Second Appeal/Complaint-Facilitation Memo



Central Information Commission

CIC Bhawan, Baba Gangnath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi - 110 067

Diary No: 130229 / 2023

To:

The Secretary

West Bengal Information Commission 11A, Mirza Galib Street, Khadya Bha wan, Kolkatta - 700087

Madam/Sir,

A Second Appeal/Complaint dated 28-06-2023 filed by Sh/Smt./Ms. RITUN CHAKRABORTY CHAUDHARI in this Commission against IPGME&R (SSKM Hospital), Kolkata is sent herewith for necessary action as the same pertains to West Bengal Information Commission.

Deputy Registrar(CR-I)

Date: 18-07-2023

Enclosure as above

Copy To

RITUN CHAKRABORTY CHAUDHARI DISHANEAR KHELAGHAR /ROOPKOTHA PARLOUR HORISOVA, FARTABAD GARIA Kolkata-700084 West Bengal, India

To,

Central Information Commission, CIC Bhawan, Baba Gang Nath Marg, Munirka, New Delhi - 110 067

Subject: Second Appeal under Section 19(3) of Right to Information Act, 2005

Date: 28/06/2023

Name and Address of the appellant:

Dr. Ritun Chakraborty chaudhuri Disha (Near Khelaghar/Roopkotha Parlour) Horisova, Fartabad, Garia Kolkata-700084

Name and Address of the CPIO:

Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research (IPGME&R) - SSKM Hospital

INFORMATION

Address: 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700 020

Date of submission of RTI request: 13/04/2023

Date of RTI reply: 24th May, 2023

Name and Address of the FAA:

Registrar,

Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research

(IPGME&R) - SSKM Hospital

Address: 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700 020

Date of submission of FA request: 01/06/2023

Date of FA reply: 16th June, 2023

Brief facts of the case:

1. The Applicant had filed a RTI Application seeking information on the following grounds:

Please provide the following information regarding the Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022 under section 2(f) and 2(j) of the RTI act:

- 1) List of candidates appeared in the interview and their marks.
- 2) A certified list of shortlisted candidates with their marks and date of the publication of the final result in the IPGMER website.

Department of Health and Family Welfare,
Govt of West Bengal
Institution - IPGMER, Kolkata
Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022
Name of the post.Research Associate III
Project: Implementation of AMSP(antimicrobial Stewardship program) in various tertiary care centres across India.

- 2. However, there was an unsatisfactory response from the concerned PIO to the RTI Application.
- 3. The applicant then proceeded to file a First Appeal against the unsatisfactory response of the PIO.
- 4. However, there was an unsatisfactory response from the concerned First Appellate Authority to the first appeal filed by the applicant.
- 5. Hence a Second Appeal is being filed against the unsatisfactory response of the PIO and the FAA.

Grounds for Prayer or Relief:

1. As the reply from the PIO and the FAA is unsatisfactory, a second appeal should be preferred against the CPIO under Section 19(3) of Right to Information Act. The copy of the RTI application and first appeal have been annexed herewith as Annexure 1 and Annexure 2.

- 2. The failure of the concerned public authorities to adequately and properly respond to the application is a violation of Section 5(3), 5(4) and 5(5) which mandates that the PIO is to make all efforts to ensure that the requested information is properly furnished to the applicant.
- 3. The failure of the authorities to give a proper response to the applicant amounts to refusal to respond to the application, is also a violation of Section 7(1) of the RTI Act which obliges the PIO to provide access to information to a citizen unless furnishing of such information is covered by one of the exemptions provided under Section 8 or Section 9 of the RTI Act.
- 4. The PIO has replied that the marks obtained by the candidates in the interview,

cannot be provided as its a third party.

CIC observed that the most important point was that the rejection in CBSE and UPSC cases was not based on any exception under Section 8(1) including (e) & (j). CIC concluded that no such difficulty exists in the present case and the appellant was entitled to get copies of answer sheet of the four candidates who topped. [Shailendra Kumar Singh v. PIO, EPFO, CIC/EPFOG/A/2018/614958, decided on 08-06-2018].

1

- 5. In Kewal Singh Gautam v. State of Chhattisgarh, AIR 2011 Chh 143, Hon'ble Chhattisgarh High Court held that conduct of examination by the departmental agency for promotion in Govt. department, are not private activities, but in public domain and the checking and evaluation of answer sheet by an examiner and the marks given by him upon assessment of performance has nothing to do with the privacy of either the examiner or those who are responsible for conducting the examination so Section 8 (1)(j) is not attracted.
- 6. IC Acharyulu stated that, "The Commission verified official website of Delhi University and found declaration of results of B. A. Honors (Humanities and Social Sciences), Part II (Semester IV)-examination-2016,-Sr.No/SEM/2016/530-available at http://www.du.ac.in/du/uploads/Examination/Result/2016/UG/03102016_HUMANITIES-IV-SEM.pdf (accessed on 09.12.2016 at 16:44 hrs), which shows the roll no, name of the candidate, marks, passed or failed at a particular centre. This shows the contention of the CPIO is totally wrong as the Delhi University is placing the result of every candidate in public domain so that each student or any citizen can verify the marks/result of students along with their

name and roll number. There is a merit in the contention of the appellant that the CPIO invented these contentions only to deny the information in this case and they are totally in conflict with their own practice of publication of result.

He further stated that, "With regard to question whether disclosure of such identification related information causes invasion of privacy, or is that unwarranted invasion of privacy, the PIO has not put forward any evidence or explained possibility to show that disclosure of degree related information infringes the privacy or causes unwarranted invasion of privacy. If name and father's name, degree obtained, the date or the marks or the roll number are revealed, how can that cause invasion of privacy? The Commission observes that the disclosure of details of educational records of a student, maintained at University in no way infringes his/her right to privacy, hence there cannot be any violation of section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information Act, 2005. This is primarily because the matters relating to educational qualifications of a student (former/current) fall under the public domain.

7. Having examined the case, the synonymous legislations and previous decisions, the Commission states that matters relating to education of a student (current/ former) fall under the public domain and hence order the relevant public authority

to disclose information accordingly."(Case: Neeraj vs. Delhi University; File No.: CIC/SA/C/2016/900122; Date of decision: 21.12.2016)

8. The FAA has replied that marks obtained by other candidates cannot be provided under section 8(1)(j) as its a third party.

Central Information Commission (CIC): In a landmark case CIC held that a candidate can seek answer sheets of other candidates and that this is not marred by Section 8(1)(e) and Section 8(1)(j) of RTI Act. However, it is subject to Sections 3 and 6. The departmental examination which was conducted to decide the promotion on the job for the post of EO/AO comprised of four papers, out of which three were objective and one was descriptive in nature. Since the fourth paper was descriptive, no model answers were prepared. Around 3,000 candidates appeared in the exam out of which only 5 candidates were selected and this appellant was qualified but was not in the final list of four selected candidates as there were only four vacancies while the appellant stood at Number 5. Appellant wanted model answers for the Fourth Question paper also. The public authority has disclosed the questions and answers of all the candidates regarding three

papers but refused to give four answer-sheets of four qualified candidates to the appellant. The appellant claimed that he wanted to check the answers given by four who topped above him and where he lacked in and if he was really ineligible to secure promotion. The legality of demanding answer sheet in the examination is in principle upheld by the Supreme Court in CBSE v. Aditya Bandhopadhyay, (2011) 8 SCC 497 provided that the request is made during a reasonable time in which the authorities are expected to retain the answer scripts. SC held that answer book also does not fall under any of the exemption provided under (a) to (j) of sub-section 1 of Section 8 of RTI Act. So, an examining body does not hold the evaluated answer books in a fiduciary relationship under Section 8(1)(e)....

CIC observed that the most important point was that the rejection in CBSE and UPSC cases was not based on any exception under Section 8(1) including (e) & (j). CIC concluded that no such difficulty exists in the present case and the appellant was entitled to get copies of answer sheet of the four candidates who topped. [Shailendra Kumar Singh v. PIO, EPFO, CIC/EPFOG/A/2018/614958, decided on 08-06-2018]...

https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2018/06/13/cic-answer-sheet-of-other-candidates-can-also-be-sought-under-rti/

