

03 DEC 2019

Ajay Kumar
fyi-request-11281-774150a8@requests.fyi.org.nz

Ref: DOIA 1920-0624

Dear Mr Kumar,

I refer to your official information request, which was received by the Ministry of Business, Innovation & Employment (the Ministry) on 14 October 2019. You requested, under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), the following information:

1. Is the data given in table is for partner of a new Zealander(Citizens and residents). Like you said there are 661 files are on hand in Mumbai branch. 2. Are these 661 files is the total number of partnership files that has been in the Mumbai branch and waiting to be allocated for a case officer? 3.How many partnership* files are remaining in Mumbai branch which have been waiting for a case officer that will be allocated and how many files are in process or allocated a case officer at present on 14th October 2019 in Mumbai branch?*

Our response

Question One

The table provided with DOIA 1920-0515 included visitor visa applications from partners of:

- New Zealand citizens,
- New Zealand residence class visa holders,
- New Zealand temporary entry class visa holders.

Question Two

The table provided with DOIA 1920-0515 showed the number of visitor visa applications that had not yet been decided (approved or declined). It did not address the number of unallocated applications, as that information was not requested.

Question Three

On 14 October 2019, there were 596 partnership-based visitor visa applications and 545 partnership-based work visa applications on hand at our Mumbai office.

To provide the number of visa applications that were allocated and unallocated on 14 October 2019, we would need to manually check each of the 1,141 applications referred to above. This part of your request therefore is refused under section 18(f) of the OIA as the information requested cannot be made available without substantial collation or research.

In accordance with s 18A of the OIA, I have considered whether fixing a charge under s 15 or extending the time limit under s 15A would enable your request to be granted, but it is my view that neither would do so.

In accordance with s 18B of the OIA, I have also considered whether consulting with you would assist you to make the request in a form that would remove the reason for the refusal, but in my view it would not.

If you wish to discuss any aspect of your request or this response, please contact Fraser Stretton at fraser.stretton@mbie.govt.nz.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Nicola Hogg', written in a cursive style.

Nicola Hogg
General Manager Border and Visa Operations
Immigration New Zealand
Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment