PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION RED CROSS BUILDING, MADHYA MARG, SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH

Fax 0172-2864110 Phone No-0172-2864120

Email: <u>psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in</u> Visit us - <u>www.infocommpunjab.com</u> Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Rajinder Kumar S/o Sh. Mehar Chand, Ward No. 02, Supreme Enclave, Near Vishavkarma Bhawan, Link Road, Mansa(Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Director. Deptt. of Local Government, Puniab. Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Director, Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3782 of 2020

Present: Sh. Rajinder Kumar, the appellant in person.

Sh. Amit Kumar, Senior Assistant (General Branch);

ii) Sh. Jang Bahadur, Senior Assistant (General Branch), on behalf of the respondent.

V/s

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.09.2020. First appeal is dated 07.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 17.06.2021;

- i) The respondent-PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the required information to the applicant as per his queries raised by him through RTI request.
- ii) The appellant was advised to point out deficiencies in the information supplied to him by the respondent-PIO.

Sh. Amit Kumar and Sh. Jang Bahadur, both Senior Assistants of General Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, state that the certified copies of the requisite information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 22.07.2021 through registered post. They also intimate the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 28504 dated 22.07.2021, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It, alongwith a copy of postal receipt, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Kumar, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been received by him from the respondent PIO till date.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the supplied information to the appellant again through an e-mail today itself i.e.01.09.2021, with a copy to the Commission

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be sent to him by the respondent PIO and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned by the next date of hearing.

The case is adjourned to 22nd November, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg) Date: 1st September, 2021 **State Information Commissioner**

Punjab

Note: Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Rajinder Kumar S/o Sh. Mehar Chand, Ward No. 02, Supreme Enclave, Near Vishavkarma Bhawan, Link Road, Mansa(Punjab)



....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Director, Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Director, Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3783 of 2020

V/s

Present: Sh. Rajinder Kumar, the appellant in person.

i) Sh. Amit Kumar, Senior Assistant (General Branch);

ii) Sh. Jang Bahadur, Senior Assistant (General Branch), on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 03.09.2020. First appeal is dated 05.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 17.06.2021;

- i) The respondent-PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the required information to the applicant as per his queries raised by him through RTI request.
- ii) The appellant was advised to point out deficiencies in the information supplied to him by the respondent-PIO.

Sh. Amit Kumar and Sh. Jang Bahadur, both Senior Assistants of General Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, state that the certified copies of the requisite information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 22.07.2021 through registered post. They also intimate the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter dated 22.07.2021, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It, alongwith a copy of postal receipt, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Kumar, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been received by him from the respondent PIO till date.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the supplied information to the appellant again through an e-mail today itself i.e. 01.09.2021, with a copy to the Commission.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be sent to him by the respondent PIO and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned by the next date of hearing.

The case is <u>adjourned to 22nd November, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 1st September, 2021 State Information Commissioner
Puniab

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Email: <u>psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in</u> Visit us - <u>www.infocommpunjab.com</u> Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Parveen Kumar Sayal, "Sayal & Company", Octroi Contractor, Sirhind.

Distt. - Fatehgarh Sahib - 140406(Punjab)

V/s

Public Information Officer. O/o The Director, Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Director, Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab. Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

....Appellant

Appeal Case No. 3780 of 2020

Present: Sh. N. K. Sayal on behalf of the appellant.

Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch), for the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 06.09.2020. First appeal is dated 06.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 17.06.2021;

- i) The respondent-PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the required information to the applicant as per his queries raised by him in his RTI request or file a written reply in the shape of an affidavit to each and every query, raised by the appellant through RTI request.
- ii) The appellant was advised to point out deficiencies in the information supplied to him by the respondent-PIO.

Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch), who appeared on behalf of the respondent in today's hearing, states that the certified copies of the available information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 31967 dated 10.08.2021 through registered post. She also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 31968 dated 10.08.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 18623 dated 19.08.2021. She further intimates the Commission that a reply dated 27.08.2021 in the shape of an affidavit, has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 34887 dated 27.08.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 19320 dated 27.08.2021. It, alongwith annexure, is taken on record.

Sh. N. K. Sayal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant., Sh. Parveen Kumar, in today's hearing, states that irrelevant information has been given to him by the respondent PIO and he has pointed certain deficiencies through a letter dated 24.08.2021, which has been received in the Commission, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 19394 dated 27.08.2021. It is taken on record.