- 9. The denial of information by the PIO is in violation of the provisions of the RTI Act, tantamounting to deemed refusal in terms of Section 7(1) of the RTI Act which makes the PIO liable for penal action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act. The PIO has clearly failed to discharge its duties and obligations in the letter and spirit of the Act.
- 10. The concerned public authorities have ignored the definition of information under Section 2(f) of RTI Act which clearly states that information includes any material in any form, including records, documents, memos, emails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data, material held in any electronic form by a public authority, including information relating to any private body which can be accessed by a public authority under any other law for the time being in force. The information requested for by the applicant clearly falls within the category of Section 2(f) as it forms part of the documents and records maintained by the public authority.
- 11. The information sought by the applicant in the RTI Application is very much a part of the information maintained by the concerned public authority falling under

the definition of section 2(f) of the RTI Act and the PIO and FAA have no reasons whatsoever, of refusing to provide the information. In fact, the way in which the application has been dealt with highlights the negligent and apathetic manner and attitude.

12. In the judgment of MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS vs. GIRISH MITTAL, W.P.(C) 6088/2014 & D. CM Nos.14799/2014, 14800/2014 & D. CM Nos.14799/2014 & D. CM Nos.1479/2014 & D. CM

"Plainly, Section 18 of the Act enjoins the CIC to inter alia inquire into a complaint from any person who has been refused access to any information requested under the Act. In view of the unambiguous language of the provisions of the Act, the contention that CIC lacks the jurisdiction to impose a penalty on a complaint is ex facie without merit. The plain language of Section 20(1) of the Act indicates that it is not necessary that the penalty be imposed by the CIC only while considering an appeal; penalty can also be imposed by the CIC if on inquiry made pursuant to a complaint, it is found that a CPIO has not furnished the information in time or has knowingly given incorrect or incomplete information. Therefore, in my view, the jurisdiction exercised by CIC cannot be faulted."

The judgment lays down the provisions regarding imposing of penalties against the PIO who err in their obligations and duties. Under Section 20 of the RTI Act, keeping in mind the lackadaisical approach adopted by the authorities in dealing with the RTI Application, the PIO is liable for penal action.

Prayers or Relief Sought:

I appeal to you to kindly direct the concerned PIO to provide the correct and relevant information to the undersigned at the earliest, that is complete in all respects. I also humbly appeal to the Hon'ble Commission to levy penal/punitive action against the concerned officer for failing to provide a timely response and compensating the undersigned/appellant for the detriment caused for the reasons mentioned in the appeal above. The Hon'ble Commission may also pass any other or further orders in the interest of justice.

Verification:

I, Dr. Ritun Chakraborty chaudhuri hereby state that the information and

particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also declare that this matter is not previously filed with this commission non is pending with any Court or tribunal or authority

Yours sincerely

Dr. rifun

Dr. Ritun Chakraborty chaudhuri

Enciosures:

Annexure 1 - Copy of the original RTI Application.

Annexure 2 - Copy of the original First Appeal Application.

Copy To,

The Public Information Officer
Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research (IPGME&R) - SSKM Hospital

Address: 244, A.J.C. Bose Road,

Kolkata 700 020

The Right to Information Act, 2005

First Appeal for State Government

	I.D No	_Date:	[For office use]
To,			
The First Appellate Authority under RTI Ac	t		
Registrar, Institute of Post Graduate Medical Educat (IPGME&R) - SSKM Hospital Address: 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 70		ch	l .
Sir,			
As I am aggrieved by decision of State Public I for your kind decision.	information Offi	cer, I hereby filo	this appeal
1. Details of appellant			
1.1 Full Name: Dr. Ritun Chakraborty c	haudhuri		
1.2 Full Address:			
Disha (Near Khelaghar/Roopkotha Parl Fartabad, Garia Kolkata-700084	our) Horisova,		
1.3 Phone/Cell No: 8777816453			
1.4 Email ID: ritmicro@gmail.com			!

Dr Relien Chakraboshy Chaushuni

2. Details of State Public Information Officer (SPIO)

2.1 Name/Designation: Public Information Officer

2.2 Full Address:

Institute of Post Graduate Medical Education and Research (IPGME&R) - SSKM Hospital Address: 244, A.J.C. Bose Road, Kolkata 700 020

3. Details of RTI application to SPIO

Date of Application: Thursday, April 13th 2023

Mailed on: 13/04/2023 by Registered Post No.: EK305707765IN

Date of receipt by SPIO: 18/04/2023

4. Particulars of payment of filing fee:

Paid Rs.10/- by bank draft/pay slip/IPO No: By Court Fee Stamp

5. Details of information sought:

Please provide the following information regarding the Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022 under section 2(f) and 2(j) of the RTI act:

- 1) List of candidates appeared in the interview and their marks.
- 2) A certified list of shortlisted candidates with their marks and date of the publication of the final result in the IPGMER website.

