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Shri Jagjit Singh, R/o Aman Nagar, Street No.3, Behind Green Land School, Near Jalandhar By-Pass, Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

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

....Respondents

AC No.940 of 2020

- Present: (i) Appellant absent.
 - (ii) Shri Rohit Kumar, Supdt. RTI (HQ), M.C. Ludhiana, PIO

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing/On mobile phone).

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.07.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. The appellant has not come present to attend the hearing through V.C. A request has been received from him to hear him through Webex.
- 3. Shri Rohit Kumar, Superintendent, M.C. Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant has been supplied the requisite information vide letter dated 06.01.2020 and as per deficiencies pointed out by him, whatever action was required at the level of Municipal Corporation, the same has been taken. On the asking of the Bench as to whether affidavit has been filed as per directions of Bench, the PIO present fails to give a satisfactory reply. The PIO further states that he has been transferred to another Branch and now Shri Ashok Kumar Garg, Superintendent will be the PIO to deal with this case.
- 4. Shri Jagjit Singh, appellant is contacted through mobile phone. He states that he is not satisfied with the information supplied.

PSIC Significant Control of the Information Cont

-2- <u>AC No.940/2020</u>

The Bench after hearing the version of both the appellant and the PIO, observes that posting of PIO should not effect functioning and disposal of RTI related cases. The person who has assumed the charge now becomes responsible and accountable as PIO to deal with RTI cases. The Bench further observes that the PIO has failed to comply with the directions given by the Bench on the previous hearing. The PIO concerned, O/o Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana is issued show cause notice to explain as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for non-compliance of the directions given by the Bench on the previous hearing. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

- 6. In addition to the written reply, PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for a personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceeding against him ex-parte.
- 7. The PIO is also directed to provide the complete information to the appellant as per is RTI application as also to file an affidavit as directed on the previous hearing before the next hearing. The original copy of the affidavit be sent to the appellant and photocopy thereof be sent to the Commission for record.
- 8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing **on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana**. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 07.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Shri Kuldip Kumar Kaura, Retd. Lecturer, R/o #5-C, Phase-1, Urban Estate, Focal Point, Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Zonal Commissioner, Zone-C, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Zonal Commissioner, Zone-C, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.503 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Kuldip Kumar Kaura, Appellant

(ii) None on behalf of the PIO

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.07.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Shri Kuldip Kumar Kaura comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that till date, no information has been supplied to him.
- 3. Neither the PIO has come present to attend the hearing through V.C. nor any official has been deputed to attend the hearing on his behalf.
- 4. The Bench on perusing the case file, finds that it is the third hearing in the case and the PIO has failed to file reply to the show cause notice issued vide order dated 18.03.2020. He has also not provided any information to the appellant and as such, PIO has not complied with the directions of the Bench.

PSIC Disable Mormation

-2-

AC No.503/2020

5. 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 Zonal Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Zone-C, Ludhiana 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.
- 6. The PIO is also directed to supply complete information to the appellant and file reply to the Show Cause Notice before the next date of hearing.
- 7. With the above directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 07.09.2020

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

Copy (By Regd.Post):to:

Public Information Officer, O/o Zonal Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Zone-C, Ludhiana

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

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o General Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Bus Stand, Ludhiana..

Public Information Officer

O/o General Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Faridkot

Public Information Officer

O/o General Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Managing Director, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Head Office, Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.1650 of 2020

Versus

Present: (i) Shri Jaspal Singh, appellant

(ii) Shri Vijay Kumar, Senior Assistant O/o G.M. PRTC Depot, Ludhiana

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 27.02.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 06.05.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 23.07.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 08.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.
- 3. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Shri Jaspal Singh comes present to attend the hearing. He states that he has sought information with regard to a PRTC bus operating from Ludhiana to Moga. The same has not been provided even after a lapse of six months.

