

# Central Information Commission

Decision No.278/IC(A)/2006  
F. No.CIC/MA/A/2006/00516

Dated, the18th September, 2006

Name of the Appellant : Sh. Ujjwal Kumar Choudhary, 89 IRS Society,  
Abhay Khand-II, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad – 201  
010. (U.P.)

Name of the Public Authority: Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Corporate  
Office, Plot No.3079/3, Sadiq Nagar, J.B. Tito  
Marg, New Delhi – 110 049.

## **DECISION**

### **Facts of the Case:**

1. The appellant had mailed his application for information through the Department of Post (DoP). The DoP had collected Rs.10/-, the receipt of which was pasted on the application for information, towards the costs of its postal services. He, however, did not attach the banker's cheque/draft or IPO of Rs.10/- towards the payment of prescribed fees.
2. The CPIO has refused to entertain the appellant's request for information on the ground that the prescribed fee was not paid. The appellate authority has also upheld the decision of the CPIO.
3. The appellant has contended that he has already paid Rs.10/- to the Department of Post for transmission of his application. He is, therefore, not required to pay to the CPIO.

### **Commission's Decision:**

4. The issue is whether or not the deposit of Rs.10/- only, represents the prescribed fee under RTI Act or postal charges or both.
5. An information seeker is required to deposit the fee of Rs.10/- with the CPIO, as prescribed by the Government. In the instant case, the appellant had paid an amount of Rs.10/- to the Department of Post towards the costs of

postage and transmission of his application to the CPIO of IOCL. This amount does not represent the prescribed fee for obtaining information, as this money is not paid to the concerned CPIO. Thus, the appellant has not paid the requisite fee for seeking the information.

6. The valid instruments for seeking information under the RTI Act are: Cash payment or banker's cheque/bank draft or IPO. Payments in any other forms would not be acceptable for invoking the provisions of the RTI Act. The appellant is, therefore, advised to deposit the fee of Rs.10/- as prescribed, with the CPIO for obtaining the information, failing which the RTI Act would not be invoked.

7. The appeal is accordingly disposed of.

Sd/-

(Prof. M.M. Ansari)  
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy:

(L.C. Singhi)  
Additional Registrar

Cc:

1. Sh. Ujjwal Kumar Choudhary, 89 IRS Society, Abhay Khand-II, Indirapuram, Ghaziabad – 201 010. (U.P.)
2. Sh. Satish Kumar, General Manager (HR) & PIO, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Corporate Office, Plot No.3079/3, Sadiq Nagar, J.B. Tito Marg, New Delhi – 110 049.