

**Central Information Commission, New Delhi**  
**File No.CIC/SM/A/2012/001123**  
**Right to Information Act-2005-Under Section (19)**

**Date of hearing** : **1 May 2013**

**Date of decision** : **1 May 2013**

**Name of the Appellant** : **Shri Saurabh Pandey,  
S/o. Shri Nathuni Pandey,  
Pachimi Daulatganj, Takkar  
Mode se Dakshin, Chapra, Saran Bihar.**

**Name of the Public Authority** : **Shri Satya Prakash,  
Under Secretary,  
Staff Selection Commission,  
CGO Complex, Block No. 12,  
Lodhi Road, New Delhi.**

On behalf of the Respondent, Shri Satya Prakash, US was present.

**Chief Information Commissioner** : **Shri Satyananda Mishra**

2. In our order dated 15 February 2013, we had directed the then CPIO to appear before us and show cause why we should not impose penalty on him for not providing the desired information in time. Today, the officer concerned (Satya Prakash) appeared in person and made his submissions.

3. The fact of the matter is that the Appellant had sent his RTI application on 18 November 2011 asking for the copy of the evaluated OMR sheet for the examination in which he had appeared. He did not get any response from the CPIO and, hence, preferred an appeal. The Appellate Authority had directed the CPIO to provide the information to the Appellant. The CPIO however did not comply with this direction. Much later, in January this year, the CPIO sent the

copy of this document to the Appellant.

4. From the above, it is obvious that the Appellant received the information nearly 14 months after he requested for it. Giving the information so late makes little sense. The then CPIO submitted during the hearing that he had not been able to provide the information because of the huge volume of work he had to handle during this period being in charge of the confidential branch of the SSC. He explained that this branch dealt with very large number of examination related papers and extracting any specific answer sheet from the pile of documents was very time consuming if not often impossible.

5. This is not a very convincing explanation. Even if it is assumed that the CPIO had been making efforts to locate the answer sheet, nothing stopped him from informing the information seeker, from time to time, about such efforts. He had no courtesy to keep the Appellant informed about the fate of his RTI application. This is very unfortunate, to say the least. For this lapse on his part, we impose a penalty of Rs. 10,000 on him and direct the present CPIO to get this amount deducted from his salary in 2 equal monthly instalments beginning 1 June 2013 and remit to the CIC by way of demand draft drawn in favour of the PAO, CAT payable at New Delhi.

6. In the process, the Appellant has been put to a lot of detriment and harassment. He deserves to be compensated for this. Therefore, in exercise of the powers vested in the CIC in section 19(8) (b) of the Right to Information (RTI) Act, we direct that the SSC pays an amount of Rs. 10,000 to the Appellant by way of compensation. The present CPIO shall ensure that this amount is remitted to the Appellant within 15 working days of receiving this order.

7. The cases disposed off accordingly.
8. Copies of this order be given free of cost to the parties.

**(Satyananda Mishra)**  
**Chief Information Commissioner**

Authenticated true copy. Additional copies of orders shall be supplied against application and payment of the charges prescribed under the Act to the CPIO of this Commission.

**(Vijay Bhalla)**  
**Deputy Registrar**