.

3. The present appeal is being disposed off.

Yours faithfully,

(Ruchira Kamboj)
Chief of Protocol/

First Appellate Authority

Separate copies to:

- (i) Dr. Aman Puri, Deputy Chief of Protocol (C)/CPIO
- (ii) Shri Tanuj Shankar, US (RTI)/RTI Cell

FIRST APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Smt Ruchira Kamboj
Chief of Protocol & Appellate Authority
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
South Block, New Delhi-110011

Sir

I vide my RTI petition dated 22.01.2013 addressed at Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) sought complete information together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on under-mentioned aspects also relating to news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM' (TOI 21.02.2013) and my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013:

1. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on each aspect of my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013) either by MEA and/or any other public-authority where my said submissions might have been forwarded
2. Complete information on matters discussed with British Prime minister David Cameron during his last visit to India in February 2013 enclosing also copy of any joint-declaration/press-release etc issued after his visit
3. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on Indian government taking up matter of return of 'Kohinoor' diamond and/or other items taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence
4. List of items on record which were taken by erstwhile British rulers taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence mentioning also list of items claimed by Indian government; Please indicate values of all such items mentioning also value-date
5. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations enclosing also norms/chapter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations
6. Complete information on controversy on protocol having been followed during CWG-2010 held at New Delhi on importance given to representative of British monarchy and President of India as also reported in media at that time
7. Complete information on status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has some special status
8. Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain

9. Any other related information
10. File-notings on movement of this RTI petition

Learned CPIO MEA (Protocol) where petition was transferred for query-numbers (6), declined information as exempted under section 8(1)(a) of RTI Act. But provisions of section 8(1) including of its sub-section (a) are not absolute. Information sought is very well covered under provisions of section 8(2) of RTI Act which states that public-authority may allow access to information, if public interest in disclosure outweighs the harm to the protected interests. Queries of this RTI petition including query (6) clearly point out to a practical observation of erstwhile ruling Britain on sovereign member-countries of Commonwealth nations has some privileged role on all other member-nations, which is definitely disgraceful and should be unacceptable for prestige of other concerned nations including India. Hence a public-interest is definitely involved in query (6) thus sought information covered under provisions of section 8(2).

Otherwise also aspect referred in query (6) was prominently highlighted during infamous CWG-2010. Therefore providing information will clear misgivings if any on the aspect thereby making the information in public-interest. Various CIC-verdicts require information to be provided if the aspect is highlighted by media. *Honourable Mr Justice S Ravindra Bhat of Delhi High Court in the matter "Bhagat Singh Vs. CIC (W.P.(C) No.3114/2007)" has held that the Right to Information Act being a right based enactment is akin to a welfare measure and as such should receive liberal interpretation.*

I appeal that learned CPIO may kindly be directed to provide information on query-numbers (6) with sought and related documents now to be provided free-of-cost under section 7(6) of RTI Act.. It is prayed accordingly.

Humbly submitted



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba, Chandni Chowk

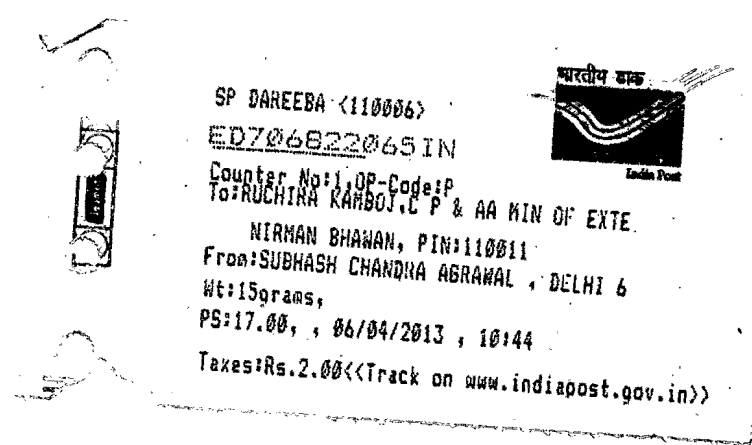
DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashinadhu.com

06.04.2013



359
22/3/2013

Right to Information

MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

South Block
New Delhi-110011

No. DI/551/18/2012

Dated: March 22, 2013

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775, Kucha Lattushah
Dariba, Chandni Chowk
Delhi 110006 (India)

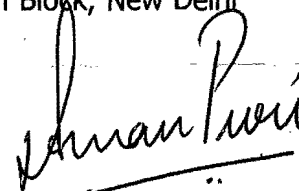
Subject: Information sought under Right to Information Act, 2005

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application dated 21/02/2013 (received on 25/02/2013).

2. It may be stated that information sought under point (6) falls under the category of information, disclosure of which would prejudicially affect relations with foreign State, and therefore attracts proviso to the Section 8(1)(a) of the RTI Act, 2005.

3. If you are aggrieved with this reply, you may file an appeal to Smt. Ruchira Kamboj, Chief of Protocol & Appellate Authority, Ministry of External Affairs, South Block, New Delhi within a month from the date of receipt of this letter.



(Dr. Aman Puri)

Deputy Chief of Protocol (C)/CPIO

Separate copies to:

- (i) Smt. Ruchira Kamboj, Chief of Protocol & Appellate Authority
- (ii) Shri Sandeep Sood, US (RTI)/RTI Cell



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Sanjay Rana
Director (UNP)
and Appellate Authority
Tel: 011-23013036
Fax: 011-23010286
E-Mail: dirunp@mea.gov.in

Time Bound / RTI Matter

No: U.II/551/01/2013

Dated: 16 April, 2013

Subject: First Appeal filed under section 19(1) of RTI Act, 2005 by
Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal of Delhi

The Applicant had filed an RTI application dated 22.01.2013 with the Ministry of External Affairs seeking, *inter alia*, information regarding correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations. The concerned CPIO of the Ministry had forwarded the part (5), (7) and (8) of the RTI application to the UNP Division of the Ministry which deals with the issues related to India's membership of the Commonwealth. The CPIO of the UNP Division received the RTI application on 26.02.2013 and responded to the appellant vide letter No. U.II/551/01/2013 dated 07.03.2013 with information available in the Division.

2. The Applicant has now filed the First appeal dated 16.03.2013 with the undersigned which was received on 19.03.2013. In his appeal, the Applicant has submitted that :

"Learned CPIO at UNP Division of MEA vide a much delayed response U.II155 110112013 dated 07.03.2013 in response to query (5) of RTI petition surprisingly replied that no information on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations is available with UNP Division. But such an important and basic information must lie at any of MEA departments and/or other concerned public-authorities like may be National Archives of India (NAI). Learned CPIO may kindly be directed to speak in clear terms if such information is not available with any division of MEA if it is so. I appeal that my RTI petition may kindly be directed to transfer to any concerned division of MEA and/or public-authority concerned for this part of query (5) of my RTI petition. I appeal that learned CPIO may kindly be directed to

re-visit query-numbers (7) and (8) because his reply seems to contradict practical realities also when Britain did get a special status during Commonwealth Games 2010 held at New Delhi. Even the awaited reply to query (5) when responded may perhaps reveal real picture in this regard. It is prayed accordingly."

3. On receipt of the present appeal, details were sought from the concerned CPIO about the extent to which information sought by the RTI Applicant is available and the efforts made to locate the information and the documents. The undersigned also appraised the efforts made by CPIO to access the correspondence/file-notings/documents etc. sought by the Applicant. CPIO briefed the undersigned about the efforts made to locate the correspondence/file-notings/documents in the records of the UNP Division and the Europe West Division, the two Divisions in the Ministry of External Affairs which have dealt with the Commonwealth Affairs. Enquiries were also made with the High commission of India in London to locate the relevant records and documents. However, these efforts did not yield the correspondence/file-notings/documents etc dating back to India joining the Commonwealth in 1949 as sought by the applicant. Further, no information was found as to where such records/documents might be located.

4. Efforts were also made to find information on this subject available in the public domain. It was found that a copy of "The London Declaration" dated 26 April 1949 which led to the establishment of the modern Commonwealth is available at the website of the Commonwealth Secretariat. This document provides the rationale for India continuing to be a member of the Commonwealth even after becoming a Republic. As informed by CPIO in his reply dated 7.03.2013, the Charter of the Commonwealth (adopted in December 2012) is also available at this website (www.thecommonwealth.org). Copies of the London Declaration and the Charter of the Commonwealth taken from the Commonwealth website are **enclosed** for information of the applicant.

5. After due consideration of the appeal and on basis of the above-mentioned efforts, it is conveyed that:

(i) With respect to part (5) of the RTI application, Copies of the London Declaration and the Charter of the Commonwealth are being provided with this letter. However, as informed by the CPIO earlier, the correspondence/file-notings/documents etc dating back to 1949 when India joined the modern Commonwealth are not available with the UNP Division and, to the best of our knowledge, with the Ministry of External Affairs. No

information was found in the Ministry's records as to which other public authority could possibly have these correspondence/file-notings/documents sought by applicant.

(ii) With respect to part (7) and (8) of the RTI application, information available with this Division has already been provided by the CPIO to the applicant. It would also be seen from the "London Declaration" enclosed with this letter that all members named therein declared that they "remain united as free and equal members of the Commonwealth of Nations."

6. No further action is called for on this application and the appeal is disposed of accordingly.



(Sanjay Rana)

Director (UNP)

and the Appellate Authority for UNP Division, MEA

Encl: As above

**Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal,
1775 Kucha Lattushah,
Dariba, Chandini Chowk,
Delhi-110006**

Copy to: Shri Manish Chauhan, Director (RTI), MEA

The London Declaration

The Governments of the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan and Ceylon, whose countries are united as Members of the British Commonwealth of Nations and owe a common allegiance to the Crown, which is also the symbol of their free association, have considered the impending constitutional changes in India.

The Government of India have informed the other Governments of the Commonwealth of the intention of the Indian people that under the new constitution which is about to be adopted India shall become a sovereign independent republic. The Government of India have however declared and affirmed India's desire to continue her full membership of the Commonwealth of Nations and her acceptance of The King as the symbol of the free association of its independent member nations and as such the Head of the Commonwealth.

The Governments of the other countries of the Commonwealth, the basis of whose membership of the Commonwealth is not hereby changed, accept and recognise India's continuing membership in accordance with the terms of this declaration.

Accordingly the United Kingdom, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, India, Pakistan and Ceylon hereby declare that they remain united as free and equal members of the Commonwealth of Nations, freely co-operating in the pursuit of peace, liberty and progress.

26 April 1949

Charter of the Commonwealth

We the people of the Commonwealth:

Recognising that in an era of changing economic circumstances and uncertainty, new trade and economic patterns, unprecedented threats to peace and security, and a surge in popular demands for democracy, human rights and broadened economic opportunities, the potential of and need for the Commonwealth – as a compelling force for good and as an effective network for co-operation and for promoting development – has never been greater,

Recalling that the Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent and equal sovereign states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the common interests of our peoples and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace, and influencing international society to the benefit of all through the pursuit of common principles and values,

Affirming that the special strength of the Commonwealth lies in the combination of our diversity and our shared inheritance in language, culture and the rule of law; and bound together by shared history and tradition; by respect for all states and peoples; by shared values and principles and by concern for the vulnerable,

Affirming that the Commonwealth way is to seek consensus through consultation and the sharing of experience, especially through practical co-operation, and further affirming that the Commonwealth is uniquely placed to serve as a model and as a catalyst for new forms of friendship and co-operation in the spirit of the Charter of the United Nations,

Affirming the role of the Commonwealth as a recognised intergovernmental champion of small states, advocating for their special needs; providing policy advice on political, economic and social development issues; and delivering technical assistance,

Welcoming the valuable contribution of the network of the many intergovernmental, parliamentary, professional and civil society bodies which support the Commonwealth and which subscribe and adhere to its values and principles,

Affirming the validity of and our commitment to the values and principles of the Commonwealth as defined and strengthened over the years including: the Singapore Declaration of Commonwealth Principles, the Harare Commonwealth Declaration, the Langkawi Declaration on the Environment, the Millbrook Action Programme, the Latimer House Principles, the Aberdeen Agenda, the Trinidad and Tobago Affirmation of Commonwealth Values and Principles, the Munyonyo Statement on Respect and Understanding, the Lake Victoria Commonwealth Climate Change Action Plan, the Perth Declaration on Food Security Principles, and the Commonwealth Declaration on Investing in Young People,

Affirming our core Commonwealth principles of consensus and common action, mutual respect, inclusiveness, transparency, accountability, legitimacy, and responsiveness,

Reaffirming the core values and principles of the Commonwealth as declared by this Charter:

I. DEMOCRACY

We recognise the inalienable right of individuals to participate in democratic processes, in particular through free and fair elections in shaping the society in which they live. Governments, political parties and civil society are responsible for upholding and promoting democratic culture and practices and are accountable to the public in this regard. Parliaments and representative local governments and other forms of local governance are essential elements in the exercise of democratic governance.

We support the role of the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group to address promptly and effectively all instances of serious or persistent violations of Commonwealth values without any fear or favour.

II. HUMAN RIGHTS

We are committed to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant human rights covenants and international instruments. We are committed to equality and respect for the protection and promotion of civil, political, economic, social and cultural rights, including the right to development, for all without discrimination on any grounds as the foundations of peaceful, just and stable societies. We note that these rights are universal, indivisible, interdependent and interrelated and cannot be implemented selectively.

We are implacably opposed to all forms of discrimination, whether rooted in gender, race, colour, creed, political belief or other grounds.

III. INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY

We firmly believe that international peace and security, sustainable economic growth and development and the rule of law are essential to the progress and prosperity of all. We are committed to an effective multilateral system based on inclusiveness, equity, justice and international law as the best foundation for achieving consensus and progress on major global challenges including piracy and terrorism.

We support international efforts for peace and disarmament at the United Nations and other multilateral institutions. We will contribute to the promotion of international consensus on major global political, economic and social issues. We will be guided by our commitment to the security, development and prosperity of every member state.

We reiterate our absolute condemnation of all acts of terrorism in whatever form or wherever they occur or by whomsoever perpetrated, with the consequent tragic loss of human life and severe damage to political, economic and social stability. We reaffirm our commitment to work together as a diverse community of nations, individually, and collectively under the auspices and authority of the United Nations, to take concerted and resolute action to eradicate terrorism.

IV. TOLERANCE, RESPECT AND UNDERSTANDING

We emphasise the need to promote tolerance, respect, understanding, moderation and religious freedom which are essential to the development of free and democratic societies,

and recall that respect for the dignity of all human beings is critical to promoting peace and prosperity.

We accept that diversity and understanding the richness of our multiple identities are fundamental to the Commonwealth's principles and approach.

V. FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION

We are committed to peaceful, open dialogue and the free flow of information, including through a free and responsible media, and to enhancing democratic traditions and strengthening democratic processes.

VI. SEPARATION OF POWERS

We recognise the importance of maintaining the integrity of the roles of the Legislature, Executive and Judiciary. These are the guarantors in their respective spheres of the rule of law, the promotion and protection of fundamental human rights and adherence to good governance.

VII. RULE OF LAW

We believe in the rule of law as an essential protection for the people of the Commonwealth and as an assurance of limited and accountable government. In particular we support an independent, impartial, honest and competent judiciary and recognise that an independent, effective and competent legal system is integral to upholding the rule of law, engendering public confidence and dispensing justice.

VIII. GOOD GOVERNANCE

We reiterate our commitment to promote good governance through the rule of law, to ensure transparency and accountability and to root out, both at national and international levels, systemic and systematic corruption.

IX. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

We recognise that sustainable development can help to eradicate poverty by pursuing inclusive growth whilst preserving and conserving natural ecosystems and promoting social equity.

We stress the importance of sustainable economic and social transformation to eliminate poverty and meet the basic needs of the vast majority of the people of the world and reiterate that economic and social progress enhances the sustainability of democracy.

We are committed to removing wide disparities and unequal living standards as guided by internationally agreed development goals. We are also committed to building economic resilience and promoting social equity, and we reiterate the value in technical assistance, capacity building and practical cooperation in promoting development.

We are committed to an effective, equitable, rules-based multilateral trading system, the freest possible flow of multilateral trade on terms fair and equitable to all, while taking into

account the special requirements of small states and developing countries.

We also recognise the importance of information and communication technologies as powerful instruments of development; delivering savings, efficiencies and growth in our economies, as well as promoting education, learning and the sharing of culture. We are committed to strengthening its use while enhancing its security, for the purpose of advancing our societies.

X. PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

We recognise the importance of the protection and conservation of our natural ecosystems and affirm that sustainable management of the natural environment is the key to sustained human development. We recognise the importance of multilateral cooperation, sustained commitment and collective action, in particular by addressing the adaptation and mitigation challenges of climate change and facilitating the development, diffusion and deployment of affordable environmentally friendly technologies and renewable energy, and the prevention of illicit dumping of toxic and hazardous waste as well as the prevention and mitigation of erosion and desertification.

XI. ACCESS TO HEALTH, EDUCATION, FOOD AND SHELTER

We recognise the necessity of access to affordable health care, education, clean drinking water, sanitation and housing for all citizens and emphasise the importance of promoting health and well-being in combating communicable and non-communicable diseases.

We recognise the right of everyone to have access to safe, sufficient and nutritious food, consistent with the progressive realisation of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.

XII. GENDER EQUALITY

We recognise that gender equality and women's empowerment are essential components of human development and basic human rights. The advancement of women's rights and the education of girls are critical preconditions for effective and sustainable development.

XIII. IMPORTANCE OF YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE COMMONWEALTH

We recognise the positive and active role and contributions of young people in promoting development, peace, democracy and in protecting and promoting other Commonwealth values, such as tolerance and understanding, including respect for other cultures. The future success of the Commonwealth rests with the continued commitment and contributions of young people in promoting and sustaining the Commonwealth and its values and principles, and we commit to investing in and promoting their development, particularly through the creation of opportunities for youth employment and entrepreneurship.

XIV. RECOGNITION OF THE NEEDS OF SMALL STATES

We are committed to assisting small and developing states in the Commonwealth, including the particular needs of small island developing states, in tackling their particular economic,

energy, climate change and security challenges, and in building their resilience for the future.

XV. RECOGNITION OF THE NEEDS OF VULNERABLE STATES

We are committed to collaborating to find ways to provide immediate help to the poorest and most vulnerable including least developed countries, and to develop responses to protect the people most at risk.

XVI. THE ROLE OF CIVIL SOCIETY

We recognise the important role that civil society plays in our communities and countries as partners in promoting and supporting Commonwealth values and principles, including the freedom of association and peaceful assembly, and in achieving development goals.

We are committed to ensuring that the Commonwealth is an effective association, responsive to members' needs, and capable of addressing the significant global challenges of the future.

We aspire to a Commonwealth that is a strong and respected voice in the world, speaking out on major issues; that strengthens and enlarges its networks; that has a global relevance and profile; and that is devoted to improving the lives of all peoples of the Commonwealth.

