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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Manvinder Singh Gill S/o Sh. Jaskaran Singh, H. No. 60, Gurteg Bahadur Nagar, Kotkapura Road, Street No. 1, Sri Muktsar Sahib -152026 (Punjab)

...Complainant

V/s

Public Information Officer O/o The Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot (Punjab)

...Respondents

Complaint Case No. 646 of 2019

Present: None on behalf of the complainant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 31.05.2019. The complaint has been received in the Commission on 24.07.2019.

On the last date of hearing, held on 26.02.2020, a bailable warrant was issued in the name of Public Information Officer office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot through Senior Superintendent of Police, Faridkot for personal appearance.

Neither the appellant, Sh. Ravinder Singh nor the respondent is present in today's hearing.

In the instant appeal-case file, no document is placed in the case-file, which shows that the required information has been given to the appellant. There is no document in the case-file, which shows that penalty amount of Rs. 10,000/- (which was imposed upon Public Information Officer of office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot vide order dated 07.01.2020) has been paid.

Accordingly, a copy of this order be sent to State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh through registered post with the directions to ensure compliance of the order dated 07.01.2020 by deducting the penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (which was imposed upon the concerned PIO vide orders dated 07.01.2020) from the salary of the concerned PIO. He must give direction in this regard to the officer concerned, who deals with the payment of salaries of employees. The compliance of this order be ensured under intimation to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

Further directions are given to State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh to intimate that who is posted/designated as PIO in the office of Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot, by the next date of hearing.

A copy of this order alongwith orders dated 07.01.2020 be sent through registered post to Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Transport with the advice to intervene into the matter for making functionaries of Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot more sensitive and responsible towards the implementation of the RTI Act and also to ensure compliance of the order dated 07.01.2020 passed by the Commission regarding penalty, which was imposed upon the concerned Public Information Officer of office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot by the next date of hearing under intimation to the Commission.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

i)

ii)

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

(Regd. Post)

The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,

Department of Transport., Pb. Mini Sectt., Sector – 9,

Encl: orders dated 07.01.2020

Chandigarh

(Regd. Post)

The State Transport Commissioner, Punjab,

Sector 17, Chandigarh

Encl : orders dated 07.01.2020

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Jaspal Singh S/o Sh. Mohinder Singh, New Bedi Colony, Phase – II, Backside Bhagat Singh Colony, Ferozepur City (152002) (Punjab)

...Appellant

V/s

i) Public Information Officer,
 O/o The State Transport Commissioner, Pb.,
 Sector 17.Chandigarh

ii) Public Information Officer

(Regd. Post) O/o The Secretary,

Regional Transport Authority,

Faridkot (Punjab)

Encl : Order dated 28.01.2020

First Appellate Authority, O/o The State Transport Commissioner, Pb., Jiwandeep Building, Sector 17, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1221 of 2019

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 22.10.2018. First appeal is dated 16.01.2019.

Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 29.03.2019.

On the last date of hearing, held on 28.01.2020, a pnalty of Rs. 10000/-was imposed upon Public Information Officer of office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot.

Neither the appellant, Sh. Ravinder Singh nor the respondent is present in today's hearing

In the instant appeal-case file, no document is placed in the case-file, which shows that the required information has been given to the appellant. There is no document in the case-file, which shows that penalty amount of Rs. 10,000/- (which was imposed upon Public Information Officer of office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot vide order dated 28.01.2020) has been paid.

Accordingly, a copy of this order be sent to State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh through registered post with the directions to ensure compliance of the order dated 28.01.2020 by deducting the penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (which was imposed upon the concerned PIO vide orders dated 28.01.2020) from the salary of the concerned PIO. He must give direction in this regard to the officer concerned, who deals with the payment of salaries of employees. The compliance of this order be ensured under intimation to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

Further directions are given to State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh to intimate that who is posted/designated as PIO in the office of Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot, by the next date of hearing.

A copy of this order alongwith orders dated 28.01.2020 be sent through registered post to Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Transport with the advice to intervene into the matter for making functionaries of Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot more sensitive and responsible towards the implementation of the RTI Act and also to ensure compliance of the order dated 28.01.2020 passed by the Commission regarding penalty, which was imposed upon the concerned Public Information Officer of office of Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot by the next date of hearing under intimation to the Commission.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

(Regd. Post)

(Regd. Post)

i) The Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Transport..

