

Central Information Commission
Appeal No.CIC/WB/A/2008/00669-SM dated 19.05.2007
Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)

Dated: 16 June 2009

Name of the Appellant : Shri Ashok Mohan Jadhav, Mehta High School Road, Tehsil & Distt. Nasik.

Name of the Public Authority : CPIO, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

The Appellant was present.

On behalf of the Respondent, Shri Alok Verma, Chief Manager (HR), was present.

The brief facts of the case are as under.

The Appellant had sent an application to the CPIO on 19 May 2007 seeking certified copies of service records of Shri R.G. Kamble, an employee of the Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL). The CPIO replied on 6 August 2007 and denied the information as exempt under Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI-Act. Against this, he filed an appeal before the first Appellate Authority on 8 August 2007. His appeal was decided by the first Appellate Authority on 4 September 2007. That Authority upheld the order of the CPIO. Not satisfied with this order, the Appellant has come before the CIC in second appeal.

2. During the hearing conducted through videoconferencing, both the parties were present in the NIC Studio at Nashik. We heard the submissions of both the parties. The Appellant clarified that he wanted to have specifically a copy of the Caste Certificate which Shri Kamble had furnished at the time of his appointment. He also wanted the copy of the personal details filed by him at that time. The Respondent submitted that such information about Shri Kamble was personal in nature and could not be disclosed to the Appellant.

3. We do not entirely agree with this argument. If an employee is appointed in a Public Authority against SC or ST reservation, his Caste Certificate is an essential document and should be available in the public domain. Similarly, personal details about his educational qualification and such other details which have to be provided as a mandatory requirement for appointment to the service of the Public Authority will also have to be available in the public domain. In view of this, we direct the CPIO to provide to the Appellant within 10 working days from the receipt of this order, a certified copy of the Caste Certificate furnished by Shri Kamble at the time of his appointment and a copy of his service book as maintained by the Public Authority. However, while providing a copy of the service book, the CPIO shall sever those portions of the Service book which contain any reference about his family, health and other such personal details.

4. With the above direction, the appeal is disposed off.

5. 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