Central Information Commission
Room No. 305, 2nd Floor, ‘B’ Wing, August Kranti Bhavan,
Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi-110066
Web: www.cic.gov.in Tel No: 26167931

Case No. CIC/SS/A/2011/001757
Dated: 04.04.2012

Name of Appellant : Shri Prafulla Jojo
Name of Respondent : Ministry of Law & Justice,
Department of Legal Affairs
Date of Hearing : 21.02.2012

ORDER

Shri Prafulla Jojo, hereinafter called the appellant has filed the present appeal dated 13.06.2011 before the Commission against the respondent Ministry of Law & Justice, Department of Legal Affairs, New Delhi for denial of information on Point Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 7 in reply to his RTI-application dated 27.1.2011. The matter came up for hearing on 21.02.2012. The appellant was absent and the respondent were represented by Shri Nirmal Singh, CPIO, Shri Jagdish Kumar, Section Officer and Shri Rajinder Kumar, Assistant.

2. The appellant had filed an application dated 27.1.2011 under the RTI Act seeking information pertaining to appointment of Assistant Solicitor General of India and Government Standing Counsels in the High Court of Jharkhand, their quota and procedure of appointment, copies of file notings, recommendations and approval by the competent authority and copies of the appointment letters. The CPIO vide his letter dated 24.2.2011 denied information on Point Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 7 as being third party information and requested the appellant to be specific
as to whose particular details he wanted. The CPIO provided requisite information on Point Nos. 4, 5 and 6 to the appellant.

3. Not satisfied with the reply of the CPIO, the appellant preferred first-appeal on 10.3.2011 before the FAA. The FAA vide his order dated 24.3.2011 while upholding the reply of the CPIO, held that the CPIO vide his letter has furnished the necessary information to the appellant strictly in compliance with Section 2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005.

4. The appellant on the other hand submits that the information sought by him is within the ambit of Section 2(f) of the RTI Act and that no third party information has been requested.

5. The information requested by the appellant, cannot be held to be personal information, since the information sought is regarding appointments made by the respondent. Providing such information regarding the appointments by the public authorities cannot be said to be personal information, the disclosure of which would cause unwarranted invasion of privacy of any person. The respondent CPIO is, therefore, hereby directed to provide complete information as requested for by the appellant, free of cost, within fifteen days of receipt of this order.

The matter is disposed of with the above directions.

(Sushma Singh)
Information Commissioner

Authenticated true copy:

(K.K. Sharma)
OSD & Deputy Registrar
Address of the parties:

Shri Prafulla Jojo, Advocate,
Jharkhand High Court,
Table No. 15, Main Hall,
P.O. Doranda,
District Ranchi-834002.

The CPIO,
Ministry of Law & Justice,
Department of Legal Affairs,
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi-110001.

The First Appellate Authority,
Ministry of Law & Justice,
Department of Legal Affairs,
Shastri Bhawan,
New Delhi-110001.