Appeal Case No. 3780 of 2020

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Nevertheless, the appellant is advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 noon to identify and collect the required information and if the appellant would not visit the office of the respondent PIO on the fixed date i. e. 23.09.2021 to inspect and collect the required information, the case would be decided on merits.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 so that information could be identified by him. He is also directed to supply the required information to the appellant, which would be identified by him after inspection.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO after inspection, or not.

The date and time of inspection of relevant official record has been announced to both the parties during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case.

The case is <u>adjourned to 22nd November, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 1st September, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Puniab

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Parveen Kumar Sayal, "Sayal & Company", Octroi Contractor, Sirhind,

Distt. - Fatehgarh Sahib - 140406(Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Principal Secretary to Government. of Punjab, Deptt. of Local Government, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Principal Secretary to Government. of Punjab, Deptt. of Local Government, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3779 of 2020

V/s

Present: Sh. N. K. Sayal on behalf of the appellant.

Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch) O/o Director, Local

Government, Punjab, Chandigarh, for the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 13.01.2020. First appeal is dated 14.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 17.06.2021;

- i) The respondent-PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the required information to the applicant as per his queries raised by him in his RTI request or file a written reply in the shape of an affidavit to each and every query, raised by the appellant through RTI request.
- ii) The appellant was advised to point out deficiencies in the information supplied to him by the respondent-PIO.

Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch) of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh, who appeared on behalf of the respondent in today's hearing, states that the certified copies of the available information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 31973 dated 10.08.2021 through registered post. She also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 31974 dated 10.08.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 18624 dated 19.08.2021. She further intimates the Commission that a reply dated 27.08.2021 in the shape of an affidavit, has also been sent to the Commission. It, alongwith annexure, is taken on record.

Sh. N. K. Sayal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant., Sh. Parveen Kumar, in today's hearing, states that irrelevant information has been given to him by the respondent PIO and he has pointed certain deficiencies through a letter dated 25.08.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 19393 dated 27.08.2021. It is taken on record

Date: 1st September, 2021

Nevertheless, the appellant is advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 noon to identify and collect the required information and if the appellant would not visit the office of the respondent PIO on the fixed date i. e. 23.09.2021 to inspect and collect the required information, the case would be decided on merits.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 so that information could be identified by him. He is also directed to supply the required information to the appellant, which would be identified by him after inspection.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO after inspection, or not.

The date and time of inspection of relevant official record has been announced to both the parties during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case.

The case is <u>adjourned to 22nd November, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner

Punjab

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Email: psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us - www.infocommpunjab.com Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Yogesh Mahajan S/o Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan,

"Anti Corruption Council",

Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road, Pathankot (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Executive Engineer,

Water Supply & Sanitation Division No. - 01,

Batala, Distt. - Gurdaspur (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Circle, **Gurdaspur (Punjab)**

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3858 of 2020

Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, the appellant in person. Present:

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 02.09.2020. First appeal is dated 05.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 04.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 21.06.2021;

- i) Neither the respondent PIO nor the appellant was not present.
- ii) Another opportunity was given to the respondent-PIO concerned to send the supporting documents, showing that certified copies of the required information has been supplied to the appellant, to the Commission.
- iii) An opportunity was also given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information and also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

The appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been supplied to him by the respondent PIO so far.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has also not sent any intimation regarding his non-availability. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO, moreover, the requisite information has not been supplied by the respondent PIO to the information seeker even after a period of six months.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He was also absent on the hearings, held on 24.03.2021 and 21.06.2021. He has also not sent any intimation regarding his non-availability for today's hearing. Moreover, the requisite information has also not been supplied by the respondent PIO to the information seeker even after the directions were given by the Commission vide orders dated 24.03.2021 and 21.06.2021. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

In view of the above, a show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act is issued to The Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Division No. - 01, Batala, Distt. - Gurdaspur, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/denial in supplying the information to the RTI applicant under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings', it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

The respondent PIO concerned is also directed to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

A copy of this order be sent to the Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and & Sanitation Circle, Gurdaspur to ensure presence of the concerned PIO on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings so that facts of this case could be cleared and also compliance of the above-said order.

The case is <u>adjourned to 22nd November, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 1st September, 2021 State Information Commissioner

Punjab

(Regd. Post) The Superintending Engineer,

Water Supply & Sanitation Circle,

Gurdaspur (Punjab)

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