Dr. Rilein Chakraboly Chaushuri

Department of Health and Family Welfare,

Govt of West Bengal

Institution - IPGMER, Kolkata

Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022

Name of the post.Research Associate III'

Project: Implementation of AMSP(antimicrobial Stewardship program) in various tertiary care centres across India.

6. Particulars of Decision of SPIO:

The PIO has replied that the marks obtained by the candidates in the interview, cannot be provided as its a third party.

7. Brief facts of the case:

Please provide the following information regarding the Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022 under section 2(f) and 2(j) of the RTI act:

- 1) List of candidates appeared in the interview and their marks.
- 2) A certified list of shortlisted candidates with their marks and date of the publication of the final result in the IPGMER website.

The copy of the RTI application has been attached herewith as Annexure 1.

8. Reasons/grounds for this appeal:

- 1. As the response from the PIO regarding the information as requested in the RTI application is unsatisfactory and amounts to denial of information, an appeal is preferred against the order of the concerned Public Information Officer under the section 19(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005.
- 2. It is clear from the response of the PIO that it is indeed the relevant and concerned public authority which is best equipped to deal and answer the queries of the RTI Applicant.
- 3. Under the RTI Act, 2005, a PIO is obliged to provide access to information to a citizen unless as stipulated by Section 7(1), furnishing of such information is covered by one of the exemptions provided under Section 8 or Section 9 of the RTI Act. The PIO has failed to discharge its duties and obligations by refusing to provide the information and failing to state the reasons for doing so under the law.

Dr Relieu Chakraboly Chaushuri

4. The PIO has replied that the marks obtained by the candidates in the interview, cannot be provided as its a third party.

CIC observed that the most important point was that the rejection in CBSE and UPSC cases was not based on any exception under Section 8(1) including (e) & (j). CIC concluded that no such difficulty exists in the present case and the appellant was entitled to get copies of answer sheet of the four candidates who topped. [Shailendra Kumar Singh v. PIO, EPFO, CIC/EPFOG/A/2018/614958, decided on 08-06-2018].

- 5. In Kewal Singh Gautam v. State of Chhattisgarh, AIR 2011 Chh 143, Chhattisgarh High Court held that conduct of examination by the departmental agency for promotion in Govt. department, are not private activities, but in public domain and the checking and evaluation of answer sheet by an examiner and the marks given by him upon assessment of performance has nothing to do with the privacy of either the examiner or those who are responsible for conducting the examination so Section 8 (1)(j) is not attracted....
- 6. IC Acharyulu stated that, "The Commission verified official website of Delhi University and found declaration of results of B. A. Honors (Humanities and Social Sciences), Part II (Semester IV)-examination-2016,-Sr.No/SEM/2016/530-available-at http://www.du.ac.in/du/uploads/Examination/Result/2016/UG/03102016_HUMANITIES-IV-SEM.pdf (accessed on 09.12.2016 at 16:44 hrs), which shows the roll no, name of the candidate, marks, passed or failed at a particular centre. This shows the contention of the CPIO is totally wrong as the Delhi University is placing the result of every candidate in public domain so that each student or any citizen can verify the marks/result of students along with their name and roll number. There is a merit in the contention of the appellant that the CPIO invented these contentions only to deny the information in this case and they are totally in conflict with their own practice of publication of results."

He further stated that, "With regard to question whether disclosure of such identification related information causes invasion of privacy, or is that unwarranted invasion of privacy, the PIO has not put forward any evidence or explained possibility to show that disclosure of degree related information infringes the privacy or causes unwarranted invasion of privacy. If name and father's name, degree obtained, the date or the marks or the roll number are revealed, how can that cause invasion of privacy? The Commission observes that the disclosure of details of educational records of a student, maintained at

University in no way infringes his/her right to privacy, hence there cannot be any violation of section 8(1)(j) of the Right to Information Act, 2005. This is primarily because the matters relating to educational qualifications of a student (former/current) fall under the public domain.

