

**File No. MoES/29/115/2012-RTI  
Ministry of Earth Sciences  
Government of India**

**By Speed Post**

**Prithvi Bhawan, IMD Campus,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi.  
Dated – 12<sup>th</sup> February, 2013.**

To,

Shri Dev Kumar Mondal  
C/o Ranjan Kumar Mondal  
Village & Post Radhanagar,  
P.S. Namkhana, Distt. South 24 Parganas,  
West Bengal.

Subject:-Information sought by Shri Dev Kumar Mondal C/o Ranjan Kumar Mondal Village & Post Radhanagar, P.S. Namkhana, Distt. South 24 Parganas, West Bengal under under RTI Act 2005.

Sir,

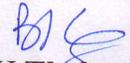
Kindly refer to your appeal dated 22/01/2013 (received in this Ministry on 28/1/2013) on the above mentioned subject.

2. The reply received from the concerned officers vide letters No. DOD/JR/329/2013 dated 7/2/2013 of the Registrar, Calcutta University through Ministry of Earth Sciences, New Delhi is enclosed for your information.

3. In case you are not satisfied, you may file an appeal within 30 days to the date of receipt of this letter to the appellate authority i.e. Shri Rishi Kumar, Deputy Secretary (ICC), Ministry of Earth Sciences, Prithvi Bhawan, IMD Campus, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003.

Encl:-As above.

Yours faithfully

  
(B.K.Thakur)  
CPIO & Sc 'B'

Tel. No. 01124669535

Copy for information to:-

1. Deputy Secretary (ICC), MoES, New Delhi.
2. Dr. M. Sudhakar, Transparency Officer, MoES, New Delhi.
3. PPS to Secretary / JS, MoES, New Delhi.
4. In charge IT (Shri Krishnan) to upload the reply on web.



# S. N. PRADHAN CENTRE FOR NEUROSCIENCES

UNIVERSITY OF CALCUTTA

35, BALLYGUNGE CIRCULAR ROAD, KOLKATA - 700 019, INDIA

*Jharna Ray, M.Sc., Ph.D.*  
Sikta Pradhan Professor of Neuroscience  
Executive Director

**URGENT**

**Ref No. DOD/JR/331/2013**

February 8, 2013

To  
CPIO  
Ministry of Earth Sciences  
Prithvi Bhavan,  
IMD Campus,  
Opp India Habitat Centre  
Lodi Road New Delhi-110 003  
Tel:+011-2462 9771; Fax: +011-2462 9777

**Subject: Response to RTI of Debkumar Mondal; Dated: 16/10/12**

Dear Dr. Khare,

Please find attached the responses to the above mentioned RTI which I received for the first time on February 4, 2013 as an email attachment. Thanking you

Sincerely yours,

Jharna Ray

Send it to  
Dorlen  
Mondal  
BPR  
12/2/13

**Date: February 8, 2013**

**Response to the RTI of dated: 16/10/2012**  
(Received as e-mail attachment only on February 4, 2013)

*Project Title:* Chemical and Pharmacological Investigation of Indian Marine  
Poisonous Fishes  
*PI :* Prof. Jharna Ray, S. N. Pradhan Centre for Neurosciences, University of Calcutta,  
Kolkata; *Sanction period :* 2007- 2012

**Response to queries:**

**1(a)**

- *Number of Field Trips made by Prof. J Ray and her group [Date and duration]*  
[April 1, 2010 to March 31, 2011] – 65 (approx.); Duration - 2-12 days/trip  
[April 1, 2011 to March 31, 2012] – 15 (approx.); Duration - 2-11 days/trip
- *Amount spent for Field*  
Rs.7.5 lakhs (approx) [2010-2011]; Rs.0.9 lakhs (approx) [2011-2012]
- *Specimen collected*  
~ 60 [2010-2011]; ~ 20 [2011-2012]

**1(b)**

- *Total amount of money spent for field related purposes (including travel, food, lodging):*  
Rs.7.5 lakhs (approx) [2010-2011]; Rs.0.9 lakhs (approx) [2011-2012]

**1 (c)**

- *No of new specimen identified* – 17 [2010-2011] and 3 [2011-2012]
- *Name of the Institute identified specimens* – ZSI, Kolkata

**Query No. 2. is not relevant for CU and therefore not answered**

*Jharna Ray*



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*Jharna Ray, M.Sc., Ph.D.*

*Sikta Pradhan Professor of Neuroscience  
Executive Director*

**Ref. No. DOD/JR/329/2013**

February 7, 2013

To  
The Registrar  
University of Calcutta  
Kolkata

**Subject: Response to the letter from MoES**  
[Ref. No. MoES/9-DS/06/2007-PC-IV; Dated : 31-1-13]

Dear Sir,

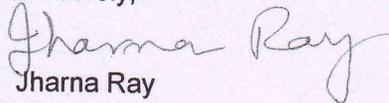
I am responding to the letter sent by Dr. N. Khare, Scientist F & Director, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India with allegation against me regarding non-response related to a RTI received by the Ministry. A copy of his letter is enclosed herewith for your better understanding of my response. First, I am shocked and surprised by the content of the letter by Dr. Khare. Most of his allegations are absolutely baseless. Here are my point wise comments regarding the content of the letter:

