

Central Information Commission
File No.CIC/SM/A/2009/000546 dated 15-10-2008
Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)

Dated: 4 March 2010

Name of the Appellant : Shri Dhansukhlal J Bodiwala
9/190, Shree Ganesh Niwas,
Pagathia Sheri Wadifalia,
Surat - 395 003.

Name of the Public Authority : CPIO, Bank of Baroda,
Regional Office, Surat Region,
3rd Floor, SAIFEE Bldg.,
Nanpura Dutch Road, Surat - 395 001

The Appellant was represented by Shri Bhaskar Bodiwala.

On behalf of the Respondent, the following were present:-

- (i) Shri R.K Soni, AGM,
- (ii) Shri Venugopal, Chief Manager (Law)

2. In this case, the Appellant had, in his application dated 15 October 2008, requested the CPIO for a number of details regarding the case of M/s Neelesh Textiles Mill. He had enclosed nonjudicial stamp paper of a certain denomination by way of application fee. The CPIO, it seems, asked him to deposit the application fee in the prescribed manner which he did on 28 November 2008. It appears the CPIO informed him that since the advances account of the said unit had been settled a long-time back in January 95, no records pertaining to the above-mentioned account was any longer available with the Branch and, therefore, could not be provided to him. He preferred an appeal against this one 24 December 2008. The Appellate Authority disposed of the appeal on 7 January 2009 by endorsing the stand of the CPIO. Consequently, the Appellant has come before the CIC in second

appeal.

3. We heard this case through videoconferencing. The Appellant was represented by his son in the Surat studio of the NIC. The Respondent was also present in that studio. We heard their submissions. It was again submitted that the Bank had destroyed all the records pertaining to the account of M/s Neelesh Textiles Mill in 2007 following the flood which had affected several branches of the Bank in Surat and, therefore, they had no record or reference, in the form of paper or digitally, on this account.

4. In view of the above, there is nothing more the CPIO can provide by way of information in this regard. However, we direct him to provide to the Appellant within 10 working days from the receipt of this order, a copy of the relevant page from the register in which the destruction of the records pertaining to this very account had been entered and also to provide a copy of the Bank circular on retention of records.

5. The appeal is, thus, disposed off.

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

(Satyananda Mishra)
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)
Assistant Registrar