

**RTI REFERENCE/SPEED POST**

**File No. V-11021/33/2017-Arms  
Government of India,  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
(IS-II Div., Arms Section)**

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1<sup>st</sup> Floor, NDCC-II Bldg., Jai Singh Road,  
New Delhi-01. Dated: 3<sup>rd</sup> June, 2017.  
July

To

✓ Sh. Manbir Singh  
R/o 4313 Ranjitpura,  
P.O-Khalsa College Amritsar  
Punjab-143002.

**Sub: Application under Right to information Act. 2005- reg.**

Sir,

Kindly refer to online RTI Regt. No. MHOME/R/2016/52256 dated 16.08.2016 (received to the undersigned on 20.05.2017), In this regard, Point wise reply of above mention RTI is furnished as under:-

**1. Reply of point No.1:-** The Arms Rules, 2016 have laid down categorization of air weapons for licensing purposes in clause (f) of Item III as under —

(f)		Air weapons including air rifles and air guns	
	(i)	having muzzle energy exceeding 20 joules or 15 ft. lbs. and/or bore exceeding 0.177" or 4.5 mm	Ammunition for arms of category III (f) (i)
	(ii)	having muzzle energy less than 20 joules or 15 ft. lbs. and /or bore less than 0.177" or 4.5 mm	Ammunition for arms of category III (f) (ii)

As per Schedule II, licences are required for all categories of item III except f(ii), i.e. no licence under the arms rules is mandatory for air weapons including air rifles and air guns having muzzle energy less than 20 joules or 15 ft. lbs. and /or bore less than 0.177" or 4.5 mm. Hence, .22 air weapons will be subject to licensing requirements for grant of licence under Form III, as in the case of other firearms. It needs a mention that air weapons fall under the definition of firearms as contained in clause (e) of sub-section 1 of section 2 of the Arms Act, 1959. Once subject to licensing requirements, the air rifle owners shall be subject to the same provisions as are applicable to other categories of firearms under the Arms Act, 1959 including adverse police report etc.

**Note**

The air weapons were exempted vide Notification No.GSR 991 dated 13.7.1962 as per S. No. 3 of Schedule II of the said notification. The said entry still exists and has not been withdrawn by the Central Government in the Ministry of Home Affairs. Since the exemption under section 41 of the Arms Act, 1959 is still being continued; the provisions contained in the Arms Rules, 2016 will have no consequential effects till the withdrawal of the said exemption contained in the said notification.

**Reply of point No. 2:-** Any firearm which does not have proper markings shall be subject to the procedure as contained in rule 34 of the Arms Rules, 2016

**Reply of Point No. 3:-** Conversion of air-rifle of .22 caliber or any higher caliber to any lower caliber may be carried out under rule 78 by a gunsmith holding a licence in Form IX. There is no restriction on such a conversion.

**Reply of Point No. 4 & 5:-** The limit of maximum three (3) firearms as contained in section 3 shall be applicable on air weapons also and such air weapons shall be counted in arriving at the figure of three firearms. The owners of air weapons shall be subject to all the offences as are applicable of other categories of firearms.

Yours faithfully,



**(Rajesh Ranjan)**

Under Secretary to the Government of India/CPIO

Tele: 23438115

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स्पीड-पोस्ट  
SPEED-POST



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R/o 4313 Ranjitpura,  
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गृह मंत्रालय  
Ministry of Home Affairs  
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