

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

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Helpline No.: 0172-2864100 (From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Surinder Kumar Singal,
541, Sector-33B,
Chandigarh.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Greater Mohali Area Development
Authority (GMADA), Mohali.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Administrator,
Greater Mohali Area Development
Authority (GMADA), Mohali.

...Respondents

AC No.4395/2021

Present: (i) **Shri Vipul Babuta, Advocate on behalf of the Appellant, in person..**
(ii) **Shri Gurwinder Singh, Assistant Estate Officer, GMADA, Mohali,
PIO/Respondent-cisco webex.**

ORDER

(Heard in person/through Cisco Webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Advocate Vipul Babuta comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant in person before the Bench.
3. Shri Gurwinder Singh, Assistant Estate Officer/ PIO, GMADA, Mohali comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that the appellant visited his office for inspection of records and information as identified by the appellant has been provided to him vide letter dated 12.07.2022 by hand.
4. The representative of appellant Shri Vipul Babuta confirms that the appellant had visited the office of PIO on 12.07.2022. However, the appellant is not satisfied with the information supplied, as complete information as identified by the appellant after inspection of records has not been supplied to him.
5. On the asking of the Bench, the PIO states that the information sought by the appellant is in question form, thus, the same has not been supplied.
6. Post deliberations, the Bench over rules the contention of the PIO that the information is in question form. The Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant again to his office and allow him access to the relevant official record and supply him copy of the demolition order of the illegal commercial building as also its present status, status of demolition order issued by GMADA as well as name of the concerned officer responsible for executing the demolition order. The PIO is also directed to file reply to the show cause notice before the next hearing.
7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Shri Jang Bahadur,
S/o Shri Jai Chand,
R/o Mandi Aminganj, Roranwali,
Tehsil & Distt. Fazilka.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer(DDPO), Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer(DDPO), Fazilka.

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1847 of 2021

Present:- (i) **Shri Jang Bahadur, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None present on behalf of the respondent.**

ORDER

(Heard through cisco webex)

1. This Order may be read with reference to the Order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jang Bahadur, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that neither the information has been supplied to him nor the compensation amount of Rs.5000/- has been paid to him.
3. Neither the PIO, O/o DDPO, Fazilka has come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representative to attend the hearing.
4. The Bench during the previous hearing, had observed that the PIO had never appeared before the Commission on any hearing and he was absent on previous hearing also. Today, he is absent for the eighth consecutive hearing in spite of the bailable warrant issued to him, which was duly served by the Police authorities of P.S. City, Fazilka on 22.08.2022. The PIO has also failed to comply with the previous orders passed by the Commission. Neither he has provided the information and compensation to the appellant nor he has filed reply to the Show Cause Notice issued vide Order dated 15.12.2021.
5. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude as also the casual approach of the PIO towards the directions of the Bench is viewed adversely. **The Bench has no option but to issue bailable warrant again to PIO office of District Development & Panchayat Officer, Fazilka to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next date of hearing.**

Cont..P-2

6. The PIO, O/o DDPO, Fazilka is given another opportunity and directed to provide the attested copies of sought for information and to pay the amount of compensation of Rs.5,000/- to the appellant by cheque or demand draft . He is also directed to file reply to the show cause notice before the next date of hearing, failing which further penal consequences shall follow.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11:30 am in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the Order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

- 1) PIO O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Fazilka.
- 2) The Director (By Name), Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab, Vikas Bhawan, Sector-62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali). He is informed that the perusal of RTI application of appellant Shri Jang Bahadur shows that two complaints of appellant dated 07.03.2020 and 07.08.2020 were referred to DDPO Fazilka vide letter No.1799 dated 25.06.2020 and letter No.3220 dated 09.10.2020 of Joint Director, Panchayat and Deputy Director (HQs) respectively to take action as per Govt. instructions/Rules. However, in spite of a lapse of more than 1 year and 08 months, the PIO O/o DDPO Fazilka has neither bothered to supply information to the appellant sought vide his RTI application nor has come present in person before the Commission. He is directed to take disciplinary action against the PIO, Office of DDPO Fazilka and send compliance report to the Commission.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

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Shri Jang Bahadur,
S/o Shri Jai Chand,
R/o Mandi Aminganj, Roranwali,
Tehsil & Distt. Fazilka.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer(DDPO), Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer(DDPO), Fazilka.

