



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

Mr Milan

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By e-mail to: request-161737-b41ff476@whatdotheyknow.com

17 June 2013

Dear Mr Milan,

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST – REF: 0455-13

Thank you for your e-mail of 16 May requesting access, under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), to any information held by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) on the death of Indian nationalist leader Subhash Chandra Bose, in particular (a) when he actually died and (b) what was the actual cause of his death.

Under the Public Records Act the FCO has been transferring files selected for permanent preservation to The National Archives (TNA) at the 30-year mark. Starting this year, this is reducing progressively to 20 years by 2022 under the provisions of the Constitutional Reform and Governance Act 2010. The online catalogue on the TNA website at www.nationalarchives.gov.uk shows what documents the FCO has already transferred.

Most FCO records selected for permanent preservation will normally have been transferred to TNA. However, as the India Office Records have been administered as public records by the British Library (BL) since 1982 you may also find it helpful to search their catalogue at http://searcharchives.bl.uk/primo_library/libweb/action/search.do?dscnt=1&dstmp=1354191311984&vid=IAMS_VU2&fromLogin=true.

I have carried out my own search of the BL catalogue and have identified a number of file references which may contain information relevant to your request - copies are enclosed with this reply.

I have also carried out my own search of the TNA catalogue, and have identified the following file references which may be relevant to your request, namely FO 371/121012, FO 1093/272 and FO 1093/404. I can confirm that the FCO is not holding any retained material for these references.

I have also identified a War Office file reference which may be relevant to your request: WO 208/3812. Because this file is from another government department the FCO is unable to say whether or not there are any retained extracts. If you wish to see this file you will need to contact TNA in the first instance and if there are any retained extracts you will then need to make a separate FOI request to the Ministry of Defence at www.mod.uk/DefenceInternet/FreedomOfInformation.

I can also confirm that the FCO cannot identify any other information relevant to your request which we hold.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact me, quoting the reference number above in any future communications.

If you wish to make a complaint or if you would like a review of our decision, please write to the Information Rights Team at Room K4.10-13, King Charles Street, London SW1A 2AH, or by e-mail to dp-foi.img@fco.gov.uk. You have 40 working days to do so from the date of this letter.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint, you may then apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the FCO. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at: Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Pring

Information Management Department



We keep and use information in line with the Data Protection Act 1998. We may release this personal information to other UK government departments and public authorities.