



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

South Asia Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
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Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

21 October 2014

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 0869-14

Thank you for your email of 6 September asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

Please could you provide me with details of entertainment and corporate hospitality expenses for the past six months for the British Deputy High Commissioner, 20 Anderson Road, Chennai, 600 006, India.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested.

I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information that falls within the scope of your request. In answer to your above question: I can confirm that from the period 1 March 2014 to 31 August 2014 British Deputy High Commission Chennai spent a total of £10,805.47 on all corporate hospitality - a total of 36 events.

The Deputy High Commissioner in Chennai does not have his own corporate hospitality budget. The budget is used by the whole of the Post to deliver objectives which enhance the UK-India relationship.

The FCO undertakes a vast range of activities to establish and maintain diplomatic contacts throughout our network of over 260 overseas posts, as well as diplomatic activity in the UK to promote British interests. This includes meetings and events hosted for political and business delegations (including those in support of UK Trade and Industry). Any such spending is undertaken for business reasons and expenditure on hospitality is kept under close scrutiny to ensure value for money and effectiveness.

In keeping with the spirit and effect of the Freedom of Information Act, all information is assumed to be releasable to the public unless it is exempt. The information we have supplied to you may now be published on our website together with any related information that will provide a key to its wider context.

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Yours sincerely,

Assistant Desk Officer, India
South Asia Department



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