

Central Information Commission
File No.CIC/SM/A/2009/001897
Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)

Dated: 5 March 2010

Name of the Appellant : Shri Rajender Singh
G-44, Gopal Nagar Extn.,
Nanak Piau, Near Nasha Mukti
Kendra,Najafgarh, New Delhi - 43.

Name of the Public Authority : CPIO, Canara Bank,
Customer Service Section,
Circle Office Delhi, 7th Floor,
Ansal Tower 38, Nehru Place,
New Delhi - 110 019.

The Appellant was present in person.

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

- (i) Shri Vaman Shenoy, AGM,
- (ii) Shri Gaurav Saini, Law Officer,
- (iii) Shri R.K. Oberoi, Manager

2. This case was last heard on 9 February 2010. Since the Appellate Authority while disposing of the appeal preferred to him had not gone into the merit of the case in any detail, we had decided that we would hear the case again after giving the Respondent an opportunity to acquaint themselves with the facts raised by the Appellant during the hearing that day, specially about the investigation by the CBI into the alleged fraud committed by the account holder concerned.

3. Both the parties were present for the hearing today. We heard their submissions. The Appellant submitted that he was seeking information about an account which the CBI alleged to be a fraudulent one. The Respondent also admitted that the relevant account had been opened fraudulently in the name of a non-existent person and certain frauds had been committed concerning insurance claims and that the CBI had already initiated criminal proceedings against some people including the Appellant, an employee of the Bank.

4. After carefully examining the submissions made by both the parties, we are of the view that in the background of the allegations of fraud concerning the said account, it is absolutely necessary to place all the relevant records in the public domain so that the facts can be properly ascertained. And since the investigations are already over, the disclosure of this information can have little impact on the case. Besides, the claim of the CPIO/Appellate Authority that the information sought is personal in nature is completely uncalled for in these circumstances since admittedly the account itself is a fraudulent one.

5. In view of the above, we direct the CPIO to provide to the Appellant within 10 working days from the receipt of this order the copies of all the records and documents sought by him. If, for any particular reason, all or some of these records are not available, the CPIO shall clearly state so in his communication and explain why the records are not available.

6. The appeal is, thus, disposed off.

7. 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