

BY SPEED POST

BEFORE SHRI SURESH CHANDRA, JOINT SECRETARY & LEGAL ADVISER & FIRST APPELLATE  
AUTHORITY (JUDICIAL)

F.No.44(5)/2014-Judl.

(Under Section 19 of RTI Act, 2005)

MINISTRY OF LAW & JUSTICE, DEPARTMENT OF LEGAL AFFAIRS, ROOM NO. 419, 'A' WING,  
SHASTRI BHAVAN, NEW DELHI-110001

FAA No.JS&LA(SC)/4/2015

IN THE MATTER OF :

Sh. Jose Filipe Melo,  
2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Wellington D'Melo Building,  
Next to Hotel Mandovi, D B Marg,  
Panjim, Goa-403001

Versus

Appellant

Central Public Information Officer (Judl.)  
Ministry of Law & Justice  
Department of Legal Affairs  
Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi. 110001

Respondent

**ORDER**

**Date of Order : 01.06.2015**

The present appeal dated 15.01.2015 has been preferred by the appellant against the reply dated 05.01.2015 given by CPIO. The appeal has been received in this office on 09.02.2015 and today's i.e. 01.06.2015 was fixed for hearing.

2. Notices were served but despite service of notices, appellant has not presented whereas CPIO is present in person. Because appellant has not presented, as such, the appeal is being disposed of hearing the CPIO and the material available on record.


3. It is evident from the reply given by the CPIO vide letter dated 5.1.2015 wherein the CPIO has mentioned that the information sought is not covered u/s 2(f) of the RTI Act and the same is in the form of queries amounting to seeking legal advice.

4. As we understand that in his RTI application dated 18.11.2014 he has sought the following information :-

| Sr.No. | Information sought   | Reply by the Department  |
|--------|--|--|
| 1.     | As per your office memorandum dated 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept., 2011 under No. 23(2)/2011-Judl. there are four categories of counsels that is (1) Special Counsel (2) Senior Counsel Group-I (3) Special Counsel Group-II and (4) Jr. Counsel Advocate on record. | No information sought  |
| 2.     | I have been enrolled on 18.8.99 as an advocate and having 15 years of practise in the High Court of Bombay at Goa and courts subordinate thereto hence under which category I would come into or fall.   | None.  |
| 3.     | Are there any statutory laws or rules or memorandum or officers fixing such categories. If the same are there then the same be provided.   | No<br>However two classes of advocates are mentioned in the Advocates Act, 1961. |
| 4.     | Are there Jr. Counsel Advocate on record in the States of Maharashtra or Goa or whether this category is there for the High Courts or subordinate courts to the  | We do not have such information.   |

5. In case, the Appellant is aggrieved with this order, he may file a second appeal before Hon'ble CIC, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, August Kranti Bhavan, Bhikaji Cama Place, New Delhi.-110066 within the time period as prescribed under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

The parties be informed accordingly.



(SURESH CHANDRA)  
Joint Secretary & Legal Adviser &  
First Appellate Authority  
Date : 01.06.2015

Copy to :-

1. RTI Cell, Department of Legal Affairs, Shastri Bhavan, New Delhi-110001
2. File No.44(5)/2014-Judl.
3. n/c.