

To,

Date: 24/02/2016

Sh. T.K. Mohapatra
Deputy Registrar,
Central Information Commission,
New Delhi.

Respected Sir,

Subject: Submission on the 2nd Appeal of Dr. Ghanshyam N. Singh to Hon'ble Information Commissioner vide Case No. CIC/MP/A/2015/000950 dated 02/02/2016

1. For the respondents, the following would be present on the hearing on 02/03/2016: Dr. Anil Kumar Thakur, Present First Appellate Authority, Indian Economic Association (IEA) and Dr. Deepti Taneja, Public Information Officer, IEA.
2. It is humbly submitted sir that the real intention of Dr. Ghanshyam N. Singh is not to obtain the information, but to intimidate and harass the officers of the Indian Economic Association to settle his personal scores and try and obtain an office of repute through such pressure tactics. The following points would ascertain the same.
3. To give a brief history, IEA is the oldest and perhaps the largest Association of Economists in India, established way back in 1917. Renowned economists like Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prof. Amartya Sen, Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia, Prof. Kaushik Basu, Dr. Y.V. Reddy and the like have been its Presidents in the past. ***All the posts of the IEA office bearers are honorary, but of a high stature and repute among academia and Economic professionals.*** The IEA has organized 98 Annual Conferences so far, with the last one in December, 2015 being

inaugurated by His Excellency Hon'ble President of India, Sh. Pranab Mukherjee jee. Hence, the real motive of the Appellant is to harass the present office bearer/s to the extent of their resignations and to drive away all men of repute from it, so that he/his henchmen could occupy these offices of repute.

4. The RTI applications of the Appellant dated 15/04/2014, 07/05/2014 and 26/05/2014 were **not addressed to the PIO** designated in IEA. The information about the PIO is clearly stated on Page 26 of the very same IEA Newsletter of 96th Annual Conference whose cover and initial few pages Dr. Singh has appended in support of his appeal to your hon'ble self. The same information is also available on IEA's website <http://www.indianeconomicassociation.com> . The purpose of sending them to the office of the Secretary and Treasurer was only to intimidate him and create pressure tactics.
5. It is noteworthy that the said RTI applications dated 15/04/2014, 07/05/2014 and 26/05/2014 were not the first time that the Appellant had written to seek information from IEA. His all earlier RTI applications were made to the then PIO and duly answered. Hence, it is well established that Dr. Singh had adequate information about the PIO designated by the IEA.
6. The appeal made to Prof. Sukhadeo Thorat, the then Appellate Officer of IEA dated 13/06/2014 was replied to within the stipulated time frame on 15/07/2014, informing the Appellant to address the queries to the PIO and the same, if not then subsequently addressed, will be taken serious cognizance of by the Appellate Authority of the IEA.
7. It is also noteworthy that subsequently he did address his RTI application with similar questions on 21/08/2014 to the PIO and the same was duly replied to on 21/09/2014. There were many other applications too after this and all have been duly replied to. Hence, to say that there was a callous attitude on part of any office bearer of the IEA would be highly fabricated.

8. It should also be noted by your hon'ble self that the said Appellant is in a habit of not adhering to rules and making false proclamations to suit his ends. Testimony to the same is his 2nd RTI Appeal to your esteemed office, made on 10/11/2014, **almost 4 months after the receipt of reply from IEA's Appellate officer**, when the RTI Act, 2005 itself provides for "*a second appeal with the Central Information Commission **within ninety days** from the date on which the decision should have been made by the first appellate authority or was actually received by the appellant.*"

9. Furthermore, to substantiate point 8 above, the Appellant Dr. Singh is in a constant habit to present fabricated information and misrepresentation of his office, solely with the purpose of intimidating those to whom he is addressing his mails. He has repeatedly **quoted himself as Senior Advocate** of Supreme Court of India, whereas **he is not designated as one.**

Designations and Contact details of those attending the hearing:

- a. Dr. Anil Kumar Thakur, First Appellate Authority; and General Secretary and Treasurer, Indian Economic Association. Phone: +91-9431017096; Email id: anilkumarthakur.ia@gmail.com
- b. Dr. Deepti Taneja, Public Information Officer and Executive Committee Member, Indian Economic Association. Phone: +91-9811667409; Email id: deeptitaneja.du@gmail.com

Thanking you,

With Regards,

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Anil Kumar Thakur,
First Appellate Authority and
General Secretary and Treasurer,

Indian Economic Association.
(<http://www.indianeconomicassociation.com>)