

CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION
Room No. 302, CIC Bhawan, Baba Gang Nath Marg,
Munirka, New Delhi-110067

Decision No. CIC/BKOB/D/A/2016/308140, dated 05.12.2017

Gulsan Kumar Khurana vs. CPIO, Bank of Baroda, Head office, Baroda

Relevant dates emerging from the Appeal:

RTI: 07.06.2016	FA: 25.07.2016	SA: 14.09.2016
CPIO: 13.07.2016	FAAO: 24.08.2016	Hearing: 30.11.2017

ORDER

1. The appellant filed an application under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act) before the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO), Bank of Baroda, Head Office, Siyajigang, Baroda, Gujarat, seeking information on four points regarding family pension, including, inter alia, (i) the number of persons taking family pension after death of the bank employee/pensioner from the Bank of Baroda as on 31.03.2016, and (ii) out of above how many were children and not the spouse of the employee/pensioner as on 31.03.2016.

2. The appellant filed a second appeal before the Commission on the grounds that the CPIO had denied information on point Nos. 2 to 4, under Section 2 (f) of the RTI Act, stating that information sought was not available in any material form. The appellant is also aggrieved with the Order of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), which has stated that the information sought by the appellant was not available in segregated format. The appellant requested the Commission to direct the CPIO/FAA to provide the information sought for by him on point Nos. 2 to 4, as the same is available in computerized form with the Bank and also award a compensation of Rs. 5000/-to him for the cost incurred by him as well as for mental agony.

Hearing:

3. The appellant Shri Gulsan Kumar Khurana was present in person. The respondent was not present despite notice.

4. The appellant submitted that information on point nos. 2 to 4 of the RTI application was wrongly denied on the grounds that the information sought is not available in any material form and does not fall within the definition of 'information' as per Section 2(f) of the RTI Act. The appellant further submitted that, in case, information sought is not maintained/available, he may be provided the number of persons availing family pension as well as the name of the Branch from where family pension is drawn in Delhi and Haryana.

Decision:

5. The Commission, after hearing the submissions of the appellant and perusing the records, observes that information on point nos. 2 to 4 of the RTI application pertains to disclosure of family pension. However, it should be available with the bank, may be, in an electronic format. Hence, the information has been wrongly denied to the appellant. In view of this, the Commission directs the respondent to provide information on point nos. 2 to 4 of the RTI application to the appellant within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

6. With the above observations, the appeal is disposed of.

7. Copy of the decision be provided free of cost to the parties.

(Sudhir Bhargava)
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy

(S.S. Rohilla)
Designated Officer

Addresses of the parties:

1. The Central Public Information Officer (CPIO),
Bank of Baroda,
Head office, Operation & Service Department,
Suraj Plaza – I, Sayajigunj, Baroda -390005

2. Mr. Gulsan Kumar Khurana