Having examined the case, the synonymous legislations and previous decisions, the Commission states that matters relating to education of a student (current/former) fall under the public domain and hence order the relevant public authority to disclose information accordingly."

(Case: Neeraj vs. Delhi University; File No.: CIC/SA/C/2016/900122; Date of decision: 21.12.2016)

https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2018/06/13/cic-answer-sheet-of-other-candidates-can-also-be-sought-under-rti/

https://www.scconline.com/blog/post/2018/06/13/cic-answer-sheet-of-other-candidates-can-also-be-sought-under-rti/

7. The meaning of information under Section 2(f) of RTI Act clearly states that it includes any material in any form, including records, documents, memos, emails, opinions, advices, press releases, circulars, orders, logbooks, contracts, reports, papers, samples, models, data material held in any electronic form. The information requested for by the applicant clearly falls under the category of Section 2(f) of RTI Act. Thus according to the meaning provided under the RTI Act, it is obligatory upon the PIO to disclose the entire set of information requested for by the applicant.

8. The PIO has failed to discharge its duties and obligations and has adopted an arbitrary and lackadaisical approach towards dealing with the concerned RTI application. The PIO has also further failed to inform the applicant as to why this information has not been disclosed to the applicant and its reasons thereof. Section 4(1) (d) of the RTI Act clearly lays down that every public authority shall have to disclose the reasons for its decisions to the affected persons.

Dr. Relieu Chakrabosty Chaushuri

9 Any other information in support of appeal:

10 Prayer/relief sought for:

Kindly direct the PIO concerned to provide the requested information to the undersigned at the earliest or provide legal reasons for denial of information if it intends to reject the application.

11. Personal Presence at hearing: NO

Dr Rilien Chakrabosly Chaushuri

12. Enclosures:

Photocopies of original RTI application with its enclosures, postal proof of mailing

13. Declaration:

I hereby state that the information and particulars given above are true to the best of my knowledge and belief. I also declare that this matter is not previously filed with any information commission nor is pending with any Court or tribunal or authority.

Signature of appellant

Dritun

Monday, May 29th 2023

1193016

The Right to Information Act 2005 Application for obtaining information

From

Dr. Ritun Chakraborty chaudhuri Disha (Near Khelaghar/Roopkotha Parlour) Horisova, Fartabad, Garia Kolkata-700084

To

The Public Information Officer
Assistant Secretary,
Health & Family Welfare Department
Swasthya Bhawan
GN-29, Sector-V,
Salt Lake, Kolkata - 700 091

SUB: Candidates selected in the Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550

Dear Public Information Officer:

Under the Right to Information Act 2005, Section 6, I need some information. The details of the information are as follows

1. Details of the applicant

Name: Dr. Ritun Chakraborty Chaudhuri

Email: ritmicro@gmail.com

Address: Disha (Near Khelaghar/Roopkotha Parlour) Horisova, Fartabad, Garia

Kolkata-700084 Phone: 8777816453

2. Period to which the information relates: 2022-2023

Dr. Relien Chakrabosly Chaushuri

3. Details of Information

Please provide the following information regarding the Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022 under section 2(f) and 2(j) of the RTI act:

- 1) List of candidates appeared in the interview and their marks.
- 2) A certified list of shortlisted candidates with their marks and date of the publication of the final result in the IPGMER website.

Department of Health and Family Welfare,
Govt of West Bengal
Institution - IPGMER, Kolkata
Adv.no./Memo no. Inst./2550 dated 24.5.2022
Name of the post.Research Associate III
Project: Implementation of AMSP(antimicrobial Stewardship program) in various tertiary care centres across India.

4. Application fee details

Encl. Application Fee of Rs 10/- By Court Fee Stamp

5. Below Items are for your kind information and consideration

a. As per section 6(3) of the RTI Act 2005, In case, the requested information is held by another public authority. I request the PIO to transfer the application or part of it within FIVE days and immediately inform me about such transfer. b. As per section 7(3) of the RTI Act 2005, In case, there are further fee required to provide the requested information, I request the PIO to inform me of the additional fee amount along with the calculations made to arrive at the amount.

c. As per section 7(8)(iii) and 7(3)(ii) of the RTI Act 2005, I request the PIO to inform me of the particulars of First Appellate Authority.

