

**BEFORE THE ORISSA INFORMATION COMMISSION**

**BHUBANESWAR**

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

**Date: 23rd April, 2008**

**Complaint Case No.852/2007**

Manmath Kumar Bidhar,  
At/PO-Panabaraj,  
PS-Khurda  
Khurda District ..... Complainant



**-Vrs-**

Public Information Officer,,  
Pranath Autonomous College,  
Khurda-752057  
Khurda District ..... Respondents

**Decision**

1. Complainant Manmath Kumar Bidhar and PIO, Santosh Kumar Nayak of Pranath Autonomous College, Khurda are present. Heard. Perused the case record.
2. The Complainant in form A application dated 02/06/07 had sought copies of evaluated answer scripts of +2 Annual Higher Secondary Examination, 2007 of Anuradha Bidhar bearing roll no.325MA021. The PIO, Pranath Autonomous College, Khurda submitted that he received the application on 05/06/07 and on the same day intimated the Complainant that Council of Higher Secondary Education, Orissa, Bhubaneswar (CHSE for short) was the appropriate authority to deal with this matter. As all examination related queries were settled by CHSE, he transferred under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act, 2005 ( Act for short), the application of the Complainant to the Controller of Examinations, CHSE vide letter no.818 dated 02/07/07. The latter vide letter no. 5902 dated 21/07/07 intimated the Complainant that Council requires a minimum period of 3 months to complete the process of sorting and arranging the evaluated answer scripts of Annual Higher

Secondary Examination, 2007 districtwise and subject-wise for compliance, as per the notification no. 3630 dated 31/05/07 issued by the Controller of the Examinations. However, steps were being taken to inform him to deposit the cost of information. Complainant mentioned that he has not yet received any information and also contested the view that 3 months would be taken by CHSE to arrange the evaluated answer scripts in violation of the provisions of RTI Act, 2005. It was clarified to the Appellant that the point raised by him cannot be challenged under the RTI Act, 2005 as administrative arrangements, involving lakhs of candidates do take time. Apart from that the CHSE, Orissa, in compliance to the earlier directions of the State Commission, started making arrangements from 2006-07 examinations for providing evaluated answer scripts in terms of the RTI Act, 2005, and such an arrangement did not exist prior to that. Therefore, it is only after the arrangements have been completed that any delay in supply can be investigated into and appropriate action taken by the State Commission.

3. After hearing the parties, the State Commission directed the PIO to provide the information by way of photocopies to the Complainant after he deposits the cost of information, within 15 days thereafter by blanking out/blocking the name(s)/signature(s) of Examiner(s)/Chief Examiners(s) as also the code number to maintain the credibility of the examination system.
4. Subject to the above compliance by both parties, the case is disposed of and closed.

**Pronounced in open proceedings**

Given under the hand and seal of the State Commission, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of April, 2008.

  
**SCIC**

23.4.08

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