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1845 of 2021

Present:- (i) **Shri Jang Bahadur, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None present on behalf of the respondent.**

ORDER

(Heard through cisco webex)

1. This Order may be read with reference to the Order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jang Bahadur, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that neither the information has been supplied to him nor the compensation amount of Rs.5000/- has been paid to him..
3. Neither the PIO, O/o DDPO, Fazilka has come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representative to attend the hearing.
4. The Bench during the previous hearing, had observed that the PIO had never appeared before the Commission on any hearing and he was absent on previous hearing also. Today, he is absent for the eighth consecutive hearing in spite of the bailable warrant issued to him, which was duly served by the Police authorities of P.S. City, Fazilka on 22.08.2022. The PIO has also failed to comply with the previous orders passed by the Commission. Neither he has provided the information and compensation to the appellant nor he has filed reply to the Show Cause Notice issued vide Order dated 15.12.2021.
5. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude as also the casual approach of the PIO towards the directions of the Bench is viewed adversely. **The Bench has no option but to issue bailable warrant again to PIO office of District Development & Panchayat Officer, Fazilka to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next date of hearing.**

6. The PIO, O/o DDPO, Fazilka is given another opportunity and directed to provide the attested copies of sought for information and to pay the amount of compensation of Rs.5,000/- to the appellant by cheque or demand draft . He is also directed to file reply to the show cause notice before the next date of hearing, failing which further penal consequences shall follow.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11:30 am in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the Order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

- 1) PIO O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Fazilka.
- 2) The Director (By Name), Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab, Vikas Bhawan, Sector-62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali). He is informed that the perusal of RTI application of appellant Shri Jang Bahadur shows that one complaint of appellant dated 02.09.2020 was referred to DDPO Fazilka vide letter No.6605 dated 17.11.2020 of Incharge (Complaints Branch) O/o Director, Rural Development & Panchayat, Punjab to enquire into the allegations made against the Sarpanch and to report. However, in spite of a lapse of more than 1 year and 08 months, the PIO O/o DDPO Fazilka has neither bothered to supply information to the appellant sought vide his RTI application nor has come present in person before the Commission. He is directed to take disciplinary action against the PIO Office of DDPO Fazilka and to send compliance report to the Commission.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

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Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, RTI Activist
Whistle Blower, President, NCAG Office,
Street No.5,, H.No.1331-5,
Vishawkarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road,
Shimlapuri, Ludhiana-141003.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Station House Officer,
Police Station, Shimlapuri,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority
Commissioner of Police,
Ludhiana.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.5470 of 2021

PRESENT : (i) **Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, Appellant- cisco webex,**
(ii) **ASI Jaswinder Singh, Police Station, Shimlapuri, Ludhiana**
on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.

ORDER:

(Heard in person/through Cisco Webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has not been provided any information by the PIO so far stating that he is not a member of any organization or institution and thus, not entitled to seek the information sought by him.
3. ASI Jaswinder Singh O/o Station House Officer, Police Station, Shimlapuri, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He makes request to the Bench to grant some additional time to supply information to the appellant.
4. Post deliberations and acceding to the request of the respondent, the Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The appellant after inspection of records will identify the information and the PIO will provide him information as may be identified by the appellant, before the next hearing. The PIO is also directed to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing.
5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

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Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, RTI Activist
Whistle Blower, President, NCAG Office,
Street No.5, H.No.1331-5,
Vishawkarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road,
Shimlapuri, Ludhiana-141003.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Station House Officer,
Police Station, Daba,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority
Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.5474 of 2021

PRESENT : (i) **Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, Appellant - cisco webex.**
(ii) **None is present on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER:

