

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 Meeting Code : 15857-23975
Helpline No. 0172-2864100 (10:00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, RTI Activists,
Whistle Blower, Social Worker,
President, NCAG Office,
1331-5, Vishawkarma Bhawan,
Down Canal Road, Shimlapuri,
Ludhiana.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Addl.Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Housing & Urban Development,
Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer,
O/o Chief Administrator,
GLADA, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Addl.Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Housing & Urban Development,
Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh.

... Respondents

AC No. 5476 of 2021

Present:- (i) Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, Appellant.
(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 09.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.

2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Gurmej Lal comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex on behalf of Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, appellant. He states that the appellant has not been provided any information so far.

3. During previous hearing, PIO-cum-Superintendent O/o Additional Chief Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Housing & Development had come present and stated that the information relates to the PIO, GLADA, Ludhiana. Accordingly, the PIO O/o GLADA, Ludhiana was impleaded as Respondent No.2. Neither the PIO O/o GLADA, Ludhiana has come present to

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AC No.5476/2021

attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing. A letter dated 05.05.2022 is available in the case file whereby the appellant was called for inspection of records, but no compliance report of the directions of the Bench is available in the file.

4. The PIO O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana is issued show cause notice to explain his absence 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 failing to comply with the directions of the Bench in its entirety. 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.

5. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for 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 proceedings against him ex-parte.

6. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant before the next hearing and bring along the copy of information supplied as also the relevant record and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.08.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post):

Public Information Officer O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana.

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Shri Jagjit Singh (RTI Activist)
R/o Aman Nagar, Street No.3,
Backside Green Land School,
Near Jalandhar By-Pass,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Greater Ludhiana Area Development
Authority (GLADA), Ludhiana.

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

...Respondents

AC No.2125/2021

PRESENT : (i) Appellant- absent.
(ii) Shri Manpreet Singh, Senior Assistant O/o GLADA, Ludhiana,
on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

ORDER:

(Heard through cisco webex/on mobile phone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 09.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Jagjit Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex. He has, however, informed through an e.mail dated 07.06.2022 that due to personal reasons, he is unable to appear before the Bench to attend the hearing and allow him to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
3. Shri Manpreet Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO through cisco webex. He states that the information on points relating to GLADA has been supplied to the appellant vide letters dated 17.12.2021 and 31.05.2022. He further states that certain points of the RTI application of the appellant relate to the Municipal Corporation, as such, the appellant is required to file separate RTI application accordingly to the said office as Municipal Corporation has a different PIO.

Cont..P-2



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AC No.2125/2021

4. The appellant is contacted on mobile phone. On the asking of the Bench, he denies the receipt of information.

5. Post deliberations, the PIO is directed to send the information again to the appellant by e.mail as well as on WhatsApp number of appellant. The appellant is advised to point out deficiencies, if any, after receipt of information as also to file separate RTI application to the office concerned which do not relate to GLADA, Ludhiana. The PIO is also directed to remove deficiencies, if any, pointed out by the appellant and supply rectified information to the appellant by registered post and to produce postal receipt for the same along with copy of the information supplied, before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 07.07.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06.2022**

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

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
Village Dholapur, Block Batala
Tehsill Batala, District Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Batala, District Gurdaspur.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Addl. Dy. Commissioner(Development)
Gurdaspur.

....Respondents

AC No.5534 of 2021

Present: (i) **Appellant – absent.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER

(Heard on mobile phone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 09.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Jasbir Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
3. Neither the PIO O/o BDPO Batala, District Gurdaspur has come present to attend the hearing in person nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of this representative to attend the hearing. The Bench observes that during the previous hearing, Shri Shamsher Singh, Gram Rozgar Sewak, O/o BDPO Batala, District Gurdaspur, had come present to attend the hearing through cisco webex on behalf of the PIO and he had informed that the appellant has been supplied information twice vide letter dated 06.10.2021 and 21.01.2022 by registered post and that no deficiencies were received from him.

