

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Sh. Amarjit Singh Rupal, Advocate
#29, Sector 127, Shivalik City,
Landran Road, Kharar-140301

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Civil Surgeon,
Mohali.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Director,
Health & Family Welfare Department,
Punjab, Sector 34-A, Chandigarh

...Respondent

Appeal Case No.1997 of 2022

PRESENT: Sh.Amarjit Singh for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 03.12.2021 has sought information regarding the a document submitted for a change in name in the birth certificate No.4031 dated 01.08.2014 issued by the office of Civil Surgeon to MC SAS Nagar on 20.05.2017 containing the name of the child as Surevir Singh and birth certificate No.1802891 dated 25.04.2019 containing the name as Surevir Singh alias Aakarshan Singh.

The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 04.02.2022, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case has come up for hearing today. The appellant stated that the PIO has denied the information stating that the information is secret information; hence it cannot be provided.

The respondent is absent nor represented.

The PIO is directed to appear before the Commission on the next date of hearing personally or through a representative, alongwith a complete record pertaining to this RTI application.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **06.12.2022** at 11.00 AM.

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh. Nirbhe Singh Sidhu,
 Village Kheerniya, PO : Mushkabad,
 District Ludhiana

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
 O/o The President,
 SGPC, Amritsar

First Appellate Authority
 O/o The President,
 SGPC, Amritsar

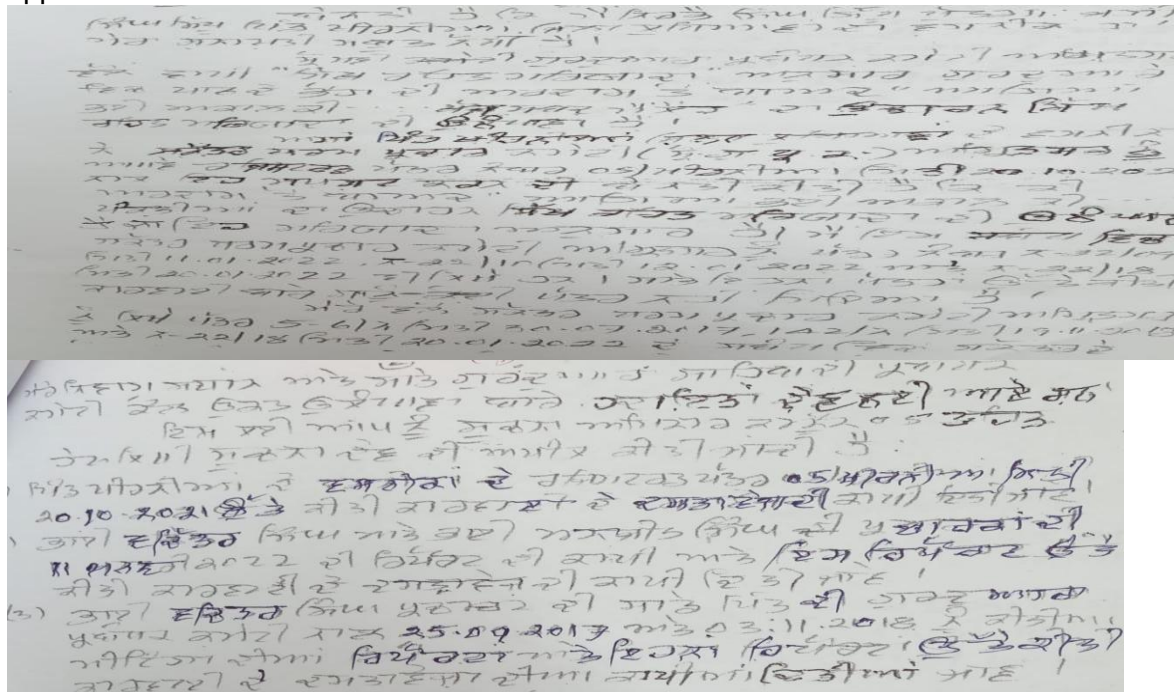
...Respondent

Appeal Case No.2032 of 2022

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 04.02.2022 has sought the following information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of The President, SGPC, Amritsar. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 07.03.2022, which did not decide on the appeal.