(Heard through Cisco Webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has not been provided any information by the PIO so far on the plea that he is not a member of any organization or institution.
3. The PIO O/o Station House Officer, Police Station, Daba, Ludhiana has neither come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of this representatives to attend the hearing.
4. Post deliberations with the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The appellant after inspection of records will identify the information and the PIO will provide him information as may be identified by the appellant, before the next hearing. The PIO is given another opportunity to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing, failing which the Bench will not be left with any other option but to issue bailable warrant to ensure his presence before the Bench.
5. On the asking of the Bench, ASI Jaswinder Singh, who is present before the Bench in Appeal Case No.5470/2021 of the appellant, states that Police Station, Daba is in their neighbourhood. He assures to convey the orders of Hon'ble Bench to the PIO Police Station, Daba, Ludhiana.
6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

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Shri Jagtar Singh,
S/o Shri Sampooran Singh,
Village Naraina, PO Bhagrana,
Block Khera, Tehsil Bassi Pathana,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Block Development and,
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Block Khera,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
O/o District Development and,
Panchayat Officer (DDPO),
Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Respondents

AC No.3615 of 2021

Present: (i) Appellant - absent.
(ii) Smt. Jaspreet Kaur, Superintendent O/o BDPO Khera, District Fatehgarh Sahib, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent, in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 11.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jagtar Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
3. Smt. Jaspreet Kaur, Superintendent O/o BDPO Khera, District Fatehgarh Sahib comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. She states that the appellant has sought information in respect of the amount of *Chullah Tax* collected and deposited by Shri Rajinder Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Naraina, Block Khera, in respect of all the villages wherever he had remained posted as Panchayat Secretary from the year 2012 to 2021. She further states that the information sought relates to a number of villages in Block Khera and is too voluminous. Thus, the same could not be supplied.



-2-

AC No.3615/2021

4. The Bench directs the PIO O/o BDPO Khera to send appropriate reply to the appellant stating therein the position after ascertaining the posting of the above mentioned Panchayat Secretary in different Gram Panchayats in Block Khera, also mentioning therein the number of PIOs involved in the information sought by the appellant as also the probable action involved in compilation of information sought. Copy of the same be sent to the Commission also, before the next hearing. The PIO is also directed to come present in person before the Bench.

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

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Smt. Kamaljit Kaur,
Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat,
Mullapur Khurd,
Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Sirhind, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer (DDPO),
Sri Fatehgarh Sahib.

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3952 of 2020

Present:- (i) Smt. Kamaljit Kaur, Appellant, in person.
(ii) Shri Iqbal Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat,
Mullanpur Khurd, District Fatehgarh Sahib, Respondent.

ORDER

(Heard in person/on mobile phone)

1. This Order may be read with reference to the Order dated 11.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. Smt. Kamaljit Kaur, appellant comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing and states that she is the present Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat, Mullanpur Khurd, and the information is required to be provided by the PIO to enable her to function as Sarpanch of village, but the information sought by her is not being provided to her.
3. Shri Iqbal Singh PIO-cum-Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Mullanpur Khurd, District Fatehgarh Sahib comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that at present, the Gram Panchayat, Mullanpur Khurd is not functioning due to non-completion of quorum and that in such a situation, the Administrator can also not be appointed due to some litigation going on in the court. He requests for some additional time to enable him to provide information to the appellant.
4. The Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow access to the entire relevant records. The information as is identified by the appellant be provided to her before the next date of hearing.

Contd..P 2..

Appeal Case No. 3952 of 2020

5. Shri Iqbal Singh, PIO-cum-Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Mullanpur Khurd, is also directed to come present in person before the Commission on the next date of hearing as also to pay compensation of Rs.4,000/- to the appellant by cheque or draft and also to file reply to the Show Cause Notice.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 22.09.2022 at 11.30 AM in the Commission at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

**Shri Iqbal Singh, PIO-cum-Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat,
Mullanpur Khurd, District Fatehgarh Sahib.**

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Shri Daljit Singh,
R/o H. No.23/7, Friends Colony,
Opposite D.A.V. College,
Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Municipal Corporation,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar.

