

Government of Odisha
Information and Public Relations Department

File No.: IPR-RTI-CASE-0012-2021/ Letter No.: 14123 Date: 10/12/2021

From

Shri Bishnupada Sethi, IAS,
Principal Secretary to Govt. & Nodal Officer, RTI, Odisha.

To,

The Additional Chief Secretaries to Government
The Principal Secretaries to Government
The Commissioner-cum-Secretaries to Government
The Special Secretaries to government of Departments

Sub: Withdrawal of submission of hard copies of application which have already been filed online.

Ref: - Order No. 5 Dated 25.08.2021 passed by Hon'ble High Court in W.P. (C) No. 18603 of 2021 and Orders of the Hon'ble State Information Commission passed in Complaint case no 423/20216 on dated 28.01.2021.

Madam/Sir,

In inviting a reference to the above cited subject I am to say that Hon'ble High Court, Orissa vide order dated 19.07.2021 passed in WP(C) No.18603 /2021 have directed to implement the order of the State Information Commission, Odisha regarding withdrawal of submission of hard copies of application which have been already filed online.

It may be mentioned here that the Odisha Information Commission in the orders passed in the Complaint Case no-423 of 2016 has pronounced its decision on 28.01.2021 wherein the Commission has given the direction to I&P.R Department as follows:-

"It needs no mention that the mode of online application has been evolved with a view to facilitate a simplified and cost effective procedure of application for information. Any complicity or onerousness in such application would defeat the very purpose of the underlying object of the RTI Act. It is, therefore, desirable that the I&PR Department

who acts as the Nodal Department in the state for implementation of the RTI Act should do the needful on priority basis to do away with the difficulties, and report compliance to the Registry of this Commission within two months from the date of receipt of a copy of this order .”

It is to mention here that after the above orders of the State Information Commission training on withdrawal of hard copy of application where application is filed through online in RTI application (www.rtiodisha.gov.in) has been imparted to all Departments, Directorate, Collectrorate, Sub-divisional offices, Block Offices, Tahsail offices and other important offices in a phased manner and more than 5000 offices of PIOs and FAA has been covered under the customized online training module created for this purpose.

In view of the orders of the Hon'ble High Court, Orissa and orders of the Odisha Information Commission the existing practice of submission of print out of Hard Copy of the Online filed RTI Application & Appeal by the citizen to the concern Public Authorities PIOs & FAA is withdrawn with immediate effect from the RTI online application (www.rtiodisha.gov.in) and also from the appeal facility for the citizen.

In case of any doubt/queries necessary clarification may be sought through email (rti.ori.nic.in) or may be contacted over phone (0674-2391356), or Mobile no 9238104446 on working days between 10 AM to 5.30 PM.

Yours faithfully,

Nishant Singh
Principal Secretary to Government

and Nodal officer, RTI

9.12.2021

Memo No. 14124....

Date. 10/12/2021

Copy Forwarded to the Registrar, Odisha Information Commission, Toshali Plaza, Satyanagar, Bhubaneswar for kind information of Hon'ble Commission with reference to the observation made on the complaint case No. 423/2016 & letter no. 26930 Date 26.07.2021.

[Signature]
Director

Memo No...14125..

Date...10/12/2021

Copy Forwarded to the Member Board of Revenue, Cuttack / All Revenue Divisional Commissioner / All Collector and District Magistrate for kind information & immediate intimation to all the Public Authorities under their administrative control.


Director

Memo No...14126..

Date...10/12/2021

Copy Forwarded to all the Heads of Departments / Directorates / Corporations for kind information & immediate intimation to the Public Authorities under their administrative control.


Director

Memo No...14127..

Date...10/12/2021

Copy Forwarded to M/S Luminous Infoways Pvt. Ltd., DCB 615/616/617, 6th Floor, DLF Cyber City, Chandaka Industrial Estate, Bhubaneswar, Odisha 751024 for information and provide the User ID & Password of the RTI Portal to the Public Authorities PIO's those who have not received as per the agreement signed on 05.05.2020 with Information & Public Relations Dept. Govt. of Odisha.


Director