The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar. Both parties are absent.

Sh.Simarjeet Singh, PIO-SGPC vide email has requested that since the matter is related to "Rehat Maryada", it can only be resolved through a physical hearing at Chandigarh.

The plea is accepted and the case is fixed for hearing on **28.12.2022** at 11.00 AM at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh. Lukesh Garg S/o Sh. Baldev Raj Garg,
#16948-A, Street No.3/B,
Aggarwal Colony, Bathinda-151001

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Food & Drug Administration,
Punjab Health System Corporation,
PSEB Building, E-Block,
02nd & 03rd Floor, Mohali.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Food & Drug Administration,
Punjab Health System Corporation,
PSEB Building, E-Block,
02nd & 03rd Floor, Phase 8, Mohali.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 2047 of 2022

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
Sh.Ramandeep Gupta, Drug Inspector Bathinda for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 18.10.2021 has sought information on 06 points regarding various roles and responsibilities laid down by the competent authority for the working of different authorities through an order dated 24.04.2021 issued by the Commissioner, Food and Drug Administration Mohali – the copies of format to store data by district nodal officers for monitoring sale/purchase of Remdesivir – a copy of the process laid down by the district nodal Officers to procure Remdesivir by Chemist Shop owners as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Food & Drug Administration c/o Punjab Health System Corporation Mohali. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of the PIO dated 03.01.2022 after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 19.02.2022, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The respondent present from the office of Zonal Licensing Authority(Drugs) Bathinda pleaded that the information relating to their office (Drug & Administration) has already been provided to the appellant.

The Commission has also received a letter dated 12.09.2022 from the office of National Health Mission, Punjab, stating;

That Food and Drug Administration and Punjab Health System Corporation are two different departments having separate Appellate Authorities and Public Information Officer. Moreover, information sought by applicant does not relate to Punjab Health System Corporation.

That the information demanded by applicant may pertain to (i) Department of Health & Family Welfare (ii) National Health Mission and Food & Drug Administration and they have already forwarded a copy of the same to these departments.

Appeal Case No. 2047 of 2022

The appellant is absent and vide email has informed that the information provided by the PIO is incomplete. The appellant has requested for hearing through webex which is denied. One more opportunity is given to the appellant and directed to appear through video conferencing facility as provided by the Commission in case the appellant wants to pursue this case.

The PIO-Food & Drug Administration and PIO-Director Health & Family Welfare are directed to provide information to the appellant concerning them.

To come up for further hearing on **12.12.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda. The PIO-Food & Drug Administration and PIO-Health & Family Welfare to appear at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

CC to 1. Food and Drug Administration, Kharar

2. Director, Health and Family Welfare, Pb
Sector 34, Chandigarh.



Smt. Sarabjit, ANM W/o Sh.Happi Rai
#1586, Bajri Company,
Saini Mohalla, Pathankot.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Senior Medical Officer,
CHC Sujampur, Distt. Pathankot.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Civil Surgeon,
Pathankot.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 2060 of 2022

PRESENT: Smt.Sarabjit, ANM for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 07.08.2021, has sought information regarding copies of complaints pending against the appellant as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of SMO-CHC Sujampur, District Pathankot. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 14.09.2021, which did not decide on the appeal. After filing of the first appeal, the PIO sent a reply on 16.12.2021 to which the appellant was not satisfied and filed 2nd appeal in the Commission.

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Pathankot. The appellant claims that the PIO has not supplied the information as per the RTI application.

The respondent is absent nor is represented.

Having gone through the RTI application and the reply of the PIO dated 16.12.2021, the Commission observes that the appellant has asked for the copies of complaint against the appellant whereas what has been sent is way off the mark from RTI application. There appears to be prima-facie evidence of denial of information by providing wrong information.