...Respondents

AC No.4108/2021

Present: (i) **Shri Daljit Singh, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER

(Heard through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 11.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Daljit Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that only partial information has been provided to him.
3. The PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar has neither come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. The PIO has just sent a letter by e.mail on 05.09.2022 that due to transfer of staff, record is not traceable and has sought adjournment.
4. The perusal of the case file shows that the PIO had absented himself on 20.12.2021, 02.03.2022 and 31.05.2022, when penalty of Rs.5000/- was imposed on the PIO and the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar was also directed to look into the matter. It was only then that on next hearing on 11.07.2022, one Shri Paul Parneet Singh, Building Inspector had attended the hearing. Now, the PIO has not apprised the Bench regarding calling the appellant for inspection of records and supply of information. He has also not apprised as to whether the amount of penalty has been deposited or not nor reply to the show cause notice has been filed. The PIO was also directed to ensure to come present in person before the Bench bringing along the entire relevant record, but the things still remain the same.

Cont...P-2



.5. In view of the lackadaisical attitude of PIO and casual approach towards the directions of the Commission, the Bench is left with no other option but to issue bailable warrant to the PIO/ATP Office of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
05.09.2022

Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Smt. Inderjit Kaur,
R/o House No.146,
Banda Bahadur Nagar,
Near Tagore Hospital,
Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Municipal Corporation,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar.

...Respondents

AC No.4105/2021

Present: (i) **Shri Daljit Singh, on behalf of the Appellant-cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER

(Heard through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 11.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Daljit Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant through cisco webex. He states that only partial information has been provided to the appellant.
3. The PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar has neither come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. The PIO has just sent a letter by e.mail on 05.09.2022 that due to transfer of staff, record is not traceable and has sought adjournment.
4. The perusal of the case file shows that the PIO had absented himself on 20.12.2021, 02.03.2022 and 31.05.2022, when penalty of Rs.5000/- was imposed on the PIO and the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar was also directed to look into the matter. It was only then that on next hearing on 11.07.2022, one Shri Paul Parneet Singh, Building Inspector had attended the hearing. Now, the PIO has not apprised the Bench regarding calling the appellant for inspection of records and supply of information. He has also not apprised as to whether the amount of penalty has been deposited or not nor reply to the show cause notice has been filed. The PIO was also directed to ensure to come present before the Bench in person before the Bench bringing along the entire relevant record, but the things remain the same.

Cont...P-2



.5. In view of the lackadaisical attitude of PIO and casual approach towards the directions of the Commission, the Bench is left with no other option but to issue bailable warrant to the PIO/ATP Office of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
05.09.2022

Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
Guru Nanak Nagar,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
Post Office Ramgarh,
District Ludhiana-141123.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Chief Administrator,
Greater Ludhiana Area Development
Authority (GLADA), Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Administrator,
Greater Ludhiana Area Development
Authority (GLADA), Ludhiana.

...Respondents

AC No.5382/2021

Present:

- (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant- cisco webex.
- (ii) Shri Divleen Singh, SDO/PIO and Shri Sumit Singla, Senior Assistant,
O/o GLADA, Ludhiana, Respondent, in person.

ORDER

(Heard in person/through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 11.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jasbir Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that no information has been provided to him so far.
3. Shri Divleen Singh, SDO/PIO and Shri Sumit Singla, Sr. Assistant, O/o GLADA, Ludhiana, Respondent, come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. The PIO states that the appellant was called to his office. He was allowed inspection of records and supplied information to his satisfaction.
4. Due to some disturbance in connectivity through cisco webex, the Bench contacts the appellant on his mobile phone. He denies receipt of information. Then he is made to talk to the PIO who explains to the appellant the supply of information after inspection of records. The appellant, however, still expresses dis-satisfaction and requests to allow him another opportunity to inspect the records.

