

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Shri Harjinder Singh S/o Sh. Ram Kishan
R/o Main Road, Surjit Colony,
Rahon Road, Basti Jodhewal
Ludhiana

... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Executive Engineer,
Punjab Water Supply & Sanitation
Division No.2. Metro Road,
Partap Chowk, Ludhiana

...Respondent

Complainant Case No. 1016 of 2021

PRESENT: Sh.Harjinder Singh as the Appellant
Sh.Sanjay Chand, Clerk for the Respondent

ORDER:

The complainant through an RTI application dated 07.04.2021 has sought information on 05 points regarding bank statement or passbook from 19.12.2019 to 20.12.2020 – copy of register containing entry of resolution passed by GPWSC – copy of cash book – copies of all bills/vouchers – copy of bank account of all 3 panchayats as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Xen Water Supply & Sanitation Division No.2, Ludhiana. The complainant was not provided the information after which the complainant filed a complaint in the Commission on 03.08.2021.

The case has already been heard by Sh.Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner on 12.10.2021, 21.12.2021, 09.03.2022 & 20.07.2022.

On the date of first hearing on 12.10.2021, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

On the date of next hearing on 21.12.2021, Sh.Sanjay Chand, clerk appeared and informed that the bill vouchers are not attested by the panchayat officer. The PIO was directed to procure the information from the concerned office and bring the same to the Commission on the next date of hearing.

On the date of hearing on 09.03.2022, the complainant claimed that the PIO has not supplied the complete information.

Sh.Sarabjit Singh SDE appeared and informed that part information has been provided to the complainant and part information relates to Block Development Officer, Ludhiana-II. The concerned Block Development Officer was directed to supply the information to the complainant as per queries raised by the complainant through RTI application.

On the date of hearing on 20.07.2022, the complainant claimed that he has received the information but the information is unattested.

The PIO was given one last opportunity to supply the attested copies of the information after getting it from the concerned gram panchayat water supply committee.

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The case has come **up for hearing before this bench today** through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. The appellant stated that the information supplied by the PIO is un-attested.

The respondent present pleaded that the concerned Sarpanch is not attesting the information.

Since the PIO is not complying with the order of the Commission to supply the attested copies of the information, and as per respondent Sh.Sandeep Singh is the current PIO, Sh.Sandeep Singh, current Xen-cum-PIO, Water Supply and Sanitation Division No.2, Ludhiana is hereby **show caused why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not following the order of the commission to attest the provided information. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for this violation of the order, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

To come up for further hearing on **01.02.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh
Dated: 10.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner