

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864111, Visit us @ www.infocommpunjab.com,
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FINAL ORDER

Amarjit Singh Dhamotia,
1331-5, Street No 5, Vishawkarma Bhawan,
Down Canal Road, Simlapuri,
Ludhiana – 141003.

Versus

Public Information Officer,
o/o Executive Officer,
Nagar Council Khanna,
District Ludhiana.
First Appellate Authority,
o/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (UD),
Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No. 1191 of 2022

PRESENT:

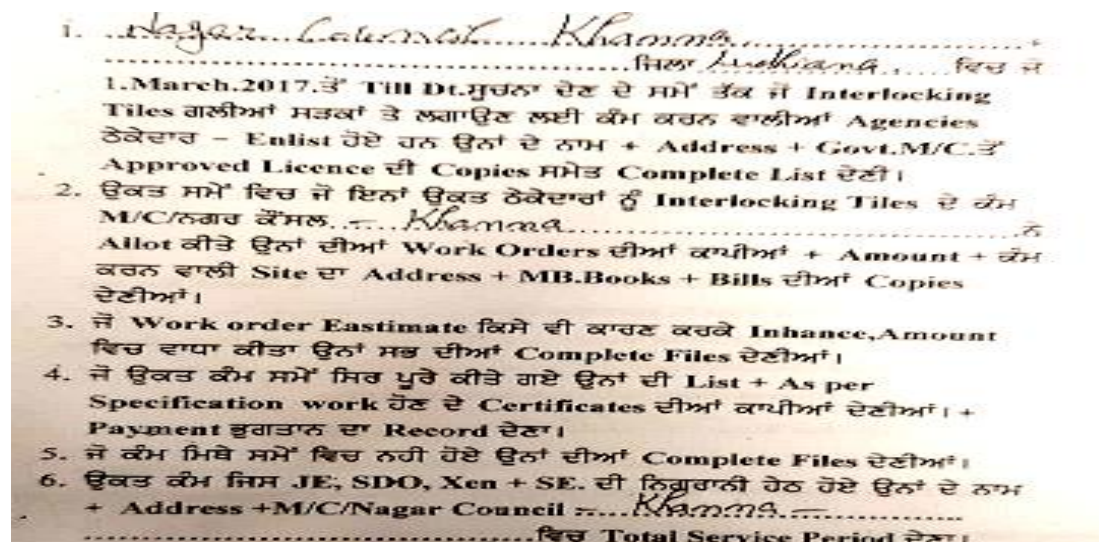
(Appellant) Absent

Gurpal Singh, PIO-cum-Executive Officer (Respondent) 96461-40215

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on **15.7.2022 and 8.9.2022**)

1. The RTI application is dated **13.11.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information:



enumerated in his RTI application. First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **20.12.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **7.3.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on **8.9.2022**.

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2. The appellant is absent. At the last hearing on 8.9.2022, the PIO-cum-EO, Sh. Gurpal Singh, has sought some time to make a written submission in this Appeal Case. The PIO has made a submission presenting a number of arguments and citing Orders of the Central Information Commission, the Punjab State Information Commission, and the Hon'ble High Court of Punjab and Haryana, in support of his decision to deny the information requested in this RTI application.

3. The respondent PIO-cum-EO, states as under:

"It is further submitted that information demanded by the appellant is not specific, vague and very voluminous in nature, as appellant has not specify the proper particulars of demanded information and demanded huge unspecific information since 1.3.2017 to till date with regard to the interlocking tiles used on entire roads, streets in the jurisdiction of MC, Khanna and personal details with address and contact number along with copies of their license and as well huge and unspecific information related to the tenders of I/L tiles allotted to the contractors and copies of all the unspecified MBs and bill books and payments details etc. and as well address and personal details/information of officials along with their personal service details etc. thus the appellant has demanded very large and humongous information in encompassing almost the entire record of aforesaid establishments falling under the jurisdictions of MC, Khanna, interspersed with the complicated quires and unspecific voluminous information of the larger record and varied information in discriminately which obviously would require the immense time and resources of the Public Authority and collecting and compiling would disproportionately divert the resources of this office and in this regard reference is made to Section 7(9) of the RTI Act, 2005 and as well judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India, vide judgment Dated 9.8.2011 passed in C.A No. 6454 of 2011 titled as CBSE V/s Aditya Bandopadhyay and others. The relevant part of this judgment is reproduced hereunder for the kind perusal of Hon'ble Commission:

37. In discriminate and impractical demands or directions under RTI Act, 2005 for disclosure of all and sundry information (unrelated to transparency and unaccountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counter-productive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and resulting the executive getting bogged down with the nonproductive work of collecting and furnishing information. The act should not be allowed misused or abused, to become a tool to obstruct the national development and integration, or to destroy the peace tranquility and harmony amongst its citizens. Nor should it be converted into a tool oppression or intimidation of honest official striving to do their duty. The nation does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spent 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharges their regular duties. The threat of penalties under the RTI Act, and the pressure of authorities under the RTI Act, should not lead to employees of public authorities prioritizing "information furnishing" at the cost of their normal and regular duties."

4. After going through the RTI application and Second Appeal filed to this Commission alongside the written submission made by the respondent PIO at today's hearing, the Commission upholds the decision of the respondent PIO to deny the information requested in this RTI application.

5. This Appeal Case is accordingly **Disposed of**.

Sd/-
(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh
15.11.2022