- I do not appreciate that having worked on the project under MoES for last 5 years and all the communications with the office, Calcutta University is referred as 'Kolkata' University in his letter.
- The RTI filed by Mr. D. K. Mondal alleged to have been sent to me "some 4 months back" has never reached me even if it was sent. He has not given a proof that it was sent nor did he send even a single reminder to ensure that I have actually received the document. Therefore, there is no issue for a response when I did not have a query. Actually, on February 4, 2013, for the first time ever, I received a copy of the RTI as an attachment to an email.
- Quite contrary to my being 'non-responsive', he never communicated regarding the matter even if he had sent and I did not receive the copy of the RTI. Actually, for the first time ever I heard from Mr. S. Manna (PA of Dr. N. Khare) on January 3, 2013 during his visit to Ballygunge Science College (see below for more details) that there is a pending RTI which the MoES need to address.
- Mr. Manna made a single visit to my office on January 3, 2013. He was courteous and professional in his approach. He enquired about the progress made during the tenure of the project, what equipments were purchased, the UCs sent, etc. Prior to his departure he mentioned that MoES has received a RTI and the Ministry needs reply from me to some queries to be able to address the questions raised. He DID NOT give me any copy of RTI and he DID NOT tell me any specific timeline by which I must respond.
- Mr Khare's letter sent to you is dated 31/01/2013 and concludes with the sermon that "this Ministry expects her reply LATEST BY 3<sup>RD</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2013". However, he sent the letter to me as an attachment to email on 5<sup>TH</sup> OF FEBRUARY 2013 not giving me any opportunity to meet the 'expectation'.

All my comments in this letter are based on documentary evidence. I am deeply offended by the allegations in the letter without any supporting evidence. Dr. Khare's approach to the problem is not at all helpful and very easy to alienate people.

Finally, I like to inform you that I plan to send response to the queries related to the RTI that I received for the first time on 4<sup>th</sup> February at my earliest despite ongoing term exam of the M.Sc. students to finish their semester. I understand the urgency of responding to RTI and plan to do as soon as possible – once I am adequately informed about it. With kind regards,

Sincerely,

  
Jharna Ray

TIME LINE OF COMMUNICATION FROM DR. KHARE'S OFFICE:

- (1) January 3, 2013: Visit by Mr. S. Manna
- (2) February 4, 2013: Email from Dr. Khare [attachments: (a) Copy of RTI dated 16/10/2012; and (b) Cover letter dated 01/02/2013 with a suggested response time of 7 days]
- (3) February 5, 2013: Email from Dr. Khare [attachment: Letter to the Registrar, Calcutta University dated Jan 31, 2013 and asking for response by 03/02/2013]

**Copy to :**

- (1) Dr. N. Khare, Director, MoES
- (2) Vice-Chancellor, University of Calcutta
- (3) CPIO, MoES, Prithvi Bhavan, New Delhi - 3

भारत सरकार  
GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
पृथ्वी विज्ञान मंत्रालय  
MINISTRY OF EARTH SCIENCES  
पृथ्वी भवन, लोदी रोड, नई दिल्ली-110003  
Prithvi Bhavan, Lodhi Road, New Delhi-110003

FAX : 91-11-24629779  
PHONE:

RTI Matter  
Speed Post

संख्या  
No. MoES/3-DS/06/2007-PC-IV

नई दिल्ली-110003  
New Delhi-110003 31.1.13

To  
Registrar  
Kolkata University  
College Street, Kolkata-

Sub : Non-receipt of mandatory inputs under Right to Information Act, 2005 – Matter related to the project titled ' Chemical & Pharmacological Investigation of Indian Marine Poisonous Fishes, PI Prof. Jharna Ray' under " DRUGS FROM SEA PROGRAMME" of Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt. of India, New Delhi project undertaken by S.N.Pradhan College Centre for Neurosciences, Ballygunj Circular Road, Kolkata.

Sir,

Shri D.K.Mondal, an RTI applicant has constantly been asking questions pertaining to Prof. Jharna Ray's background and professional capability with regard to the research of above mentioned project and being handled by Prof. Ray which is being sponsored by MoES.

On receipt of such queries from Shri Mondal under RTI Act, 2005 this Ministry has issued request letter to Prof. Ray, some 4 months back seeking inputs/clarifications from her on various questions raised under RTI Act, 2005.

It has been noticed that on matters relating to RTI, Prof. Ray appears to be non-responsive, non-cooperative and non-committed. She has not been replying to any of our correspondence made with her on this matter. Since the matter pertains to RTI, it is mandatory on the part of Prof. Ray to provide detailed inputs along with authenticated relevant documents for which RTI questions are raised.

When the matter reached to an appellate stage and on receiving such a strange behavior and response from Prof. Ray, one official from MoES was specially sent to Kolkata to contact her in person on 03.01.2013 and impress upon her the gravity of the situation. The official also requested her to give inputs on the RTI application without wasting any further

time. Unfortunately, inspite of a written note/request handed over to her, she has not replied back even after almost one month.

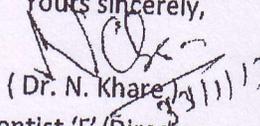
Now, Shri Mondal has approached the FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY for not receiving of required reply under RTI Act, 2005. The next date of Hearing on the matter is fixed for 11<sup>th</sup>

February, 2013 and by this time the required information must reach to this Ministry, failing which the matter may even reach to CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION.

You are, therefore, requested to advise and instruct Prof. Ray, to comply with the required replies asked for by Shri Mondal through this Ministry under RTI Act, 2005, there does exist a provision that the person to whom the inputs are sought, may be asked to appear before CIC in case of default. Even a penalty of upto Rs.25,000/- could also be levied on the non-responsive person if CIC views the matter seriously.

An early action in this matter will be highly appreciated and this Ministry expects her reply **LATESE BY 3<sup>RD</sup> OF FEBRUARY, 2013.**

Encl :

Yours sincerely,  
  
( Dr. N. Khare )  
Scientist 'F'/Director

- Copy to : 1) Vice Chancellor, Kolkata University, Kolkata  
2) Prof. Jharna Ray, SNP Centre for Neuro Sciences, Kolkata University,  
Ballygunj Circular Road, Kolkata,  
3) CPIO, MoES, Prithvi Bhavan, New Delhi-3