Further, there has been a delay of more than four months in attending to the RTI application and the reply that has been sent is misleading.

The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the correct information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, 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

The PIO is directed to send the correct information to the appellant immediately and send a compliance report to the Commission.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **17.01.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot.

Sd/-

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner



Advocate Tejinder Singh, (9041004313)
Civil Court, Tehsil Complex,
Backside Saanjh Kender,
Phillaur-144410

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar-143001

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar-143001

...Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 3538 OF 2021

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 09.04.2021 has sought information on 04 points regarding the rain harvesting recharge system installed, if any, in the commercial complex of south block along with fee if any being charged for last 3 years – details of e-maps of commercial sites – a copy of the map of shops constructed near new overbridge Tarawala bridge – details of commercial complexes constructed on Majitha Road as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Municipal Corporation Amritsar. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the first appellate authority on 31.05.2021, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar. The appellant claimed the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent. The PIO was directed to provide point-wise information to the appellant and send a compliance report to the Commission.

Hearing dated 01.11.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today. The appellant, vide email has sought exemption being out of station. The appellant in the said email has also informed that the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent is absent on the 2nd consecutive hearing nor is represented as well as not complied the order of the Commission to provide the information. There has been an enormous delay of more than one year and seven months in attending to the RTI application. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, 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. The PIO to appear through VC at DAC Amritsar.

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh. Jaspal Singh S/o Sh Surjit Singh,
H No-157, Street NO-8-A,
Manjit Nagar, Bhadson Road,
Patiala.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o DC,
Patiala.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o DC,
Patiala.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3447 of 2020

PRESENT: Sh.Jaspal Singh as the Appellant
Sh.Sukhbir Singh, Jr. Assistant O/o DEO Patiala for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 27.07.2020, has sought information regarding forms A, B, C, and D deposited by unaided schools u/s 3(2) of Punjab Regulation of fee of unaided educational Institutions Act 2016 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of DC Patiala. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of PIO dated 24.08.2020, after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 31.08.2020, which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 28.07.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Patiala. The appellant claimed that the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent without intimation. Having gone through the RTI application, the PIO was directed to provide whatever information is available in the record relating to points-2 point-6. The decision on point 1 will be taken on the next date of the hearing.

On the date of the next hearing on **28.09.2021**, due to a technical fault in the VC, the hearing could not take place. The case was adjourned.

On the date of the hearing on **04.01.2022**, due to the non-presence of the staff in the DC Office Patiala because of the farmers' protest, the hearing could not take place. The case was adjourned.

On the date of the last hearing on **19.04.2022**, the appellant claimed that the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent. There has been an enormous delay of more than one and half years in providing the information. The Commission having taken a serious view of this, issued a **show cause notice to the PIO under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time and directed to file reply on an affidavit.** The PIO was again directed to provide information to the appellant within 15 days of the receipt of the order.

On the date of last hearing on **12.09.2022**, the appellant pleaded that despite the order of the Commission, the PIO has not supplied the information.

Appeal Case No. 3447 of 2020

The respondent was absent on the 3rd consecutive hearing. The Commission received a reply from the PIO O/o District Education Officer (S.E) Patiala on 26.08.2022, which was taken on record. It was mentioned in the reply that the appellant had filed an RTI application with the office of DC Patiala, which was transferred to their office under section 6(3) by the office of DC on 03.08.2020, and the reply was sent to the appellant vide letter dated 24.08.2020. Further, the information on points 2 to 6 was sent to the appellant on 16.09.2021. The PIO further mentioned in the reply that due to his busy schedule in making arrangements for the inspection of Govt Aided Privately managed schools of District Patiala scheduled in April 2022 as well as meetings organized by the DC Patiala regarding implementation of Fee Act 2016, the PIO could not attend the hearing on 19.04.2022.

