



Australian Government
Department of Defence

Reference: BN4089238

FOI 300/18/19 STATEMENT OF REASONS UNDER THE FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

1. I refer to the application by Mr Aathavan under the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* (FOI Act), for access to:

"A table showing the total annual numbers and Defence Strategic Goods List (DSGL) categories of defence export permits to Sri Lanka, as granted to exporters from 2000 to 2010 (inclusive)."

FOI decision maker

2. I am the authorised officer pursuant to section 23 of the FOI Act to make a decision on this FOI request.

Documents identified

3. I identified one document as matching the description of the request.

Decision

4. I have decided to release one document in full.

Material taken into account

5. In making my decision, I had regard to:
- the terms of the request;
 - the content of the identified documents in issue;
 - relevant provisions in the FOI Act; and
 - the Guidelines published by the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner under section 93A of the FOI Act (the Guidelines).

Context Statement

6. The document provides aggregated information on annual numbers of export permits granted for military goods to Sri Lanka, drawn from a now decommissioned database. Noting the historical nature of the information, the document contains a note advising the Applicant that the Defence Strategic Goods List (DSGL) categories are not static and are subject to ongoing and routine amendment.

7. The document also notes that Defence can only advise on the issuing of export permits and not whether export of the goods took place.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SHosking'.

Steve Hosking
Accredited Decision Maker
Defence Export Controls Branch