Dated this 14th day of December 2012

FIRST APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Shri Sanjay Rana, Director (UNP)
& Appellate Authority
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
Room # 40C, South block
New Delhi-110011

Sir

I vide my RTI petition dated 22.01.2013 sought complete information together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on under-mentioned aspects also relating to news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM' (TOI 21.02.2013) and my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013:

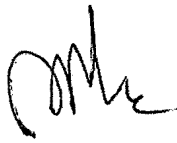
1. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on each aspect of my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013) either by MEA and/or any other public-authority where my said submissions might have been forwarded
2. Complete information on matters discussed with British Prime minister David Cameron during his last visit to India in February 2013 enclosing also copy of any joint-declaration/press-release etc issued after his visit
3. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on Indian government taking up matter of return of 'Kohinoor' diamond and/or other items taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence
4. List of items on record which were taken by erstwhile British rulers taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence mentioning also list of items claimed by Indian government; Please indicate values of all such items mentioning also value-date
5. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations enclosing also norms charter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations
6. Complete information on controversy on protocol having been followed during CWG-2010 held at New Delhi on importance given to representative of British monarchy and President of India as also reported in media at that time
7. Complete information on status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has some special status

8. Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain
9. Any other related information
10. File-notings on movement of this RTI petition

Learned CPIO at UNP Division of MEA vide a much delayed response U.II/551/01/2013 dated 07.03.2013 in response to query (5) of RTI petition surprisingly replied that no information on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations is available with UNP Division. But such an important and basic information must lie at any of MEA departments and/or other concerned public-authorities like may be National Archives of India (NAI). Learned CPIO may kindly be directed to speak in clear terms if such information is not available with any division of MEA if it is so. I appeal that my RTI petition may kindly be directed to transfer to any concerned division of MEA and/or public-authority concerned for this part of query (5) of my RTI petition.

I appeal that learned CPIO may kindly be directed to re-visit query-numbers (7) and (8) because his reply seems to contradict practical realities also when Britain did get a special status during Commonwealth Games 2010 held at New Delhi. Even the awaited reply to query (5) when responded may perhaps reveal real picture in this regard. It is prayed accordingly.

Humbly submitted



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba, Chandni Chowk

DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashmadhu.com

16.03.2013



भारतीय डाक
SP DAREEDA <110006>
ED706817587IN India Post
Counter No:1, OP-Code:P
To: SANJAY RANA, S BLOCK
NOELHI, PIN:110011
From: S C AGRAWAL, 1775 V DAREEDA KE
Wt: 20 grams,
PS: 17.00, 16/03/2013, 12:06
Faxes: Rs. 2.00 << Track on www.indiapost

Ministry of External Affairs
UNP Division

U.II/551/01/2013

Dated: 07th March, 2013

To

✓ Shri Subhash Chandra Aggarwal
1775, Kucha Lattushah
Dariba, Chandni Chowk,
Delhi 110006

Sir,

Please refer to your RTI application dated 22.01.2013 (received on 26.02.2013). The reply to points 5, 7 & 8 of the application is given as under:

- (i) **Point No. 5**, on '*correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations and norms/charter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations*':

No information on India joining Commonwealth Group is available with this Division. The Charter of Commonwealth is available in the public domain '<http://www.thecommonwealth.org/files/252053/FileName/CharteroftheCommonwealth.pdf>'.

- (ii) **Point No. 7**, on '*Status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has come special status*':

&

Point No. 8 on '*Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain*':

Contd...

Commonwealth is a voluntary association of independent and equal sovereign states, each responsible for its own policies, consulting and co-operating in the common interests of the people of member countries and in the promotion of international understanding and world peace, and influencing international society to the benefit of all through the pursuit of common principles and values; thus Britain does not have any special status among Commonwealth Group of nations.

3. With respect to the above reply, the details of the appellate authority in our Division are as under:-

Shri Sanjay Rana
Director (UNP)
Ministry of External Affairs
Room No. 40C, South Block
New Delhi-110011
Tel : 2301 3036.
Fax: 2301 0286

Yours faithfully



(S Gopala Krishnan)
Under Secretary (UNP)
Room No. 270A, South Block
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi.

Copy to:-

1. US(RTI)/CPIO w.r.t. their letter No. RTI/551/180/2013 dated 26th February, 2013 for information.

(Narayan Singh)
Attache (UNP)

F.No.63(2)-10/2013- RIII-RTI
Government of India
National Archives of India
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Dated the - 9 APR 2013

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775 Kucha-Lattushah
Dariba, Chandni Chowk
Delhi - 110 006

Subject: Appeal filed under section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005.

Sir,

This is in response to your appeal dated 22.03.2013 filed against the CPIO, NAI for not providing information wrt your RTI application dated 09.03.2012.

On examination of contents of appeal, material information and documents available on the records, it has been noted that the CPIO has informed you rightly that the information sought by you in paras 3 & 4 of your RTI application is not found available amongst the records of ministry that has transferred the application to this office.

Further, it is being clarified here that NAI is repository of the non-current records of the Government of India and its predecessor bodies which are received from different ministries/ deptt. on varied fields of interest and it may be possible that some of them may be having the cross references about the information of your interest which needs to be culled out for which you have to consult the related records as a page by page search to ascertain the relation of document with the information sought by you is not feasible u/s 7(9) of RTI Act, 2005 and the DoPT OM no. 11/2/2008, dated 10.07.2008 (copy already sent by CPIO).

The matter is disposed of on the part of the 1st Appellate Authority.

Yours faithfully,



(Dr. Ansar-ul Haque)
Deputy Director of Archives & 1st AA

2013-04-09

FIRST APPEAL UNDER SECTION 19(1) OF RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Dr Ansarul Haque

Deputy Director of Archives & Appellate Authority

National Archives of India (NIA)
Janpath, New Delhi-110001

Sir

I vide my RTI petition dated 22.01.2013 addressed at Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) sought complete information together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on under-mentioned aspects also relating to news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM' (TOI 21.02.2013) and my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013:

1. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on each aspect of my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013) either by MEA and/or any other public-authority where my said submissions might have been forwarded
2. Complete information on matters discussed with British Prime minister David Cameron during his last visit to India in February 2013 enclosing also copy of any joint-declaration/press-release etc issued after his visit
3. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on Indian government taking up matter of return of 'Kohinoor' diamond and/or other items taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence
4. List of items on record which were taken by erstwhile British rulers taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence mentioning also list of items claimed by Indian government; Please indicate values of all such items mentioning also value-date
5. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations enclosing also norms/charter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations
6. Complete information on controversy on protocol having been followed during CWG-2010 held at New Delhi on importance given to representative of British monarchy and President of India as also reported in media at that time
7. Complete information on status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has some special status

8. Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain
9. Any other related information
10. File-notings on movement of this RTI petition

Learned CPIO at NIA where petition was transferred for query-numbers (3) and (4), declined information as providing information would involve some research-work. If having knowledge of relevant file at a public-authority by CPIO is some research-work, then no public-authority can ever respond to even a single query of any RTI petition! After all MEA transferred petition to NIA after due consideration, and files in which information may exist can only known to NIA and not the petitioners. CPIO's response cannot be more irrelevant if he/she requires petitioner to know file-number at NIA where information may exist. Queries of this RTI petition are of great public-importance. I appeal that learned CPIO may kindly be directed to provide information on query-numbers (3) and (4) with sought and related documents now to be provided free-of-cost under section 7(6) of RTI Act.

In case sought information does not exist at NIA, it should be mentioned specifically, and in such a case my RTI petition may kindly be directed to be transferred and/or reverted back to concerned public-authority. It is prayed accordingly.

Humbly submitted



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

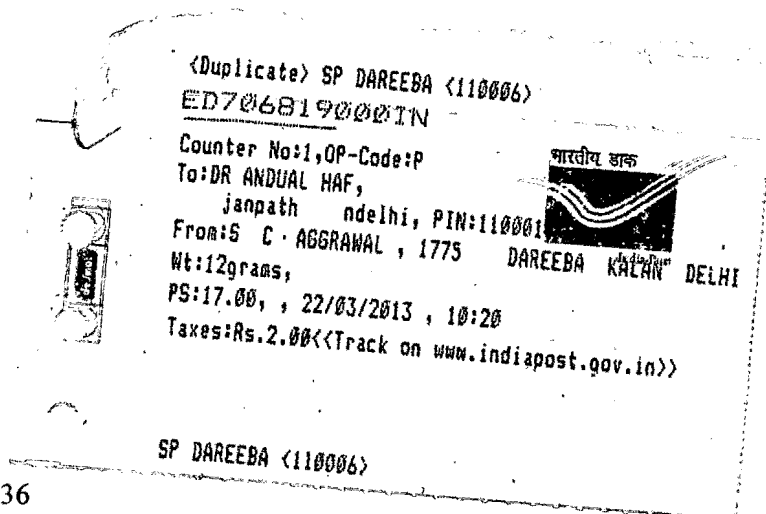
Dariba, Chandni Chowk

DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashmadhu.com



22.03.2013

F.No.63 (2)-10/2012 R III-RTI
Government of India
National Archives of India
Janpath, New Delhi-110001,

18 MAR 2013
the 18 MAR 2013

To

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775 Kucha Lattushah
Dariba, Chandni Chowk
Delhi 110006(India)

Subject: - Seeking information under RTI Act 2005

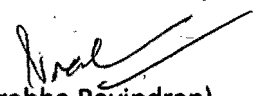
Sir,

This is with reference to your RTI application dated 22 January 2013 received in this Department on 4 March 2013 through the Ministry of External Affairs(RTI Cell). Regarding your query sought at Sl. No. 3 & 4 (which is marked for NAI/ M/O Culture) it may be conveyed that the information sought is not available among the records in the custody of this Department. It may also be conveyed that under Section 7(9) of the RTI Act, 2005 and as per Office Memorandum no.11/2/2008 – IR dated 10 July 2008 of DOPT, the duty of the CPIO is to supply the 'material' in the form as held by the public authority and is not required to do research on behalf of the citizen to deduce anything from the material and supply it to him (copy enclosed). It may also be conveyed that the records in the National Archives of India are open and accessible to citizens on completion of procedures laid down under Public Records Rules, 1997. You may browse our website for information on our record holdings and access policy.

You may appeal to the Appellate authority if dissatisfied with the answer within 30 days of receipt of this letter at the under-mentioned address:

Dr Ansarul Haque
Deputy Director of Archives & First Appellate Authority
National Archives of India
Janpath, New Delhi 110001

Yours Faithfully



(Jayaprabha Ravindran)
Assistant Director of Archives & CPIO
Ph.No.23073007

Enclosure : One

सं. 11/2/2008-आईआर

भारत सरकार

कार्मिक, लोक शिकायत तथा पेंशन मंत्रालय

कार्मिक और प्रशिक्षण विभाग

नॉर्थ ब्लॉक, नई दिल्ली

दिनांक: 10 जुलाई, 2008.

कार्यालय ज्ञापन

विषय: सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 के अंतर्गत 'सूचना' के स्वरूप के सम्बन्ध में स्पष्टीकरण ।

यह देखा गया है कि सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम, 2005 के अंतर्गत कुछ लोग लोक सूचना अधिकारियों से किसी दस्तावेज में से जानकारी ढूँढ कर उपलब्ध कराने का अनुरोध करते हैं । कुछ मामलों में, आवेदक लोक सूचना अधिकारी से अपेक्षा करते हैं कि उन्हें सूचना उनके द्वारा तैयार किए गए किसी विशेष प्रपत्र में दी जाए । ऐसी मांग को वे धारा 7 की उपधारा (9), जिसमें यह प्रावधान किया गया है कि जानकारी सामान्यतः उस रूप में दी जाएगी जिस रूप में मांगी गई है, के आधार पर अपना अधिकार मानते हैं । यह नोट करना आवश्यक है कि उक्त प्रावधान का मतलब सिर्फ इतना भर है कि यदि जानकारी छायाप्रति के रूप में मांगी गई है तो यह छाया प्रति के रूप में मुहैया कराई जाए और यदि यह फ्लॉपी के रूप में मांगी जाती है तो अधिनियम में दी गई शर्तों के अधीन इसे फ्लॉपी के रूप में मुहैया कराया जाए इत्यादि । इसका अर्थ यह नहीं है कि लोक सूचना अधिकारी सूचना को नया रूप प्रदान कर उसे आवेदक को मुहैया कराएगा ।

2. अधिनियम की धारा 2(च) के अनुसार 'सूचना' का अर्थ 'किसी भी रूप में कोई भी सामग्री' है । उक्त अधिनियम के अंतर्गत नागरिक को लोक प्राधिकरण से ऐसी 'सामग्री' प्राप्त करने का अधिकार है जो उस लोक प्राधिकरण के नियंत्रणाधीन है । इस अधिकार में शामिल हैं - कार्य दस्तावेजों, अभिलेखों की जांच; नोट, उद्धरण अथवा दस्तावेजों या अभिलेखों की प्रमाणित प्रतियां लेना; सामग्री के प्रमाणित नमूने लेना; डिस्कट,

फ्लॉपी, टेप, वीडियो कैसेट अथवा किसी अन्य इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मोड अथवा प्रिंट आउट के रूप में जानकारी लेना बशर्ते कि वह जानकारी कम्प्यूटर अथवा किसी अन्य यंत्र में संग्रहीत हो। 'सूचना' और 'सूचना का अधिकार' की परिभाषा का ध्यानपूर्वक अध्ययन करने से यह स्पष्ट होता है कि नागरिक को सामग्री प्राप्त करने, सामग्री का निरीक्षण करने, सामग्री से नोट लेने, सामग्री का उद्धरण अथवा प्रमाणित प्रतियां लेने, सामग्री के नमूने लेने, डिस्कट इत्यादि के रूप में सामग्री लेने का अधिकार है। लोक सूचना अधिकारी से यह अपेक्षित है कि वह आवेदक को ऐसी सामग्री भेजे जिसके लिए उसने अनुरोध किया हो। अधिनियम के अनुसार लोक सूचना अधिकारी से यह अपेक्षित नहीं है कि वह 'सामग्री' से कोई निष्कर्ष निकाले और इस प्रकार निकाले गए 'निष्कर्ष' को आवेदक को भेजे। लोक सूचना अधिकारी से यह अपेक्षित है कि वह आवेदक को 'सामग्री' उसी रूप में प्रदान करे जिस रूप में वह लोक प्राधिकरण के पास उपलब्ध है। सामग्री में से कुछ तथ्यों की खोज कर नागरिक को ऐसे खोजे गए तथ्यों को प्रदान करना लोक सूचना अधिकारी का काम नहीं है।

3. इस कार्यालय जापन की विषयवस्तु सभी सम्बन्धित अधिकारियों/कार्यालयों के ध्यान में लाई जाए।



(कृष्ण गोपाल वर्मा)

निदेशक

1. भारत सरकार के सभी मंत्रालय/विभाग।
2. संघ लोक सेवा आयोग/लोक सभा सचिवालय/राज्य सभा सचिवालय/मंत्रिमण्डल सचिवालय/केन्द्रीय सतर्कता आयोग/राष्ट्रपति सचिवालय/उपराष्ट्रपति सचिवालय/प्रधानमंत्री कार्यालय/योजना आयोग/निर्वाचन आयोग।
3. केन्द्रीय सूचना आयोग/राज्य सूचना आयोग।
4. कर्मचारी चयन आयोग, सी.जी.ओ. कॉम्प्लेक्स, नई दिल्ली।
5. भारत के नियंत्रक और महालेखा परीक्षक का कार्यालय, 10, बहादुरशाह जफर मार्ग, नई दिल्ली।
6. कार्मिक और प्रशिक्षण विभाग तथा पेंशन और पेंशनभोगी कल्याण विभाग के सभी अधिकारी/डेस्क/अनुभाग।

प्रति: सभी राज्यों/संघ राज्य क्षेत्रों के मुख्य सचिव।



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI

Time Bound/RTI Matter
By Registered Post with AD

EUROPE WEST DIVISION

No.WI(A)/551/2/2012

New Delhi, 6 March, 2013

Dear Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal,

Please refer to your RTI application dated 21 February 2013 (received from RTI Cell of Ministry of External Affairs on 27 February 2013) seeking information about the together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt. won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM'.

Transfer to Culture

2. With respect to the questions 1, 3, and 4 posed by you on the above subject, this is to inform that Europe West Division of this Ministry has no information available on them. With respect to question 2, the British Prime Minister, Mr. David Cameron visited India from 18-20, February 2013 on an official visit. India-UK talks were held in New Delhi on 19 February 2013. No agreements were signed in the presence of the two leaders. The two leaders reviewed the entire expanse of bilateral relations. A Joint Statement was issued during the visit. Detailed information, including the Joint Statement, Press release, and the transcripts of the media statement made by the two PMs can be found at the MEA website link:

[http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-](http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-info.htm?1/475/Official+Visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+UK+to+India+February+1820+2013)

[info.htm?1/475/Official+Visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+UK+to+India+February+1820+2013](http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-info.htm?1/475/Official+Visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+UK+to+India+February+1820+2013)

. In case you want a hardcopy of the Joint Statement, it runs into seven pages. A hardcopy of the transcripts of the media statement runs into four pages. A hardcopy of the press release is of 1 page. You are, therefore requested to send a cheque/Bank Draft/Postal Order of Rs. 24/- (rupees twenty four only) towards photocopying charges @ Rs.2/- per page, in the name of "POA, MEA, New Delhi" to enable us to send you the requisite information. Fees can also be deposited in cash with the RTI Cell, Ministry of External Affairs, Room No.2021, A-Wing, Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan, 23-D, Janpath, New Delhi.

3. The Appellate Authority is Ms. Nutan Kapoor Mahavar, Director (EW), Room No. 39A, South Block, New Delhi-11. Tel: 23794145; Fax: 23010176. Email:

direw@mea.gov.in and the appeal may be sent within 30 days of receipt of this communication.

Yours faithfully,



(Gaurav Ahluwalia)

Under Secretary to Government of India & CPIO

Tel: 91-11-23011261

Fax: 91-11-23016476

Email: usew1@mea.gov.in

Shri Subhas Chandra Agrawal,
1775 Kucha Lattushah,
Dariba, Chandni Chowk, New Delhi, Pin- 110006,
Mobile: 9810033711
Fax: 23254036

Copy to: Under Secretary (RTI) w.r.t. O.M. No. RTI/551/180/2013 dated 26 February, 2013.



विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
TIME BOUND RTI MATTER
NEW DELHI
By Registered Post with AD

No.WI(A)/ 551/02/2013

New Delhi, 05 March, 2013

Dear Sh. Subhash Chandra Agrawal

Please refer to your RTI application dated 21/02/2013 received on 27.02.2013 from RTI Cell, Ministry of External Affairs seeking information relating to news reports regarding 'Jallianwala Bagh carnage' and 'return of Kohinoor' dated 21.02.2013.

2. It is to inform that CPIO dealing with UK is Sh. Gaurav Ahluwalia, Under Secretary. (Europe West). Therefore, the RTI application is being forwarded to the concerned CPIO.

Yours faithfully,


(Neetu Mehra Bhagotia)

Under Secretary to the Government of India & CPIO

Tel: 91-11-23016263

Fax: 91-11-23016476

Email: usew3@mea.gov.in

Sh. Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775, Kucha Lattushah Dariba,
Chandni Chowk
Delhi-110006

Copy to:

- ☐ Sh. Tanuj Shankar, Under Secretary (RTI), Room No.2021, Jawahar Bhawan, New Delhi.
- ☐ Sh. Gaurav Ahluwalia, US(EW) & CPIO, Room No. 270B, South Block, New Delhi (the RTI Application is hereby forwarded for providing information as available directly to the applicant under intimation to the RTI Cell).



MOST IMMEDIATE
RTI MATTER

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
Ministry of External Affairs
New Delhi
CPV Division, Patiala House Annexe,
Tilak Marg, New Delhi-110001

No.140 /RTI-Transfer/2013

Dated: 27.02.2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Information sought under the Right to Information Act, 2005 – Transfer of RTI application under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

Enclosed please find an application made by Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal under the RTI Act, 2005 dated 26.02.2013, which has been received in this office on 27.02.2012.

2. As the information sought pertains to US RTI, Ministry Of External Affairs, JNB, New Delhi, the application, in original, is transferred to US RTI, Ministry Of External Affairs, JNB, New Delhi, under Section 6(3) (ii) of the RTI Act, 2005, with a request that a suitable reply may be sent to the applicant directly within the prescribed time limit, as per the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. Point 1 does not pertain to CPV Division.

3. The applicant has already paid the RTI fee of Rs. 10/-.

(Madhu Kalra)

Section Officer (CPV-RTI) &
Central Public Information Officer

To

The CPIO,
US RTI, Ministry Of External Affairs, JNB, New Delhi

Encl: as above

Copy to: ✓ Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal, R/O 1775 Kuch Lattushah, Dariba, Chandi Chawk, Delhi - 110006, 98100311 with a request that he may get in touch with the abovementioned CPIO directly, for any further correspondence.



No. RTI/551/ 180/2013

विदेश मंत्रालय, नई दिल्ली
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
NEW DELHI
26th February 2013

To,

✓ Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal
1775, Kucha Lattushah
Dariba, Chandni Chowk, Delhi
PIN 110006

Subject: Information sought under Right to Information Act, 2005.

Sir,


This is with reference to your RTI application dated 21st February 2013 (received on 25th February 2013) seeking information regarding return of 'Kohinoor' diamond by the British Govt and other related matters.

2. Your queries at s.no. (3), (4) have been transferred to Ministry of Culture, National Archives & CPV Division of this Ministry, vide O.M of even no. dated 26/2/2013, a copy of which is enclosed herewith. Other queries have been forwarded to the concerned CPIOs in the Ministry for responding to you directly.

3. With respect to the last point at s.no. (10) of your application seeking file notings on movement of your RTI application, it may be mentioned that as per Section 2 (j) of the RTI Act, "right to information" means the right to information accessible under the Act which is "held" by a public authority. However, your request for "file notings" where your RTI application is dealt with seeks information on future action of a public authority as no "notings" were held by the Ministry at the time your application was received in the Ministry. Therefore, no information can be made available to you on this point of your application.

3. If you are aggrieved with this response, you may file an appeal with Shri Manish Chauhan, Director & Appellate Authority, Room no. 2025, A-Wing, Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan, 23-D Janpath, New Delhi - 110011. (Tel: 011-49015224, Fax: 011-49015225, email: jsrti@mea.gov.in) within thirty days of receipt of this letter.

Yours faithfully,


(Tanuj Shankar)

Under Secretary (RTI)/CPIO
Tel : 4901 5227

Ministry of External Affairs
(RTI Cell)

Room No. 2021- A Wing,
Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan,
23-D, Janpath, New Delhi -110 011.

No. RTI/551/180/2013

Dated: 26/02/2013

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

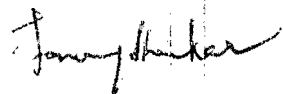
Subject :- Application under the Right to Information Act, 2005

Attached herewith is an RTI application dated **21/02/2013** (received on **25/02/2013**) of **Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal** seeking information under the RTI Act, 2005.

2. As few points of the application are more closely connected with the functions of National Archives; Ministry of Culture and Consular, Passport and Visa (CPV) Division of the Ministry, the RTI application is transferred to them under section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 for responding directly to the applicant.

3. Application fee has been received.

Encl..... as above


(Tanuj Shankar)
Under Secretary (RTI)
Tel: 4901 5227

To,

1. Smt. Madhu Kalra,
SO(CPV-RTI),
Room No.29 , CPV Division,
Ministry of External Affairs,
Patiala House Annexe,
New Delhi

point...(1)

2. Shri Rajesh Verma,
Assistant Director of Archives and CPIO ,
National Archives of India, Janpath,
New Delhi-110001,
Tel: 011-23384797.

point...(3)

3. Ms. Meena Kumari Sharma,
US & CPIO,
Ministry of Culture,
Vigyan Bhawan, NAI Annexe,
New Delhi-110011.

point...(4)

P.T.O

Copy to:-

1. Ms. Neetu Mehrada Bhagotia, US(EW) & CPIO, Room No.270-B, South Block, New Delhi - the RTI application is forwarded for providing information w.r.t. Points (1, 2, 3, 4,) as available directly to the applicant under intimation to RTI Cell.
2. Shri Abhishek Verma, Under Secretary(UNP), Room No. 235-F, South Block, New Delhi - the RTI application is forwarded for providing information w.r.t Points (5, 7, 8) as available directly to the applicant under intimation to RTI Cell.
3. Dr. Aman Puri, DCP(Ceremonials)&CPIO, R. No. 64, South Block, New Delhi - the RTI application is forwarded for providing information w.r.t Point (6) as available directly to the applicant under intimation to RTI Cell.

Copy to for information :-

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal, 1775 Kucha Lattushah, Dariba, Chandni Chowk, Delhi - 110006 -with the request to contact the above mentioned CPIO's for further information in the matter.


(Tanuj/Shankar)

Under Secretary (RTI)
Tel: 4901 5227

UNDER RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT

Central Public Information Officer
Union Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)
Room No. 2021, "A" Wing
Jawaharlal Nehru Bhavan,
23-D Janpath, New Delhi-110011

Sir

Please provide complete information together with documents/correspondence/file-notings etc on under-mentioned aspects also relating to news-reports 'Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron' and 'Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM' (TOI 21.02.2013) and my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013:

1. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on each aspect of my submissions 'Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor' routed to MEA through PG portal (MEAPD/E/2013/00301) dated 21.02.2013) either by MEA and/or any other public-authority where my said submissions might have been forwarded
2. Complete information on matters discussed with British Prime minister David Cameron during his last visit to India in February 2013 enclosing also copy of any joint-declaration/press-release etc issued after his visit
3. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on Indian government taking up matter of return of 'Kohinoor' diamond and/or other items taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence
4. List of items on record which were taken by erstwhile British rulers taken to Britain during British regime in India and/or thereafter while leaving India after country's independence mentioning also list of items claimed by Indian government; Please indicate values of all such items mentioning also value-date
5. Complete information together with related correspondence/file-notings/documents etc on India joining Commonwealth Group of Nations enclosing also norms/charter etc for the Commonwealth Group of Nations

6. Complete information on controversy on protocol having been followed during CWG-2010 held at New Delhi on importance given to representative of British monarchy and President of India as also reported in media at that time
7. Complete information on status of Britain amongst Commonwealth group of nations mentioning specifically if Britain has some special status
8. Complete information on India taking up matter of any such discrimination by Britain having some special status in Commonwealth Group of Nations mentioning also steps taken by India to leave Commonwealth Group of Nations because of discrimination in favour of Britain
9. Any other related information
10. File-notings on movement of this RTI petition

In case query relates to some other public-authority, please transfer this RTI petition to the CPIO there under section 6(3) of RTI Act. Postal-order number 06F 656791 for rupees ten is enclosed towards RTI fees in name of "Accounts Officer" as per DoPT circular number No.F.10/9/2008-IR dated 05.12.2008.

