

No. PLR (AR) L (5)-4/2006
Government of Himachal Pradesh
Administrative Reforms Organization

From

The Principal Secretary (AR) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh.

To

1. All the Administrative Secretaries,
to the Government of Himachal Pradesh
2. All the Head of the Departments
in Himachal Pradesh
3. All the Deputy Commissioners/Div. Commissioners
in Himachal Pradesh
4. All the Managing Directors of Boards/
Corporations in Himachal Pradesh.
5. All the Vice Chancellors of
Universities in Himachal Pradesh.

Dated: Shimla-171002, the 10th Nov., 2008

Subject: Guidelines for providing information under the Right to Information Act, 2005 to the BPL families as determined by the State Government.

Sir,

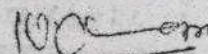
I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to say that as per provisions contained under Section 5 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 and Rule 5 of the I.P. Right to Information Rules, 2006, the BPL families have been exempted from payment of fee for supply of information. At present the number of BPL families identified by the Rural Development Department in Himachal Pradesh is 282570. However, the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Govt. of India, in 2005, intimated that the BPL households for I.P. are 5.14 lacs. But the I.P. State Government has decided that the additional families over and above 2.82 lacs, will be entitled only for the subsidized foodgrains at the BPL rates and not other benefits.

It has come to the notice of the Government that those BPL families who are entitled only for the subsidized foodgrains and not other benefits, are also seeking information free of cost under the Right to Information Act, 2005. To make it more clear it is brought to your kind notice that the benefit of BPL is given on the basis of certificate issued by the Rural Development Department and not on the basis of ration card, which is issued only for the purpose of subsidized foodgrains at BPL rates.

It is, therefore requested that the benefit of supply of information free of cost as provided under Section 5 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 and Rule 5 of the H.P. Right to Information Rules, 2006 may kindly be given strictly on the basis of certificate issued by the Rural Development Department to the BPL families.

These instructions may kindly be brought to the notice of all the Appellate Authorities, PIO and APIOs for strict compliance on top priority basis.

Yours faithfully,



Deputy Secretary (AR) to the
Government of Himachal Pradesh