

CLASSIFIED INFORMATION

The following is exempt from disclosure :

- information, disclosure of which would prejudicially affect the sovereignty and integrity of India, the security, strategic, scientific or economic interests of the State, relation with foreign State or lead to incitement of an offence;
- information which has been expressly forbidden to be published by any court of law or tribunal or the disclosure of which may constitute contempt of court;
- information, the disclosure of which would cause a breach of privilege of Parliament or the State Legislature;
- information including commercial confidence, trade secrets or intellectual property, the disclosure of which would harm the competitive position of a third part, unless the competent Department is satisfied that larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information;
- information available to a person in his fiduciary relationship, unless that competent Department is satisfied that the larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information;
- information received in confidence from foreign Government;
- information, the disclosure of which would endanger the life or physical safety of any person or identify the source of information or assistance given in confidence for law enforcement or security purposes;
- information which would impede the process of investigation or apprehension or prosecution of offenders;
- cabinet papers including records of deliberations of the Council of Ministers, Secretaries and other officers;
- information which relates to personal information the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest, or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual;

Notwithstanding any of the exemptions listed above, a Public authority may allow access to information, if public interest in disclosure outweighs the harm to the protected interests.

CITIZEN'S CHARTER enunciates that we shall commit that the personal and business information disclosed to us will be kept confidential.

- **Sec 8(1)(d)** - information including commercial confidence, trade secrets or intellectual property, the disclosure of which would harm the competitive position of a third part, unless the competent authority is satisfied that larger public interest warrants the disclosure of such information;
- **Sec 8(2)** – Notwithstanding anything in the Official Secrets Act, 1923 nor any of the exemptions permissible in accordance with sub-section (1), a public authority may allow access to information, if public interest in disclosure outweighs the harm to protected interests.
- **Sec 9** provides for rejection of access of information involving “*infringement of copyright subsisting in a person other than the State*”.