The reply of the PIO dated 24.08.2020 (that there is no record available with them) and reply dated 16.09.2021, as well as the reply to show cause notice, the Commission found that the reply is flimsy and mere hogwash as three consecutive absences cannot be condoned. Moreover, this appeal is against the information provided, and only the presence of the PIO could have helped untangle the difference in the information that has been provided and the stand of the applicant that the provided information is not accurate and has been denied malafidely

However, the arguments of both the parties could not be heard due to the continued absence of the PIO or any representative. The explanation extended for the continued absence of the PIO or any representative at the hearings was feeble and held no merit. Hence, the PIO's reply to the show cause was rejected. It was clear that the RTI application wasn't handled with the due diligence it requires, nor did the PIO use the opportunity of the court hearings to clarify the department's position.

Given the above, the PIO O/o District Education Officer (S.E.) Patiala was held guilty for not providing correct and complete information when the RTI was filed, as well not providing complete information after the orders of the commission and a penalty of **Rs.25,000/-** was imposed on the PIO O/o District Education Officer (S.E.) and directed to submit a copy of the challan as evidence of depositing the penalty in the Govt Treasury.

The PIO O/o District Education Officer (S.E.) Patiala was also directed to pay an amount of **Rs.5000/-** via demand draft as compensation to the appellant and submit proof of having compensated the appellant.

Hearing dated 01.11.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Patiala. The appellant claims that the PIO has neither provided the complete information nor has paid compensation.

The PIO-DEO(SE) Patiala has not complied with the order of the Commission to deposit the penalty in the Govt Treasury and to pay the compensation amount to the appellant.

Since the order has already been passed, the PIO is given one last opportunity to comply with the order of the Commission and submit proof of having deposited the amount of penalty in the Govt Treasury and compensation to the appellant.

Complete information be provided as per record.

To come up for further hearing on **20.12.2022 at 11.00 AM at Chandigarh.**

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

CC to: Public Information Officer,
O/o District Education Officer(S.E),
Patiala.



Sh Jasbir Singh,
Guru Nanak Nagar,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal,
P.O Ramgarh, Distt Ludhiana.

... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Civil Surgeon,
Patiala.

...Respondent

Complaint Case No. 1047 of 2021

**PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent**

ORDER:

The complainant, through an RTI application dated 29.06.2021 has sought information regarding a list of alcohol samples collected from the year 2015 – a copy of the entry register – a copy of receipts for the value issued – license issued etc. as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Civil Surgeon, Patiala. The complainant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed a complaint in the Commission on 10.08.2021

The case first come up for hearing on 17.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Patiala. Both parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

On the date of the last hearing on **12.09.2022**, the complainant, vide email informed that the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent on 2nd consecutive hearing as well as not attending to the RTI application. There has been an enormous delay of more than one year and two months in attending to the RTI application. The Commission having taken a serious view of this issued a **show cause notice to the PIO under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not attending to the RTI application within the statutorily prescribed period of time and directed to file reply on an affidavit.**

Hearing dated 01.11.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana/ Patiala. Both parties are absent.

The respondent Food Safety Officer O/o Civil Surgeon Patiala vide email has sought adjournment on the plea that being on emergency VVIP duty on 01.11.2022, he cannot attend the hearing.

The earlier order stands. The PIO is given one last opportunity to file a reply to the show cause notice and appear before the Commission on the next date of hearing, failure to which attract action under section 20 of the RTI Act.

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. The PIO to appear through VC at **DAC Patiala.**

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commission



Sh. Dilbag Singh,
#363, Sector 71,
Mohali.

... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Punjab Small Industries &
Export Corporation Ltd,
Udyog Bhawan, Sector 17,
Chandigarh

...Respondent

Complaint Case No. 0153 of 2022

PRESENT: Sh. Dilbag Singh, the complainant
Sh. R.K.Jindal-General Manager-cum-PIO for the respondent

ORDER:

The complainant through an RTI application dated 18.02.2021 has sought 07 point information to provide names & designation of members of 3 member committee, Nodal Officer in the said committee, name & authority who has approved above referred committee and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of the Director of Health & Family Welfare, Punjab, Chandigarh. The complainant was not provided with the information after which the complainant filed a complaint in the Commission on 25.03.2022.

