

To,

Dr. P.L. Sablok,
Ex. University Professor of Economics
G-3, Sablok Sadan
Gandhi Nagar
Gwalior-474002

Subject: Reply to your various RTI Applications

Sir,

This is in response to the various RTI Applications received by this office from your end dated 9th and 17th February, 2015.

In light of no contract/ agreement/ MoU been signed between yourself and the Indian Economic Association (IEA) and the same being informed to you in response to your various RTI queries of December, 2014, the IEA is, in no way, obligated to maintain records of your donation in the manner the information has been sought by you. Also given the fact that a number of RTIs have been received from your end on the same subject with some repeated queries and also the fact that you were present, in person, in the General Body Meeting of the IEA dated 29th December, 2014, held at Mohanlal Sukhadia University, Udaipur, where there was a wide discussion on this matter and you raised these very questions there too and were adequately responded, as per the decision of the Central Information Commission through File No. CIC/ SA/ A/ 2014/ 000405 dated 17/12/2014 in which it observes, among other things, “...*the Appellant is misuing the RTI to take settle his personal scores against.....*”, this office can recommend you to refer to the information already provided, and can dispose off the present queries.

However, this time, in good faith, this office is providing the following point-wise response to the various queries raised in your five RTI Application received this time:

1. For Dr. (Mrs.) Asha Sablok Memorial Gold Medal, the decision of the best research paper awardee is jointly made by the ex-officio President and ex-officio Secretary and Treasurer of the I.E.A. after scrutinizing the reports submitted by the Rapporteurs of the various technical sessions.
2. The office of the present Secretary and Treasurer got a transfer of an FD receipt of Rs. 1,00,000 to the State Bank of India, Patna branch only in 2006. On asking the then Secretary and Treasurer, Prof. A.D.N. Bajpai, about the availability of such record till 2006, no reply was obtained from his office.

For a period from 2006 to 2013, the present Secretary and Treasurer has not maintained data on year-wise interest earned as since no MoU/ contract/ agreement being signed to the effect of your donation, there was no obligation to maintain record of such information. It was a cumulative FD, the present value of which has already been informed to you in response dates 5th January, 2015 of your previous set of RTI

queries. As per Appeal No. 2023 of 2014 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India (in Nirmal Dhakar vs. CPIO, SEBI judgement), "*the (RTI) Act does not cast an obligation upon the public authority to collect or collate such non-available information and then furnish it to an applicant*", hence the same information cannot be furnished to you by this office under Section 8(1) of the RTI Act.

3. The joint signatory to the bank account in Patna is Dr. K.N. Yadav, the Executive Committee Member from Bihar. As per the provisions of the RTI Act, his address is a 'third party information' and cannot be disclosed to you as it would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual(s), hence denied under Section 8 (1) (j) of the Act.
4. As in point 2 above, for a period from 2004 to 2014, the present Secretary and Treasurer has not maintained data on year-wise amount spent on gold plated silver medals given by the IEA to Dr. (Mrs.) Asha Sablok Memorial Gold Medal Awardees as since no MoU/ contract/ agreement being signed to the effect of your donation, there was no obligation to maintain record of such information. Hence the same information cannot be furnished to you by this office under Section 8(1) of the RTI Act.
5. The Secretary and Treasurer of the Indian Economic Association has denied having received Rs. Five thousand in cash during 2014 from Dr. R.K. Sen for the said medal to be awarded to Dr. Debesh Bhowmik.

Also, since the RTI queries are constitutional documents, I would like to mention here the correction of following two points in your said RTI applications—

- i) In your application no. A(7) of 9/2/2015, you mention "...interest earned on **my** fixed deposit...." I would like to submit that once a donation is made to any organization, the donated sum or any financial instrument so created out of that sum ceases to be the donor's property and becomes an institutional property. Hence, misplaced use of MY fixed deposit.
- ii) In your application no. A(10) of 17/2/2015, you refer to Dr. R.K. Sen as present Managing Editor of the Indian Economic Journal. I would like to remind/ apprise you that the office bearers assume charge from 1st April of the subsequent year in which they get elected for a particular office. Hence, Dr. R.K. Sen is yet to assume the office of the Managing Editor.

Place: Delhi
Date: 12/03/2015

Deepti Taneja
Public Information Officer
Indian Economic Association