

**BEFORE THE ORISSA INFORMATION COMMISSION  
BHUBANESWAR**

**Present: - Hon'ble Shri D.N. Padhi, SCIC  
And  
Shri Jagadananda, SIC**

**Date:- 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2009**

**Complaint Case No. 1447 of 2007  
with  
Complaint Case No. 1450 of 2007**



Surendra Mohan Pany  
Retired Principal,  
Upendra Bhawan, Ist Floor,  
Stony Road,  
Chandni Chowk,  
Cuttack-753002 ..... Complainant  
-Vrs-

1. Public Information Officer,  
Directorate of Teacher Education and SCERT, Orissa,  
Unit-IV,  
Bhubaneswar
2. First Appellate Authority,  
Directorate of Teacher Education and SCERT, Orissa,  
Unit-IV,  
Bhubaneswar ..... Opposite Parties

**Decision**

1. Complainant Surendra Mohan Pany is present. Paramananda Das, Deputy Director-cum-PIO and Sebak Tripathy, First Appellate Authority-cum-Director, Teacher Education and SCERT, Orissa, Bhubaneswar are also present. Heard and perused the case record. This case arises out of complaint petition dated 24/09/07. Both the above cases were heard analogously and will, therefore, be governed by this common order.
2. The Complainant had filed form A application dated 05/07/07 with the PIO, Directorate of TE and SCERT, Orissa, Bhubaneswar seeking

information on settlement of pensionary benefits to retired Government employees who worked under the Directorate from 01/04/90 to 30/06/07. This was a general issue and not concerning any single individual.


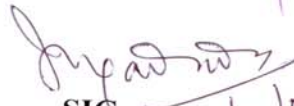
3. The Complainant had indicated his desire to collect information from the PIO, Directorate, TE & SCERT, Orissa on the qualitative improvement of School Education and Teacher Education in Orissa and the functions of State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT). According to him, he went to the Directorate of TE & SCERT on 07/07/07 to submit form A application. There was no display board identifying the PIO. He enquired from the office about the PIO and came to know that the designated officer was absent. He tried to submit the application to other officers but no one was willing to accept the same.
4. As it appears from the chronological date chart, and appreciated from the submissions of the PIO, there was no Dealing Assistant assigned to the RTI cell till January, 2008 and therefore the file remained unattended. Due to change of seat no one was entrusted the work of RTI cell and he as the PIO had to manage the RTI matter singlehandedly alongwith other Court matters. He was also passing time through severe mental agony due to expiry of his wife and staying alone for which proper attention and supervision could not be made. Due to the intervention of the Director, TE & SCERT information as available was supplied. The Complainant submitted that the RTI application in question has been filed to know the various functions and activities of the Public Authority in terms of disclosure of public information under Section 4(1) of the RTI Act within the stipulated time. While assuring that the required information will be supplied expeditiously, the Director, TE & SCERT stated that this was one of the few cases which was delayed, but with no ill-intention.

5. After hearing the parties, the State Commission directed Sebak Tripathy, Director of the Public Authority to set up an exhaustive website by 15/05/09 and provide, free of cost, the information to the Complainant thereafter and report compliance to the State Commission through the Registrar.
  
6. Subject to the compliance as stated above and in view of the peculiar circumstances prevailing in the Directorate at that point of time, the PIO is exonerated and the case is disposed of and closed.

**Pronounced in open proceedings.**

Given under the hand and seal of the State Commission, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2009.



  
**SCIC**  
27-2-09  
  
**SIC** 27/2/09