Er Relieu Chakrabosty Chaushuri

6. Deciaration

I declare that I am a citizen of India.

Dr Rilien Chakrabosty Chaushuri

Yours faithfully,

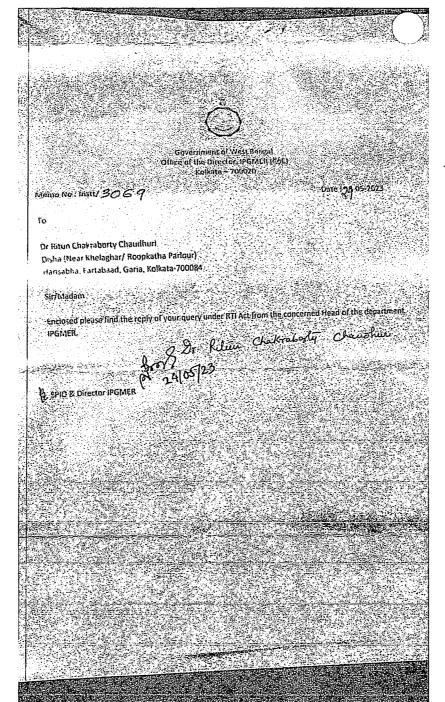
Drintun

Thursday, ΑρηίΙ 13th 2023

IPGLIER Kalkata Sub: 8TI application filed by Dr. Ritun Chakraborty (Chaudhuri unider section 6(3) of RTI Act., 2005. [Candidates selected in the Adv. no. / Memoria Inst. / 2550]. The above RTI vas forviarded to my office on 2.5.2023. I there gone through the available records at my office and the following information regarding the Adv. no./Memo no lines, 72550 dated 24.5.2022 is found. found Thanking you in anticipation, Yours' faithfully. DA Asım Kumar Kundu Dated, Kolkata-The 4th day of May 2023 Professor and Head
PI Department of Cyllifest Care Medicine
1960REA SSEAM Hospital
Implementation of AMSP in Various centres across India IPOMER Kolkata Dr. Kilium Chakrabooly Chaushun Moles - 5910112128 Eurost - Chikinichteoline D. Johnstein Cyfree Judsten y Department T. Ect-[PLIFER]

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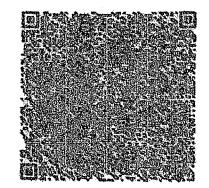


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ऋतुं चक्रबर्ती चौधरी Ritun Chakraborty Chaudhuri जन्म तिथि/ DOB: 05/01/1985 महिला / FEMALE



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मेरा आधार, मेरी पहचान



THE PROPERTY OF INDIA

पताः

आत्मजा: अजोय चक्रवर्ती, खेलगढ़ होरिसोवा के पास, दिशा- फ़रतबाद गरिया कोलकतां 84, गरिया, साउथ 24 परगानास, वेस्ट बंगाल - 700084 Address:

D/O: Ajoy Chakraborty, Near khelagarh horisova, dishafartabad garia kolkata 84, Garia, South 24 Parganas, West Bengal - 700084

Dr. Rilein Chakrabosly Chaushuri

9127 1360 5529

MERA AADHAAR, MERI PEHACHAN

IPGME&R & CILATA Sub - FT application of Dr. Ritun Chakraborty Chaudhuri (First Appeal for state Government) The RTI at 2005 ٠ ي The undersigned had received the RTI application through The DSNM on 7.6.23. She is aggressed by decision of state Public Information Officer, probably I am not the person concerned. 100 had submitted the relevant information earlier where the justification was also given for not providing third party information. est of candidates appeared in the interview:a Ritun Chakraborty Chaudhuri. t Raja Chakraverty. c Ujjam: Roy reformation sought regarding Marks obtained by other candidates – is a "Personal Information" related to the Third Party. The disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest. The a scrosure of such information is exempted under section 8(1) (j) of the RTI Act. 2 Earner I had attached a copy of Shortlisted Candidates. Transing you in anticipation rours' faithfully, Cr Asim Kumar Kundu Dated, Kolkata, the 16th day of June 2023 Professor & HOD

CCV

251/12