

Applications Under The RTI Act, 2005 Important Information

Applications seeking information under the Act may be sent along with the prescribed fee in Ringgit Malaysia, equivalent to Indian Rs.10/- in cheque or demand draft favouring High Commission of India, Kuala Lumpur [The approximate RM-Rupees conversion rate is RM 1.00 = Rs. 17.00]

The Government of India has launched a service called e-IPO (Electronic Indian Postal Order) to enable Indian Citizens abroad to purchase an Indian Postal Order electronically by paying fee on-line through e-Post Office Portal i.e. <http://www.epostoffice.gov.in> or www.indiapost.gov.in. This facility has been provided for Indian Citizens abroad to enable them to purchase a Postal Order electronically to seek information under the RTI Act, 2005. The User needs to get himself registered at either of the two websites. He has to select the Ministry/Department from whom he desires to seek the information under the RTI Act and the e-IPO so generated, by making payment using Debit or Credit card, can be used to seek information from that Ministry/Department only. A printout of the e-IPO is required to be attached with the RTI application. An e-IPO so generated must be used only once with an RTI application.

This facility is only for purchasing an Indian Postal Order electronically. All the requirements for filing an RTI application as well as other provisions regarding eligibility, time limit, exemptions, etc. will continue to apply.

It may be noted that information provided under the Act is available to citizens of India only. Applications should be submitted along with documentary proof of Indian Citizenship (like copy of personal particulars pages of passport.) More information is available at <http://rti.gov.in>

It may also be pointed out that as per section 6(1) (a) of the RTI Act, 2005, a person who desires to obtain information under the Act is required to submit the application to the Public Information Officer (PIO) of the “concerned public authority”. Applicants are, therefore, advised to send their requests under the RTI Act to the High Commission only when the subject matter can reasonably be presumed to pertain to the High Commission. While section 6(3) provides for the transfer of an application by a receiving PIO to another [concerned] PIO, this is clearly meant to cover situations where the application is addressed to a PIO on the assumption that it has been directed to the concerned PIO. Where the information required obviously does not pertain to the High Commission, the application may be addressed to the concerned PIO directly.
