

BEFORE THE ORISSA INFORMATION COMMISSION

BHUBANESWAR

Present: Hon'ble Shri D.N.Padhi, SCIC

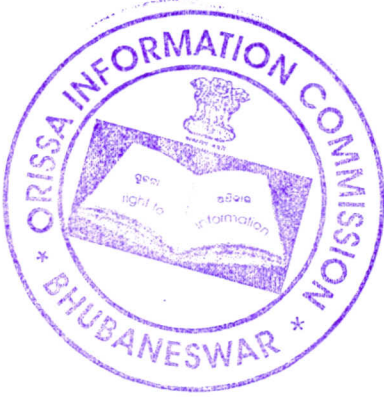
Date: 4th February,2009

Complaint Case No. 596/2007

Manas Ranjan Sahoo
At/P.O.Dharamgarh-766015
Kalahandi district Complainant

-Vrs-

Public Information Officer,
Women and Child Development Department
Government of Orissa,
Secretariat,
Bhubaneswar..... Opposite Party



Decision

1. Complainant Manas Ranjan Sahoo is absent. The same is condoned under Rule 9(2) of the Orissa Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2006. Dilip Kumar Behera, PIO –cum- Deputy Secretary to Government, Women and Child Development Department, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar is present. Heard and perused the case record. This matter has heard by the State Commission on 15.2.2008 and arises out of complaint petition dated 10.05.2007.
2. Complainant had sought, in form A application dated 17/01/07 from the PIO, Women and Child Development, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar, particulars of their organization, functions and duties, the powers and the duties of their officers and employees possibly in terms of suo motu disclosure under Section 4(1)(b) of the Act, 2005 (Act for short) The information query is on the reverse of the form A application which are on record. The PIO submitted that the information sought for by the Complainant related to various sections of the Department. Therefore, he sought the assistance of all the officers vide letter no.2222 dated 05/02/07. After receipt of information from them he intimated the Complainant on 04/04/07 to come and receive the same, in terms of his desire indicated in the RTI application but he did not turn up.

PIO further submitted that for similar information, the Complainant had filed another form A application on 05/11/07 where information were provided to him on 20/11/07. Perhaps for the said reason the Complainant had lost interest on this complaint petition.

3. After hearing the PIO, the State Commission on 15.2.2008 had directed him (i) to again provide the information, free of cost, by post within 15 days, and (ii) submit a chronological datechart on the next date of hearing.
4. The P.I.O furnished compliance report vide letter no.2480 dated 03.02.09 along with chronological datechart as per the order of the State Commission dated 15.02.08 which was perused and taken to record. It is obvious from the chronological datechart that information requested for was not available at one place in the Department and, therefore, the PIO had to collect the same from different Sections. Cognizance was also taken of the fact that on a similar request made vide his RTI application dated 5.11.07 requisite information had been supplied on 20.11.2007.
5. Taking into account the facts and circumstances of this case, the State Commission do not find any fault or malafide intention on the part of the ex-PIO/PIO. However, the Commissioner-cum-Secretary Women and Child Development Department, Government of Orissa, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar may like to ensure that the Department website is updated at frequent internals (may be weekly) and upgraded with new information. Not only would the same streamline the working in the department but help consolidate her control on the subordinate staff while ensuing effective and timely responses to RTI applications.
6. With the above observation the case is disposed of and closed with no orders on penalty. Inform the Complainant.

Pronounced in open proceedings

Given under the hand and seal of the State Commission, this 4th day of February, 2009.


SCIC

4.2.09