Cont..P-2



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AC No.5382/2021

5. Post deliberations, the Bench direct the PIO O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana to call the appellant again to his office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The appellant, on inspection of the records, will identify the information as sought by him and the same will be supplied to the appellant by the PIO before the next hearing. He is also directed to come present in person before the Bench bringing along with entire relevant record, reply to show cause notice as also the evidence for having deposited the amount of penalty and produce the same before the Bench.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.09.2022**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com, Cisco Webex Code:15857-23975

Helpline No.: 0172-2864100 (From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Paramjeet Singh,
H.No.253, Street No.8,
New Mohni Park,
Opposite Khalsa College,
Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer(BDPO), Bhikhiwind,
District Tarn Taran.

First Appellate Authority

O/o District Development and
Panchayat Officer(DDPO), Bhikhiwind,
Tarn Taran.

...Respondents

AC No.4818/2021

Present:

- (i) Shri Paramjeet Singh, Appellant, in person.
- (ii) Shri Santokh Singh, BDPO, Bhikhiwind, District Tarn Taran and
Shri Narinder Singh, Superintendent O/o BDOP Bhikhiwind, in person.
- (iii) Shri Lakhbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Pahuwind,
Block Bhikhiwind, Distt. Tarn Taran, in person.
- (iv) Shri Harpreet Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Jamalpur,
District Tarn Taran, in person (previous Panchayat Secretary, GP Pahuwind).

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 05.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Paramjeet Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He reiterates his statement as made during the previous hearing that no information has been supplied yet.
3. Shri Santokh Singh, BDPO, Bhikhiwind comes present in person before the Bench and states that Panchayat Secretary has to supply requisite information. Shri Lakhbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Pahuwind, Block Bhikhiwind comes present in person before the Bench and states that information sought relates to the record prior to the year 2017 and he had joined thereafter. He also states that the record is in custody of Sarpanch of Gram Panchayat. He is apprised of the version of Shri Amarjit Singh, ex-Sarpanch who had appeared before the Bench on the previous hearing and had stated that record remains in the custody of Panchayat Secretary. Shri Lakhbir Singh emphatically states that the ex-Sarpanch had made a wrong and false statement before the Bench.

4. Shri Harpreet Singh, Panchayat Secretary, comes present in person and states that he had remained Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat earlier and produces before the Bench a letter of Director, Rural Development and Panchayat, Punjab wherein directions have been issued to all the Divisional Deputy Directors, ADC(Dev.), DDPOs, Dy. Chief Executive Officers, Zila Parishads and BDPOs that the record of Gram Panchayat will remain in the custody of Sarpanch and its maintenance and update of the records each month will be responsibility of the Panchayat Secretary and VDOs.

5. The Bench observes that the BDPO, Bhikhiwind and Shri Lakhbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Pahuwind have not been able to give any input to the Bench though they are accountable for the supply of requisite information to the appellant. However, they have failed to comply with the directions of the Bench. The lackadaisical attitude and casual approach of the PIO towards the compliance of the directions of Commission is viewed adversely.

6. The facts of the case prove beyond any doubt that the PIO/Respondent does not deserve any leniency. Hence, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, a penalty to the tune of **Rs.10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)** is imposed upon PIO O/o BDPO Bhikhiwind, District Tarn Taran to be deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head. The Drawing & Disbursing Officer concerned is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs.10,000/- from the salary of the PIO and deposit the same in State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission before the next hearing:-

**- 0070-Other Administrative Services – 60-Other Services-
-0800-Other Receipts- 86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005.**

7. The PIO O/o BDPO Bhikhiwind, District Tarn Taran is further directed to supply complete information to the appellant before the next hearing. He is also directed to come present in person before the Bench bringing along with entire relevant record, reply to show cause notice as also the evidence for having deposited the amount of penalty and produce the same before the Bench.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.10.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
05.09.2022
Copy to (By Regd.Post)

Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

- i) **PIO O/o BDPO, Bhikhiwind, District Tarn Taran**
- ii) **Shri Lakhbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Pahuwind, District Tarn Taran.**