

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

Website: https://www.gov.uk

12 August 2015

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 - REQUEST REF: 0690-15

Thank you for your e-mail of 10 July asking for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000. You asked:

'I would like documents concerning the controversy surrounding the alleged racism that occurred on Celebrity Big Brother during its broadcast from 3rd-30th January, 2007. I understand this matter was raised with the British Ambassador to India and the Prime Minister by the Indian Government'

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 relevant to your request.

Please find attached the information that the FCO can release to you. Some of this information has been withheld under Section 40 – Personal Information. 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, section 40 confers an absolute exemption on disclosure. There is, therefore, no public interest test to apply.

Once an FOI request is answered, it is considered to be in the public domain. To promote transparency, we may now publish the response and any material released on <u>gov.uk</u> in the <u>FOI releases</u> section. All personal information in the letter will be removed before publishing.

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Yours sincerely,

South Asia Department



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