

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - [psic23@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psic23@punjabmail.gov.in)

Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com); Helpline No. 0172-2864100



**Shri Manpreet Singh, (98551 00351)**

S/o Shri Davinder Singh,

Village Kalpur, P.O Dakha,

District Ludhiana.

....Appellant

**Versus**

**Public Information Officer, (BY NAME)**

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,

Block – 1, Ludhiana.

**First Appellate Authority, (BY NAME)**

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer,

Ludhiana.

...Respondents

## **APPEAL CASE NO. 4035 OF 2022**

**(Cisco Webex Proceedings)**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of PIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of Order, if any of FAA | Date of Appeal/ Complaint Filed in Commission |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| 19.05.2022              | --                           | 21.06.2022                        | --                           | 31.08.2022                                    |

### **PRESENT:**

Shri Manpreet Singh, Appellant.

None on behalf of the Respondents

### **ORDER (THIRD HEARING):**

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 17.04.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The Appellant states that he went to the office of the Respondents for the inspection of the record on 21.04.2023, but they did not get the inspection done in this case. He requests the Court to direct the respondents to provide complete information to him without inspection.
3. After examining the case, it is clearly shows that on the last two hearings respondent namely Shri Kamal Bharti, Panchayat Secretary has been appeared but today he said that Shri Kiranpal Singh Sidhu, Panchayat Secretary is the PIO in these two cases i.e. AC:4035/2022 & 4038/2022.
4. The PIO is absent for today's hearing and he was also absent on the last hearings i.e. 06.02.2023 and 17.04.2023. Besides, Shri Kiranpal Singh Sidhu, Panchayat Secretary – cum – PIO O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block Ludhiana–I, District Ludhiana seem to be totally unmindful and indifferent to the orders issued by the Commission on a number of occasions and he has clearly defied the same and the other side there is **a delay of about 12 months** and the requisite information has not been supplied to the Appellant, which is definitely on a higher side and cannot be given a go by.
5. Thus, the Commission draws the inference that the PIO, without any reasonable cause, has malafidly delayed the information and thus, has rendered himself liable for punishment as provided under the RTI Act, 2005.

Cont...Pg02

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - [psic23@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psic23@punjabmail.gov.in)

Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com); Helpline No. 0172-2864100



- 02 -

## APPEAL CASE NO. 4035 OF 2022

6. He was given a number of opportunities to provide complete information to the Appellant but he is delaying the matter on one pretext or the other. In these circumstances, **Shri Kiranpal Singh Sidhu, Panchayat Secretary – cum – PIO O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block Ludhiana–I, District Ludhiana** is held guilty of default on the above score.
7. The facts of this case also prove beyond any doubt that the respondent PIO concerned does not deserve any kind of leniency. Hence, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, **a penalty to the tune of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only)** is imposed upon him to be deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head.
8. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer – cum – BDPO O/o BDPO, Block Ludhiana – I, District Ludhiana is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 10000/- from the salary of Shri Kiranpal Singh Sidhu, Panchayat Secretary – cum – PIO O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block Ludhiana–I, District Ludhiana and deposit the same in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission: -
  - 0070 – Other Administrative Services
  - 60 – Other Services
  - 0800 – Other Receipts
  - 86 – Fee under the RTI Act, 2005
9. The matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on **05.07.2023 at 11:00 AM in the Commission**. Both the parties are directed to present their case personally. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh  
22.05.2023

Sd/-  
(Maninder Singh Patti)  
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

### Copy is forwarded to the following

(Regd. Post)

- 1) **Ms. Rajinder Kaur,**  
BDPO – cum - Drawing & Disbursing Officer,  
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Block Ludhiana – I, District Ludhiana.
- 2) **Shri Kiranpal Singh Sidhu,**  
Panchayat Secretary – cum – PIO  
Gram Panchayat Sabhjet Nagar,  
Block Ludhiana–I, District Ludhiana.

for intimation and compliance of the order: