Central Information Commission

Room No. 305 B-Wing, August Kranti Bhawan, Bhikaji Kama Place, New Delhi – 110066 Tel No: 26167931

Case No. CIC/SS/A/2011/001247

Name of the Appellant : Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal

(The Appellant was present)

Name of the Public Authority: Air India, Delhi.

Represented by Mr. Bansi Lal, Admn. Officer and Mr. M. Jyothi Prakash, Airport Manager.

The matter was heard on : 3.11.2011 (Matter was reserved for

Order).

ORDER

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal, the Appellant filed an application dated 26.3.2011 under the provision of the RTI Act and while enclosing a news-report 'Air India rolls out big jet to please VIPs', sought information on 15 points. The appellant presses for information on point No. 2, 7, 9 & 15 of his RTI application.

On point No.1 of his RTI application the appellant sought to know whether it was true that Air India deployed a larger aircraft, Airbus A-320, than the scheduled one Airbus A-319 on 25.4.2010 for the Bangalore-Male flight IC-965 and also on 28.4.2010 for the Male-Bangalore IC-966 as referred to in the news-report that he enclosed with his RTI application. If the answer to point No.1 was in the affirmative on point No.2 of the RTI application, the appellant wanted the complete file notings/documents/correspondence etc. for scheduling such aircrafts as in query 1 above.

The PIO had replied in the affirmative to point No.1 of the RTI application. Clubbing the points 2 & 4, the PIO had informed the appellant that "change of aircraft is done at times based on commercial requirements depending on the booked load/demand and also due to operational/engineering requirements." The appellant has however not satisfied with this reply on point No.2 since his request for file notings/documents, has not been answered.

During the hearing the Respondents submit that there are no file notings on the matter, therefore there are no documents which can be provided to the appellant in reply to this query. The Respondent informed that the decision to switch aircrafts was taken by the Central Co-ordination Cell and the decision intimated telephonically to the concerned personnel. Under the circumstances the Commission hereby directs the Respondent CPIO to inform the appellant of the name of the persons/person responsible for the decision the name/designation of the official to whom the decision was communicated telephonically for compliance.

Referring to the contents of the news report wherein it was mentioned that the Air India deployed a larger aircraft to accommodate certain passengers, the appellant, on point No.7 of the RTI application, sought to know the list of VIP passengers in business class on flights IC-965 and 966 on 25.4.2010 and 28.4.2010 on Bangalore-Male-Bangalore sector. The CPIO has denied the information in terms of section 8(1) (d) and 8(1) (j) of the RTI Act on the grounds that the Company, keeping in view its commercial interests, follows the practice of not disclosing the travel particulars of its valued passengers which are personal to them to any third party and such information amounts to invasion of the privacy of an individual. However, in view of the facts and circumstances of the present case, the Commission deems it fit and appropriate in public interest to direct

the CPIO to provide the list of business class passengers as requested by the appellant at

point No.7 of the RTI application.

At point No.9 the appellant sought to know the aircrafts deployed to replace Airbus

A-320 which were operated on flights IC-965 and 966 on 25.4.2010 and 28.4.2010

respectively on Bangalore-Male-Bangalore sector. The CPIO is hereby directed to inform

the appellant the type of aircraft substituted. On point No. 15 the appellant wanted file

notings on movement of his RTI application. This may be provided to the appellant.

The directions of the Commission are to be complied with within 10 days of receipt

of this order.

No. CIC/SS/A/2011/001247

The matter is disposed of with these directions

Sd/-

(Sushma Singh)

Information Commissioner

12.12.2011

Authenticated true copy

(D. C. Singh)

Dy. Registrar

Copy to:

Shri Subhash Chandra Agrawal,
1775 Kucha Lattushah Dariba,
Chandani Chowk,
Delhi – 110006.

2. The C.P.I.O.

National Aviation Company of India Ltd., Airlines House, 113 Gurudwara Rakabganj Road, New Delhi – 110001.

The First Appellate Authority,
National Aviation Company of India Ltd.,
Airlines House,
113 Gurudwara Rakabganj Road,
New Delhi – 110001.