F.No. I/11034/37/2014-LWE/LWEO-I Government of India Ministry of Home Affairs Left Wing Extremism Division

Room No. 193-A/1, North Block, New Delhi, the 28th August, 2014

To

Shri Venkatesh Naik, B-117, 2nd Floor, Sarvodaya Enclave, New Delhi – 110 017

Sub.: First appeal dated 3.8.2014 under section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 before the JS(LWE) of this Ministry.

Whereas, this has reference to your first appeal dated 03.08.2014 under section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 against the reply provided vide this Ministry's letter of even number dated 1st July, 2014 in response to your application under the RTI Act, 2005 bearing No. RTI/GOI/MHA/2014/2 dated 05/06/2014 seeking information regarding a purported Note placed before the Cabinet Committee on Security mentioned in an article titled "Anti-Naxal Battle: Will Air Force Gunships Enter Fight Now?" published in Delhi Edition of the Economic Times dated June 4, 2014.

- 2. Whereas, upon consideration of the appeal, it is seen that it pertains to a purported undated Cabinet Note, mentioned in a newspaper article without any acknowledgment of the source of such information.
- 3. Whereas, it is informed that it is not incumbent upon the Ministry of Home Affairs to confirm or deny the existence of the purported Cabinet Note since in terms of section 8(1)(i) of Right to Information Act, 2005, such material if any, is exempt from disclosure.
- 4. Whereas, it is further informed that disclosure of any information on Strategy against the Maoist insurgency prejudicially affects the sovereignty and integrity of India and hence such information is also exempt from disclosure under section 8(1) (a) of the RTI Act, 2005.

5. Whereas, in view of the above facts and circumstances, the first appeal by the appellant is liable to be dismissed accordingly.

(M.A. Ganapathy) 29/8 Joint Secretary (LWE) Telephone: 23092456

....contd. 2/-

Copy to:-

- 1. US(RTI), MHA, North Block for information w.r.t the OM No. A-43020/01/2014-RTI dated 11/06/2014.
- 2. SO (IT Cell), MHA, North Block, New Delhi along with a copy of the aroresaid RTI Appeal for uploading the same in the MHA website as per the guidelines of this Ministry issued vide OM No. A-43020/61/2013-RTI(Pt.I) dated 23.4.2014.