



Foreign &
Commonwealth
Office

South Asia Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
King Charles Street
London SW1A 2AH

Website: <https://www.gov.uk>

3 March 2016

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 REQUEST REF: 1089-15

Thank you for your email of 12 November asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

I would be grateful if you could provide copies of all communications between Lord Mandelson/Global Counsel and FCO posts in:

- a) China
- b) India
- c) Brazil

Please also provide copies of internal communications relating to any occasions Lord Mandelson has stayed overnight at posts/official residences in the above countries.

In order to reduce the costs associated with carrying out this request please restrict your searches to communications involving foreign posts - rather than desks in London - and the period from October 2010 to today.

Due to the reasonable cost limit, you refined your request to only cover India.

I am writing to confirm that we have now completed the search for the information which you requested. I apologise for the length of time in responding. I can confirm that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) does hold information relevant to your request, but do not hold information for Lord Mandelson's visit of November 2010.

I am pleased to attach the documents being released. Some of the information you have requested, is personal data relating to third parties, the disclosure of which would contravene one of the data protection principles. In such circumstances sections 40(2) and (3) of the

Freedom of Information Act apply. In this case, our view is that disclosure would breach the first data protection principle. This states that personal data should be processed fairly and lawfully. It is the fairness aspect of this principle, which, in our view, would be breached by disclosure. In such circumstances, s.40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Yours sincerely,

South Asia 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.