

**M-11022/10/2025-OMB/CRCS**  
**Office of Cooperative Ombudsman**  
**Ministry of Cooperation**  
**Government of India**

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9th Floor, Tower-E, World Trade Centre,  
Nauroji Nagar, Delhi-110029  
10<sup>th</sup> July, 2026

**Hearing in the matter of Shri T. Parthiban Vs. The Railway Employees  
Cooperative Credit Society Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu before the Cooperative  
Ombudsman**

Shri T. Parthiban

Appellant

The Railway Employees Cooperative Credit Society  
Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Respondent

**ORDER**

1. Shri T. Parthiban- appellant, has stated in his appeal that he vide his application dated 04<sup>th</sup> December, 2025, has sought information under section 106 (2) of the MSCS Act, 2002, from The Railway Employees Cooperative Credit Society Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu regarding (i) list of current directors with their tenure & designation in railways, (ii) list of current directors, who are not in service of railways now, (iii) list of current directors holding more than one term along with details thereof, (iv) educational qualification & professional experience of the Chief Executive, complaints to the Central Registrar by the members about his qualification & society's explanation to the Central Registrar, (v) details of employees, who are close relatives to the directors and chief executive, (vi) details of elections since 2000 till date along with reports of election officers, (vii) last 10 years balance sheets, profit & loss account, (viii) details of promotions & extensions granted to employees during last 15 years with criteria for granting extension, (ix) details of legal cases & expenditure thereon during last 15 years, (x) annual statements of Share Holder & Staff Welfare Fund from 2010 onward with details of utilization of fund and certified copies of current bye-laws including all amendments.
2. He alleged that the society has neither provided requisite information nor did it give any reply.
3. Notice dated 09<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 was issued by the office of the Cooperative Ombudsman to the respondent society seeking its response to the appeal.





4. The society in its reply dated 27<sup>th</sup> February, 2026 stated that the appellant has neither submitted his request in prescribed form nor did he pay requisite fee, as per bye laws of the society. The society has further contended that they, vide letter dated 24<sup>th</sup> December, 2025, had sent reply to the appellant along with the form, but they have not received any response from him.
5. The appellant and the respondent were summoned for hearing through video conferencing on 29<sup>th</sup> May, 2026. Shri T. Parthiban – appellant and Shri N. Manivannan -Chief Executive Officer of the respondent society attended the hearing.
6. The appellant reiterated his stand largely in line with his appeal and stated that he had sought certain information from the society, under section 106 of the MSCS Act, 2002, but the society has not supplied the desired information till date.
7. The respondent submitted that the appellant has not submitted his application in prescribed form, though they had forwarded the same and had asked him to resubmit the application along with requisite fee. The respondent further submitted that information will be provided to the appellant, in accordance with the provisions of the MSCS Act, 2002, society's Bye-Laws and disclosure norms. The respondent also assured to supply the form to the appellant by 01<sup>st</sup> June, 2026. Both the parties were directed to make their written submissions.
8. The appellant in his submissions dated 03<sup>rd</sup> and 08<sup>th</sup> June, 2026 stated that the society has designed the application form in a manner so as to restrict information to the members and only certain predetermined information can be obtained by the members.
9. The respondent vide their submissions dated 02<sup>nd</sup> and 04<sup>th</sup> June, 2026 has stated that as per provisions of the MSCS Act & Rules and their bye-laws, the Board of Directors of the society has framed regulations governing 'provision of information to the members of the society' by setting detailed guidelines in respect of 'disclosure norms'. The respondent denied the allegations that the prescribed form is restrictive and contended that provisions of the MSCS Act empower the society to frame 'disclosure norms' and clearly define that information shall be confined to information falling under the disclosure norms specified by the society in its bye-laws.
10. On perusal of facts and available record, following aspects emerge:
  - a) MSCS Act & Rules, 2002 have a defined procedure for seeking information, wherein information can be sought from the society only in Form IX annexed to the Rules.



- b) The society has devised its own separate Form for seeking information from it.
- c) The provision in the bye-laws of the society stating that the society, upon receiving an application, in its prescribed form as notified by the society, is not in consonance with the MSCS Act & Rules and is ultra vires. Necessary amendments in the bye-laws need to be brought about.

11. After due consideration of representations made, documents submitted and the relevant provisions of law, the matter is hereby disposed off with the following directions:

- i. The Railway Employees Cooperative Credit Society Ltd., Chennai, Tamil Nadu is hereby directed to align its bye-laws pertaining to the procedure for seeking information in line with the provisions of MSCS Act & Rules, for which they should initiate necessary action. Information should be provided, whenever asked for in Form IX as stated in MSCS Act & Rules, 2002 and no other form is valid for the purpose.
- ii. The applicant is directed to file his application to the society in Form IX, wherein after, the society is directed to provide the information as per its approved bye - laws.

  
(Alok Agarwal)  
Cooperative Ombudsman  


**Appellant:**

Shri T. Parthiban,

New No.34 (Old No.22/1), Neels Garden, 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Perambur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu  
– 600 001

**Respondent:**

Chairman, The Railway Employees Cooperative Credit Society Ltd.,

Ashok Vihar Complex, Old Zoo Road, (Near Central Railway Station), Chennai, Tamil Nadu – 600 003.

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