Regards



SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba, Chandni Chowk

DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashmadhu.com

22.02.2013

SP DARKEBA (110006)
ED7068106771
Counter No: 1, UP-Code:
To: C P I OFFICER, J L NEHRU PARK
DELHI, PIN: 110011
From: S C AGRAWAL 1775, DARKEBA, KALAN DELHI
Wt: 30 grams,
PS: 17.00, 22/02/2013, 11:29
Taxes: Rs. 2.00 <<Track on www.indiapost.gov.in>>

Jallianwala carnage deeply shameful, says Cameron

No Apology, But
First UK PM To
Express Regret

Rohan Dua | TNN

Amritsar: David Cameron on Wednesday became the first British prime minister to visit Jallianwala Bagh — site of arguably the worst colonial massacre — where he

SORRY SAGA: P 15
▶ No to Kohinoor, P 19
▶ Modi visa by May, P 19

took off his shoes, half-knelt in mourning after laying a wreath, but stopped short of making a formal apology.

"This was a deeply shameful event in British history, one that Winston Churchill

EMPIRE LOOKS BACK IN SHAME

This was a deeply shameful event in British history, one that Winston Churchill rightly described at that time as monstrous. We must never forget what happened here
— DAVID CAMERON
AT JALLIANWALA BAGH

In contrast, on a visit to Amritsar in 1997, Queen Elizabeth's husband Prince Philip had said that the shooting toll was "vastly exaggerated"

rightly described at that time as monstrous," Cameron wrote in the visitors' notebook at the memorial of the April 13, 1919 massacre.

Nearly 1,000 people were killed after Brig Gen Regi-

nald Dyer ordered soldiers to fire on a crowd of unarmed men, women and children locked inside the public park.

But kin of victims and historians criticized the PM for not making an apology.

Modi's UK visa by May, hints Cameron

Alay Umat | TNN

Amritsar: Visiting British Prime Minister David Cameron, it is reliably learnt, has informed his Indian counterpart Manmohan Singh about his government's intention to grant visa to Gujarat chief minister Narendra Modi to visit London in or around the month of May.

"Modi's visa was mentioned in the meeting on Tuesday between the two PMs," said a source. There was even some speculation that Cameron might "bump into" Modi during his visit, but that was not to be.

Instead, it has been decided that a team of British MPs, who will be coming to Gujarat shortly with a business delegation, would invite Modi to visit London.

The change in policy comes at a time when Cameron's Conservative Party is aiming at retaining Gujarati votes in the 2013 UK elections. There are an estimated 850,000 Gujaratis out of around 1.5 million people of Indian origin in UK.

The official line, as Cameron spelled out within his group, is that it makes sense to "engage with Modi without endorsing him at the moment". This will be the first time Modi will be visiting London in his official capacity as CM, for which Manmohan Singh will have to give clearance. Modi has invitations from the Conservative Friends of India, Friends of BJP and a group of MPs from the European Union to visit London. Incidentally, all events are in May.

Our govt won't return Kohinoor, says UK PM

▶ Continued from P1

David Cameron, explaining why he stopped short of an apology on the Jallianwala Bagh massacre, said it would be wrong to "reach back into history and to seek out things you can apologize for".

A UK daily quoted him as saying, "I think the right thing is to acknowledge what happened, to recall what happened, to show respect and understanding for what happened." Minutes before the visitors' book, he told a few journalists: "It was a terrible act".

Later he wrote, "We must never forget what happened here," twice underlining the word "never". And in remembering we must ensure UK stands up for the right of peaceful protest around the world."

Though Cameron, who also made a trip to Golden Temple, had put Amritsar on his itinerary with an eye on the Sikh vote bank for the 2015 UK polls, his remarks could end up re-opening wounds rather than being a balm. He also rejected a demand for the return of the Koh-i-Noor diamond, saying, "I certainly don't believe in returnism".

For the full story, log on to www.timesofindia.com

Lip-talk by British PM : If sincere, return 'Kohinoor'

It refers to British Prime Minister Cameron expressing 'regret' on 1919-massacre by erstwhile British rulers in India pre-independence era with paying homage at Jaliawala Bagh (Amritsar – India). But at same time on specific question on return of 'Kohinoor' diamond to India, David Cameron stated that he did not believe in 'returnism'!

Any such regret is a lip-talk without doing anything practical where British robbed Indians not only of their lives but also of wealth. Cameron very well knows that such a lip-talk will in no way can return lives of Indians robbed by British rulers. If British Prime Minister had any sincerity in his intentions of expressing regret on looting Indians' lives and wealth in pre-independence era, he must have offered return of remains of big loot by erstwhile British rulers including famous 'Kohinoor' diamond. British rulers are self-conscious by themselves when Queen Elizabeth did not use her 'Kohinoor' studded crown during any of her visits to India, even though she did use it in Pakistan during her same tour of 1960's to twin nations.

India and other member-countries of Commonwealth nations for their self-respect should withdraw from this group which is nothing but a shameful sign of colonial British era still giving Britain a special status on member-countries of Commonwealth Nations. Everyone is aware of big controversy that arose during infamous CWG-2010 in New Delhi on 'sharing' importance between President of India and representative of British monarchy. India should also lodge its formal demand for return of Indian assets including 'Kohinoor' diamond taken by erstwhile British rulers before India's independence and/or while going back finally to Britain when India became republic on 26.01.1950.

SUBHASH CHANDRA AGRAWAL

(Guinness Record Holder & RTI Activist)

1775 Kucha Lattushah

Dariba, Chandni Chowk

DELHI 110006 (India)

Mobile 9810033711 Fax 23254036

E-mail subhashmadhu@sify.com

Web www.subhashmadhu.com

21.02.2013

PRSEC/E/2013/03511

MEAPD/E/2013/00301