

ODISHA INFORMATION COMMISSION

BHUBANESWAR

Present: Shri Tarun Kanti Mishra,

State Chief Information Commissioner

Dated: 25th May, 2012

Complaint Case No. 4445 / 2011

Pramod Kumar Sarangi,
Plot No-2134, Baramunda,
Bhubaneswar-751003.....Complainant

-Vrs-

Public Information Officer,
Forest and Environment Department,
Government of Odisha, Secretariat,
Bhubaneswar... .. Opposite Party

Decision

1. Complainant Pramod Kumar Sarangi is present. Guru Charan Samad, PIO-cum-Under Secretary, Forest and Environment Department, Government of Odisha, Secretariat, Bhubaneswar is also present. Heard and perused the record.
2. The complainant filed form A application dated 23/07/2011 with the PIO, office of Chief Secretary Odisha seeking information on four courts regarding action taken on his representation dated 11/05/2011 filed with the Chief Secretary, Odisha and action taken for payment of interest on pension, gratuity and differential amount under CGHS. Thereafter, the PIO, General Administration Department transferred the same to the PIO, Forest and Environment Department vide letter dated 26/07/2011. The PIO, Forest and Environment Department after compiling the information requested the complainant on 04/08/2011 to deposit the cost of information. The complainant deposited the cost on 20/08/2011 and the required information was supplied to him on the

same day. The complainant approached the Commission alleging that he has not received any information from the PIO, office of the Chief Secretary.

3. The Commission observed that the complainant filed an RTI application seeking redressal of grievances about his service matter. This Commission had often observed that the RTI Act should not be confused with an instrument for redressal of grievances relating to service matter of the Government employees. It is unfortunate that the Act is being used by some to redress grievances regarding service matter when appropriate forum for this specific purpose is otherwise available. The complainant had filed his form-A application to a non entity. There is no PIO in office of the Chief Secretary. There are forty Administrative Departments and each Department being a Public authority has PIOs and First Appellate Authorities. Instead of doing due diligence, the complainant sent an RTI application to so-called PIO in the office of Chief Secretary, thereby causing avoidable paper work in Government offices. The PIO, Forest & Environment Department has furnished information as per the complainant's form-A application. If he has any grievances about his pension matter, he may appear in the grievance cell of the Chief Secretary, instead of filing an RTI application in the office of the Chief Secretary. With these observations and directions, the case is disposed of.

Pronounced in open proceedings

Given under the hand and seal of the Commission this day, the 25th May,
2012.

State Chief Information Commissioner
25.05.2012