PSIC PSIC

-2-

AC No.1650/2020

- 4. Shri Vijay Kumar, Senior Assistant O/o G.M. PRTC Ludhiana Depot comes present to attend the hearing. He states that no bus of PRTC operates from Ludhiana to Moga. In addition, no time table for buses exists for Moga from Ludhiana depot.
- 5. The appellant states that if no Bus of PRTC operated from Ludhiana to Moga on 20.02.2020 at 7.10 PM and the matter does not relate to Ludhiana Depot, the application should have been transferred to the concerned depot as per provisions of RTI Act.
- 6. On enquiring from the representative of PIO, he states that the RTI application will be transferred to Faridkot and Patiala depots of PRTC and requests to implead the PIOs of the said Depots for the next hearing.
- 7. In view of the above, the PIO, O/o G.M. Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala and PIO, O/O G.M. Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Faridkot are impleaded as respondents. They are directed to supply point wise reply to the appellant and also ensure to attend the next hearing. The PIO, O/o G.M. PRTC Ludhiana is directed to transfer the RTI application to the PIOs of above said depots of PRTC and also to attend the next hearing.
- 8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through CISCO WEBEX, the Code for which is 919774811. Copies of order be given to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 07.09.2020

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post)

- (i) Public Information Officer, O/o General Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Faridkot
- (ii) Public Information Officer, O/o General Manager, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala.

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Shri Trilochan Singh S/o Shri Gurbachan Singh R/o 848-A, MIG Jamalpur, Ludhiana-141010.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Mohali.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Mohali..

....Respondents

AC No.1678 of 2020

Present: (i) Appellant-absent

(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 25.02.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 28.03.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 24.06.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 07.09.2020 by the Commission through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ludhiana.
- 3. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. Neither the appellant Shri Trilochan Singh nor the PIO nor any of his representative have come present to attend the hearing. However, a letter dated 01.09.2020 has been received from the Assistant Transport Officer-cum-PIO, R.T.A Mohali that on account of finding the staff to be Corona positive, the office is closed and as such, has requested to give another date of hearing.
- 4. In view of the above, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

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

Chandigarh 07.09.2020

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Sh. Shiv Narayan Jangra S/o Sh.Ramji Dass, Raftaar News Channel Press Complex, Arna Barna Chowk, Patiala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Managing Director PEPSU Road Transport Corporation, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Managing Director PEPSU Road Transport Corporation, Patiala.

...Respondents

AC No.4103/2019

Present: (i) Shri Shiv Narayan Jangra, appellant

> None on behalf of the PIO. (ii)

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.07.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Patiala. The appellant Shri Shiv Narayan Jangra is present. He states that he has received only partial information. He also states that he had talked to the PIO in this regard on 04.09.2020 and briefed him on the details of information required.
- Since Shri Amanvir Singh Tiwana, Traffic Manager/PIO is absent, he is contacted through telephone. He states that there is no information with him regarding the hearing for today in AC: 4103/2019.
- 4. This statement of the PIO is surprising as the order is sent by post and also uploaded on the Website. He was also contacted on phone on the previous date of hearing and the case was discussed with him. The Bench also observes that the PIO was required to file an affidavit after supplying the information to the appellant, as per directions given on the on the previous hearing. The directions of the Bench have not been complied with. Cont...P-2

Par PSIC Sale

-2-

AC No.4103/2020

- 5. The PIO concerned, O/o Managing Director, Pepsu Road Transport Corporation, Patiala is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and to explain as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for non-compliance of the directions given by the Bench on the previous hearing. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.
- 6. In addition to the written reply, PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for a personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceeding against him ex-parte.
- 7. The PIO is also directed to provide the complete information to the appellant as per is RTI application as also to file an affidavit as directed on the previous hearing, before the next hearing. The original copy of the affidavit be sent to the appellant and photocopy thereof be sent to the Commission for record.
- 8. With the above directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Patiala.** Copies of order be given to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 07.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, H.No.78/8, Park Road, Navi Mandi, Dhuri, District Sangrur

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary, Technical Education and Industrial Training, Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Principal Secretary, Technical Education and Industrial Training, Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

AC No.1636/2020

Present: (i) Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, appellant

(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 08.11.2019 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 11.12.2019 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 18.06.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 07.09.2020 by the Commission through V.C. in D.C. Office, Sangrur. Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, appellant attends the hearing through V.C. He states that he has not been supplied any information as yet.



-2-

AC No.1636/2020

- 3. No one has come present on behalf of the PIO to attend the hearing before the Bench. A letter dated 07.09.2020 has, however, been received from Superintendent, Technical-I Branch stating that the report of the officer who was to attend the hearing today, has been found Corona positive, due to which the office has been closed. As such, the officer concerned has requested for giving another date of hearing.
- 4. In view of the above, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.11.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in D.C. Office, Sangrur.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties concerned.

Chandigarh 07.09.2020 Sd/(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab