



पावर ग्रिड कार्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड  
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited  
सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम 2005 के अंतर्गत अपीलीय अधिकारी  
Appellate Authority under the RTI Act, 2005  
उत्तरी क्षेत्र पारेषण प्रणाली – 3, चतुर्थ तल, 12 राणा प्रताप मार्ग, लखनऊ – 226001  
Northern Region Transmission System – 3, Fourth Floor, 12 Rana Pratap Marg,  
Lucknow -226001  
फोन नं. /Phone No. : 0522-2205100

Ref.: PGCIL/AE/20/00038

Date: 11.09.2020

Appellant : Mayank R

Appeal letter dated : 14.08.2020

Public Authority : Power Grid Corporation of India Limited  
Northern Region Transmission System-3, Lucknow

Present : Respondent  
Shri Rana Pratap  
General Manager (PESM) and CPIO, NR-3  
POWERGRID, Lucknow

**ORDER**

The Appellate Authority, Northern Region Transmission System -3, POWERGRID has received an appeal dated 14.08.2020 from Shri Mayank, R/o 70, Usha Roopak Awas, Kamalwaganja Road, Kusumkhera, Haldwani, Uttarkhand, under RTI Act, 2005 pertaining to his online RTI dated 13.07.2020.

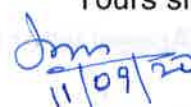
On receipt of online appeal from the appellant, relevant papers were perused and submission of CPIO, NR-III was heard. After going through the appeal and submission/ explanation given by the CPIO, it is noted that information as sought through RTI dated 13.07.2020 has already been given online on 14.08.2020 by the CPIO. Further, CPIO informed that number of information on varied matters have been sought by the applicant in a single application and as per the CIC's decision dated 19.06.2019, RTI Act did not authorize a petitioner to ask multiple queries in single petition but information on a single query or a set of queries only. Copy of CIC decision dated 19.06.2019 was also submitted before the Appellate authority. It is observed that the appellant has sought ten nos. of information related to different matters,

through his application dated 13.07.2020. Therefore, relevant information pertaining to a single set of queries (S.No. 1 to 3) only was provided by the CPIO to the applicant. Further, postal orders of Rs 500/- that was received separately later on dated 04.08.2020, without any demand from the CPIO and on personal interpretation by the applicant, has been returned to the appellant vide letter dtd. 20.08.2020.

Since relevant information, as sought by RTI application dt. 13.07.2020 under the provision of Right to Information Act-2005, has been provided by the CPIO and rest information has been denied as per CIC's decision dated 19.06.2019, no further action is required.

Thus, the appeal may be treated as disposed-off.

Yours sincerely,



[Sanjai Gupta]

First Appellate Authority  
Power Grid Corporation of India Limited  
2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Floors, 12 Rana Pratap Marg,  
Lucknow - 226001, U.P.

**Shri Mayank R**  
70, Usha Roopak Awas,  
Kamalwaganja Road,  
Kusumkhara,  
Haldwani, Uttarkhand,

**Copy to:**  
Shri Rana Pratap, GM (PESM) and CPIO, NR-3, POWERGRID, Lucknow

## PREFACE

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The enactment of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act) is a historic event in the annals of democracy in India. Information is power and now a citizen has the right to access information "held by or under control of" the public authorities. Concurrently, it is the duty of all public authorities to provide information sought by citizens.

The Act mandates a legal-institutional framework for setting out the practical regime of right to information for every citizen to secure access to information under the control of public authorities. It prescribes mandatory disclosure of certain information to citizens. It also mandates the constitution of a Central Information Commission (CIC) and State Information Commissions (SICs) to inquire into complaints, hear second appeals, and guide implementation of the Act. Most of the intelligence agencies are excluded from the ambit of RTI Act, 2005 as would be seen from Schedule 2 to the Act. However, Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence (DGCEI) are notable exclusion to this exemption. The nature of job of an intelligence agency is to gather intelligence, cause investigation and prosecution of offenders. To execute these functions, these agencies have to maintain utmost confidentiality of information. However, having not been excluded from the purview of RTI Act, 2005, DGCEI has to maintain a fine balance between the transparency and public interest under the Act and the protected interest under Section 8 of the Act.

Directorate General of Central Excise Intelligence (DGCEI) is the apex intelligence organization functioning under the Central Board of Excise & Customs, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, entrusted with detection of cases of evasion of duties of Central Excise and Service Tax. The Directorate General is headed by Director General. The role of the Directorate General in tackling the menace of duty evasion is manifold. It develops intelligence, especially in new areas of tax evasion through its intelligence network across the country and disseminates information in this respect, by issuing Modus Operandi Circulars and Alert Circulars to appraise field formations of the latest trends in duty evasion. Wherever found necessary, this Directorate General on its own, or in co-ordination with field formations, organizes operations to unearth evasion of central excise duty and service tax.

The provisions of Section 6(1) of the RTI Act, which authorizes him to ask either one or one set of query through a single petition. He may refer to CIC decision in Rajendra Singh Vs. CBI; Complaint No.CIC/WB/C/2007/00967; Date of Decision: 19.06.2009, where it has been held that the RTI Act did not authorize a petitioner to ask multiple queries in a single petition. He may also refer to CIC Full Bench decision in Ketan Kantilal Modi Vs. Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC); Appeal No.CIC/AT/A/2008/01280; Date of Decision: 22.09.2009, in which it was held that it was a petitioner's duty to file his request for information before the 'concerned public authority' and only if it is established that information-request has been filed before the 'concerned public authority' that the provision of Section 6(3) came into operation and not otherwise. Appellant had enclosed with his RTI-application a number of proformae, in which he had called upon various public authorities to tabulate the information required by him and to provide it to him. CPIO quite understandably declined to do so as under the provisions of the RTI Act, information could be supplied only if the request met the definition of information under Section 2(f) and not otherwise.

**DECISION:**

Public authorities were not obliged to create information to generate data for a petitioner's convenience. This has been endorsed in several decisions of the Commission (Kamal C. Tiwari Vs. Ministry of Defence; Appeal No.CIC/AT/A/2006/00360; Date of Decision: 23.11.2006 and Subhash Chandra Vs. Income Tax Department; Appeal Nos.CIC/AT/A/2007/00190 & F.No.CIC/AT/A/2007/00291; Date of Decision: 8.6.2007).

"In spite of the above infirmities in the RTI-application of the appellant, I was still inclined to go through each one of his request in order to establish how much information could be given to him corresponding to each of his queries. Despite my repeated urging, appellant was unwilling to make a proper response during hearing. His long-winded and rambling rejoinders do not lead to any tangible conclusion about what information could really be identified for disclosure to him. I notice that a significant amount of information has been disclosed to the appellant by various CPIOs already.

In view of the above, I am not in a position to allow this appeal, which is closed."