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AC No.5534/2021

4. The appellant is contacted on mobile phone. On the asking of the Bench, he denies receipt of any information.

5. The PIO is directed to again send the information to the appellant by registered post . The appellant is advised to point out deficiencies, if any, after the receipt of information by him and the PIO will supply rectified information to the appellant after removing deficiencies as also ensure to come present in person before the Bench on the next date of hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.08.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06.2022**

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

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Shri Major Singh S/o Shri Darshan Lal,
Mohalla Nawan Katra,
VPO Kalanaur, Tehsil Kalanaur
District Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur

....Respondents

AC No.5501 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Major Singh, Appellant, in person.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER

(Heard through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 09.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Major Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has received the information, but the same is misleading and incomplete.
3. Neither the PIO O/o BDPO Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur has come present nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO.
4. The Bench observes that the PIO O/o BDPO Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur has absented himself for the second consecutive hearing and has also not bothered to comply with the directions of the Bench to supply complete and correct information to the appellant. The PIO was also issued show cause notice during the previous hearing to which no reply has been filed by the PIO. This indifferent and casual approach of the PIO towards the directions of the Bench is viewed adversely.

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AC No.5501/2021

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.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) is imposed upon PIO, O/o PIO/BDPO, Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur 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.5,000/- 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 as also produce evidence for having deposited the penalty in the State Treasury, before the next date of hearing. The PIO is further directed to ensure to come present before the Bench in person on the next date of hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.08.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06..2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

PIO/BDPO, Kalanaur, District Gurdaspur.

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(Helpline No.0172-2864116(From 10.00 AM to 04.00PM on working days))

Shri Ravi Kumar S/o Shri Avtar Chand,
V.P.O. Pasa, Tehsil Phillaur,
District Jalandhar.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Chief Administrator,,
GLADA, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Chief Administrator,
GLADA, Ludhiana.

...Respondents

AC No.1091/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Ravi Kumar, Appellant.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER

1. The RTI application is dated 06.10.2021 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 22.12.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 03.03.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 08.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Ravi Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has sought information regarding the approval granted by GLADA to various unauthorised colonies being developed as mentioned in his RTI application, but no information has been supplied so far.

3. Neither the PIO O/o GLADA, Ludhiana has come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of this representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. The Bench observes that in spite of a lapse of more than five months, no information has been supplied to the appellant. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude of the PIO is viewed adversely.

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AC No.1091/2022

4. The PIO O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and 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 failing to appear for the hearing and not supplying information to the appellant. 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.

5. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for 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 proceedings against him ex-parte.

6. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant and bring along the copy of information supplied as also the relevant record and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.08.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post):

Public Information Officer O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana.

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

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Executive Engineere,
Punjab State Power Corpn. Ltd.
(PSPCL), Bhadaur,
District Barnala.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Chief Engineer,
Punjab State Power Corpn. Ltd.
(PSPCL), Barnala.

....Respondents

AC No.1861 of 2022

Present: (i) **Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, Appellant**
(ii) **Shri Satpal Singh, AEE, Sub Division, Bhadaur, District Barnala,
on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER

(Heard Through Cisco Webex)

1. The RTI application is dated 31.01.2022 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 01.03.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 18.04.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 08.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.

3. Shri Satpal Singh, Assistant Executive Engineer, Sub Division, PSPCL, Bhadaur comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO through cisco webex. He states that the information has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 12.01.2022 and again vide letter 26.05.2022 by registered post.

4. The appellant states that the information sent to him does not relate to this appeal case and it relates to some other case.

Cont..P-2

4. On the asking of the Bench, the representative of PIO states that the appellant had made a complaint against one Rajinder Kumar for having obtained an illegal agricultural electricity power connection and a court case relating to this is pending in the civil court, decision is still awaited.

5. Post deliberations with the appellant and the representative of PIO, the Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The information as may be identified by the appellant after inspection of records be supplied to him before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.08.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh..** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.06.2022**

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