The case last came up for hearing on 21.07.2022. The respondent present pleaded that requisite information has been supplied to the complainant.

The complainant claimed that the PIO has supplied incomplete and incorrect information.

The Bench observed that there is a delay of more than one year in attending the RTI application. Therefore, **a show cause notice under section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, was issued to PIO O/o Punjab Small Industries & Export Corporation, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him/her for willful delay and denial in providing the information to the complainant.** The PIO was directed to file a reply on an affidavit. The PIO was directed to file a point-wise reply to the RTI Application and also reply to the show cause notice before the next date of hearing.

Hearing dated 01.11.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today. The respondent PIO has filed a reply to the show cause notice dated 31.10.2022, which has been taken on record. In the reply, it has been mentioned by the PIO that they received the RTI application on 25.02.2021 and since the information relates to the Personnel and Estate wing of the department, the said application was forwarded to these sections with the request to furnish the requisite information directly to the appellant. However, the Personnel wing of the Corporation supplied the information to the appellant relating to points 1 to 6 vide letter dated 29.04.2022 and the information on point 7 being personal information was denied under section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act., hence the delay was on the part of Personnel wing.

Complaint Case No. 0153 of 2022

As per the respondent, the delay in providing the information has been caused due to the following-

- (i) the prevailing Covid pandemic due to which the offices were not working at full strength;
- (ii) the information related to a vigilance enquiry (No.3 of 2018) in which Hon'ble CM Pb had constituted a Committee of three IAS officers, who submitted the report, but the file in question remained in movement at different levels.

The case is adjourned. To come up for hearing on **23.11.2022** at **11.00 AM** at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh
Dated:01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.
Ph: 0172-2864114, Email: - psicsic30@punjabmail.gov.in
Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com



Sh.Vikarm Vaid,
H No-1527, Gali No-2,
Bagh Rama Nand,
Amritsar.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director of Local Govt,Pb
Sector-35-A, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Addl, Director,
Deptt of Local Govt, Pb
Sector-35-A, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1336 of 2020

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
Smt.Tarsem Kaur, PIO O/o Local Govt., Shri Santokh Lal, Accountant
O/o Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur and Sh.Des Raj-EO-NC Adampur(earlier
EO-Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur) for the Respondent

ORDER:

This order should be read in continuation to the previous order.

The case has already been heard on 07.10.2020, 09.03.2021, 18.05.2021, 31.08.2021, 29.03.2022, 09.05.2022 and 14.09.2022.

On the date of the hearing on **31.08.2021**, the appellant claimed that despite orders of the Commission, the PIO has not supplied the complete information.

The respondent was absent on 2nd consecutive hearing nor had complied with the order of the Commission. **A show cause notice was issued to the PIO and directed to file a reply on an affidavit.** The PIO was again directed to sort out the discrepancies and provide complete information to the appellant within 10 days of the receipt of the order.

On the date of the hearing on **29.03.2022**, the respondent present from the office of Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur pleaded that available information has already been provided to the appellant on 08.03.2021. As per the appellant, the information was not supplied to him by the PIO.

The PIO was absent nor had filed a reply to the show cause notice as well not complied the order of the Commission to provide complete information.

As per respondent, Sh.Des Raj was the EO-cum-PIO, Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur when the RTI application was filed till 17.10.2021 (now transferred and posted as EO-NC, Adampur), Sh.Des Raj, EO-NC Adampur (earlier PIO-Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur) was held guilty of not providing the information on time as prescribed under section 7, and a penalty of **Rs.10,000/-** was imposed on him with the direction to produce a copy of the challan as evidence of depositing the penalty in the Govt Treasury.

The PIO- Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur was also directed to pay an amount of **Rs.2500/-** via demand draft as compensation to the appellant for the loss and detriment suffered by him of having to file the appeals and not getting information in time and submit proof of having compensated the appellant.

