

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.**

Ph: 0172-2864114, Email: - psicsic30@punjabmail.gov.in

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Sh.Chander Shekhar, S/o Sh Nishu Ram,
Bathinda Road, Balmik Colony, Jaito ,
Distt. Faridkot.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o EO, NC,
Jaito, Distt Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Director,
Local Bodies, Ferozepur.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1698 of 2020

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

ORDER:

The appellant through RTI application dated 07.01.2020 has sought information regarding decision taken in the meeting on 15.05.2019 alongwith approval of election commission, - copy of order for grant of arrears to the employees retired after decision dated 21.03.2016 – action taken against chowkidar Sh.Pal Singh – copy of letters written to Police station Jaito for action against seven employees - copy of advertisement for appointment of Sh.Gurpreet Singh chowkidar alongwith applications received & copy of recruitment file – copy of dispatch register maintained by Development Branch from 30.01.2020 to 07.01.2020 grant received from MLA,MP,State Govt from 1.1.2007 to 07.01.2020 and other information concerning the office of Eo, NC Jaito. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed first appeal before the first appellate authority on 28.02.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

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

During the course of hearing, it has come to my notice that three appellants Sh.Madan Lal, Sh.Chander Shekhar and Sh.Gurmeet Singh, have filed similar appeal cases (No.1637/2020, 1698/2020 & 1705/2020) for seeking exactly the same information. I cannot allow the appellants to pursue such malpractices especially if said matter comes to my notice that the RTI applications are being fixed amongst various applicants, as during the hearing, it came to notice that all three appellants are closely associated with each other.

The same matter was brought to the notice of Sh.Madan Lal appellant in appeal case No.1637/2020 who then requested that the cases be clubbed. In the interest of justice, I accept their plea and club all three cases and direct the EO, NC Jaito to provide only one set of information to Sh.Madan Lal by raising requisite fee as per provisions of RTI Act. Once the appellant deposits the requisite fee, the information be provided as per the RTI Act.

I also warn all three appellants not to repeat this practice of fixing RTI applications, otherwise I will be constrained to reject such applications in the future.

With the above observation and order, the case is **disposed off and closed**.

Chandigarh
Dated 02.11.2020

Sd/-
(KhushwantSingh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh. Chander Shekhar, S/o Sh Nishu Ram,
Bathinda Road, Balmik Colony, Jaito ,
Distt Faridkot.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o EO, NC,
Jaito, Distt Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Director,
Local Bodies, Ferozepur.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1697 of 2020

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

The appellant through RTI application dated 07.01.2020 has sought information regarding copy of correspondent done relating to promotion of Ramesh Kumar, Prem Kumar, Kewal Sharma from 07.04.2017 till date – case file of case no.21/2011 against Kewal Sharma copy of audit report of Finance department, Central Audit department from 04/2005 to 03/2007, 11.08.2010 to 07.10.2010 & 04/2007 to 03.2010 - action taken report against employee for missing record relating to book No.120 – computerized CD for deposit of property tax – case file of FIR No.29/18 & 80/30/5/19 against Davinder Kumar clerk and other information concerning the office of EO, NC Jaito. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed first appeal before the first appellate authority on 28.02.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

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

Having gone through the RTI application, the Commission observes that the information that has been asked for by the appellant appears to be the service record of employees Sh.Ramesh Kumar, Sh.Prem Kumar and Sh.Kewal Sharma as well as very voluminous information. I have advised the appellant to revise his RTI application and seek that information, which is not personal, and not voluminous to divert the resources of the public authority.

During the course of hearing, it has come to my notice that two appellants Sh.Madan Lal and Sh.Chander Shekhar, have filed similar appeal cases (No.1638/2020 & 1697/2020) for seeking exactly the same information. I cannot allow the appellants to pursue such malpractices especially if said matter comes to my notice that the RTI applications are being fixed amongst various applicants, as during the hearing, it came to notice that both appellants are closely associated with each other.