On the date of hearing on **09.05.2022**, Sh.Des Raj-EO-NC Adampur (earlier EO-Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur) and Sh.Santosh Lal, Accountant were present at Chandigarh and informed that the discrepancies as pointed out by the appellant relating to point-4 have been sorted out and complete information has been supplied to the appellant. Regarding penalty, Sh.Des Raj has filed a reply which was taken on record. In the reply, Sh. Desraj pleaded for review of the imposed penalty on the following grounds –

That the RTI application had been filed with Director Local Govt. Punjab Chandigarh and no RTI application, First appeal or notice of the Commission was received in their office.

That what they received was only a letter (dated 25.08.2020) from the Local Govt. Pb Chandigarh on 10.09.2020 alongwith the RTI application of the appellant. The information was sent to the appellant immediately vide letter dated 01.10.2020 through registered post.

That they attended the hearing of the Commission on 07.10.2020 and the discrepancies which were pointed out by the appellant were also sorted out vide letter dated 08.03.2021 including information relating to point-4. Further, no letter/order of the Commission for an appearance on 18.05.2021 and 31.08.2021 was received in the Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur and hence nobody could appear on the given dates.

Sh.Des Raj-EO-NC Adampur(earlier PIO Mehatpur) pleaded that before his transfer from Mehatpur to Adampur, complete information was provided to the appellant and there no delay had occurred on his part thus the decision to impose the penalty be reviewed.

The PIO-Nagar Panchayat also filed a reply on the same line and requested for review of the decision of granting compensation amount.

The PIO-Director of Local Govt. Pb, Chandigarh was directed to appear personally on the next date of hearing alongwith explanation on the statement of Sh.Des Raj, EO-NC Adampur(earlier PIO Mehatpur) and EO-Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur. A copy of the reply of both the PIOs was sent to the PIO-Director Local Govt. Pb Chandigarh for reference.

On the date of last hearing on **14.09.2022**, the respondents were present at Chandigarh and informed that the complete information has been provided to the appellant and no further information is available in the record. As per appellant, the information was incomplete.

Hearing both the parties, the respondent was directed to provide an affidavit that the information that has been provided is true and complete and no more information relating to this RTI application exists. With the above, information part was finished and no more discussion be done on this aspect.

The PIO-O/o Local Govt sent a reply dated 08.09.2022 on the statement of Sh.Des Raj EO-NC Adampur (earlier PIO Mehatpur) and EO-Nagar Panchayat Mehatpur which was taken on record. From the reply of the PIO-Local Govt. and during the course of the hearing, a new fact had emerged. The RTI application came into operation only after the notice of the Commission. As per Sh.Des Raj, the said RTI application was never received and was only transferred after it was attached alongwith the notice of the Commission after the appellant filed an appeal for not getting the information on his RTI application. As per the appellant, the appellant had the record of receipt of his RTI application by the department of Local Govt.

To inquire further into the matter, the Commission directed the Director Local Govt. to inform whether this RTI application was received or not and file a complete status report on an affidavit at the next date of hearing.

Hearing dated 01.11.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today. The respondent present from NC Mehatpur has submitted an affidavit stating that the information has already been supplied to the appellant as per the available record which is correct.

The respondent present from the office of Director Local Govt. has filed a reply which has been taken on record. In the reply, it has been mentioned they received the RTI application on 13.11.2019 and the same was forwarded to the accounts branch on 22.11.2019.

However, the concerned account branch was asked vide letter dated 20.09.2022 to send the status of the RTI application, to which they have not replied yet. Further, the information has already been provided to the appellant by the EO-NC Mehatpur.

The PIO-Account Branch, O/o Director Local Govt. is impleaded in the case and directed to appear personally before the Commission on the next date of hearing.

To come up for further hearing on **20.12.2022 at 11.00 AM** at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh
Dated: 01.11.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

- CC to: 1. Sh.Des Raj, EO-Nagar Council,**
Adampur, District Jalandhar
- 2. EO-cum-PIO-Nagar Panchayat,**
Mehatpur, District Jalandhar.