The same matter was brought to the notice of Sh.Madan Lal in appeal case No.1638/2020 who then requested that the cases be clubbed. In the interest of justice I accept their plea and club both the cases and direct the EO, NC Jaito to provide only one set of information to Sh.Madan Lal by raising requisite fee as per provisions of RTI Act. Since the appellant has also been advised to submit revised RTI application, fee be raised once the appellant submits revised RTI application and information be provided after deposit of requisite fee.

I also warn both the appellants not to repeat this practice of fixing RTI applications, otherwise I will be constrained to reject such applications in the future.

With the above observation and order, the case is **disposed off and closed**.

Chandigarh
Dated 02.11.2020

Sd/-
(KhushwantSingh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh.Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh Harbans lal,
H no-B-3/287, Romana Street,
Jaito, Distt Faridkot.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Addl, Chief Secretary,
Local Govt, Sector-35-A,
Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Addl, Chief Secretary,
Local Govt, Sector-35-A,
Chandigarh

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1704 of 2020

PRESENT: **Sh.Lajpat Rai as the Appellant**
 Sh.Satwinder Singh, Suptd.cum-PIO, Local Govt.(LG-3) for the
 Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant through RTI application dated 20.01.2020 has sought information regarding complete file of recruitment of Sh.Rajnish Sood appointed on compassionate ground – action taken against the employee found absent during checking of area of NC Jaito by DC Faridkot – retirement date of the EO – Service book of Sh.Ashok Kumar, MC Jagraon – action taken report of the applications from 3/16 – recruitment file of inderpreet Singh retired EO Chamkaur Sahib and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Add. Chief Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed first appeal before the first appellate authority on 19.02.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Faridkot. The respondent present pleaded that the information that has been sought by the appellant is personal information of 4 employees. As per respondent the information is also not specific.

Having gone through the RTI application, the Commission observes that since the appellant has sought personal information about four employees and there is no clear public interest established for disclosure of such information, I reject the appeal.

The applicant may file a fresh RTI application for specific information, which is not personal in nature

With the above observation, the case is **closed**.

Chandigarh
Dated 02.11.2020

Sd/-
(KhushwantSingh)
State Information Commissioner



Sh.Gurmeet Singh, S/o Sh Gurcharan Singh,
Bathinda Road, Jatio,
Distt Faridkot.

... Appellant,

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o EO, NC,
Jatio, Distt Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Director,
Local Bodies, Ferozepur.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1705 of 2020

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant through RTI application dated 19.12.2019 has sought information regarding decision taken in the meeting on 15.05.2019 alongwith approval of election commission, - copy of order for grant of arrears to the employees retired after decision dated 21.03.2016 – action taken against chowkidar Sh.Pal Singh – copy of letters written to Police station Jaito for action against seven employees - copy of advertisement for appointment of Sh.Gurpreet Singh chowkidar alongwith applications received & copy of recruitment file – copy of dispatch register maintained by Development Branch from 30.10.1999 to 19.12.2019 grant received from MLA,MP,State Govt from 1.1.2007 to 19.12.2019 and other information concerning the office of EO, NC Jaito. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed first appeal before the first appellate authority on 28.02.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

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

During the course of hearing, it has come to my notice that three appellants Sh.Madan Lal, Sh.Chander Shekhar and Sh.Gurmeet Singh, have filed similar appeal cases (No.1637/2020, 1698/2020 & 1705/2020) for seeking exactly the same information. I cannot allow the appellants to pursue such malpractices especially if said matter comes to my notice that the RTI applications are being fixed amongst various applicants, as during the hearing, it came to notice that all three appellants are closely associated with each other.

The same matter was brought to the notice of Sh.Madan Lal appellant in appeal case No.1637/2020 who then requested that the cases be clubbed. In the interest of justice, I accept their plea and club all three cases and direct the EO, NC Jaito to provide only one set of information to Sh.Madan Lal by raising requisite fee as per provisions of RTI Act. Once the appellant deposits the requisite fee, the information be provided as per the RTI Act.

I also warn all three appellants not to repeat this practice of fixing RTI applications, otherwise I will be constrained to reject such applications in the future.

With the above observation and order, the case is **disposed off and closed**.

Chandigarh
Dated 02.11.2020

Sd/-
(KhushwantSingh)
State Information Commissioner