Department of Transport., Pb. Mini Sectt., Sector – 9,

Chandigarh

Encl: orders dated 28.01.2020

ii) The State Transport Commissioner, Punjab,

Sector 17, Chandigarh

Encl: orders dated 28.01.2020



...Appellant

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Surinder Singh, M C, Idgah Road, Raikot, Distt. -Ludhiana (Punjab)

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o The Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Raikot, Distt. -Ludhiana (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Regional Deputy Director, Urban Local Bodies, Pb., Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2920 of 2019

Present: None on behalf of the appellant in person.

Sh. Gagan Uppal, Superintednet-cum-APIO, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 10.08.2018. First appeal is dated 12.11.2018.

Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 09.108.2019.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.03.2020, the respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record on 19.03.2020 at 11:00 A. M to identify the information. The respondent-PIO concerned was directed to supply the required information, which would be identified by the appellant after inspection, to him after collecting the required fee from him.

Sh. Gagan Uppal, Superintendent-cum-APIO, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the inspection could not be done on 19.03.2020 at 11:00 A. M.

The appellant, Sh. Surinder Singh, is not present in today's hearing.

Nevertheless, another opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record on 04.12.2020 at 11:00 A. M. and the appellant is advised to visit the office of the respondent inspect the relevant official record on 04.12.2020 at 11:00 A. M to identify the information.

The respondent-PIO concerned is directed to supply the required information, which would be identified by the appellant after inspection, to him by the next date of hearing.

Appeal Case No. 2920 of 2019

-2-

The appellant is advised to confirm whether he has received the required information or not, by the next date of hearing or it would be assumed that the appellant does not wish to pursue this case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
<u>hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

P. S. :

The appellant, Sh. Surinder Singh, appeared in person after the hearing was over. He was read out the above order.

The case stands <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M.</u> for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.



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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Sat Pal Sharma,

H. No. 3623, Street No.1, Durgapuri, Haibowal Kalan, Distt.-Ludhiana (Punjab)

.....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority O/o The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 174 of 2016

Present: Sh. Sat Pal Sharma, the appellant in person.

Sh. Jagdeep Singh, Draftsman, Zone - D, on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

On the last date of hearing, held on 03.02.2020, the respondent PIO concerned was directed to represent this case in person or through his representative on the fixed date of hearing positively so that facts of this could be cleared.

After examining the case-file, it is found that on the earlier date of hearing, the respondent PIO has sent a reply vide letter no. 386 dated 24.12.2019 signed by PIO-cum-Assistant Town Planner, Zone –D, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana and in the order announced on that day, it was inadvertently written as Sub Divisional Engineer, Provincial Sub Division No.4, PWD (B&R), Talwandi Sabo. It may be read as PIO-cum-Assistant Town Planner, Zone –D, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana instead.

Sh. Jagdeep Singh, Draftsman, Zone - D, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that all the available information has been given to the appellant.

The appellant, Sh. Sat Pal Sharma, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that information regarding encroachment has not been given to him till date as directed vide order dated 28.11.2017.

As complete information has not been supplied to the information-seeker even after a period of more than four years, hence, a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) is imposed upon Sh. Vijay Kumar, who was PIO (as per version of the appellant), when the RTI application was moved and is presently posted as Law Officer in the office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh for holding guilty of violation under Section 20 (1) as per provisions of the RTI Act. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

The amount of penalty will be deposited in the treasury of Punjab Government under the head.....

Major Head .. 0070 -Other Administrative Services

Sub-Major Head .. 60 - Other Services
Minor Head .. 800 - Other Receipts

Sub-Head .. 86 - Fee under the Right to Information Act, 2005

Detailed Head .. 0070 Other Administrative Services

60 Other Services- 800- Other Receipts-

86- Fees under the Right to Information Act, 2005

A copy of this order be sent to Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh to ensure the compliance of the above-said order.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
<u>hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020 State Information Commissioner Punjab

i) The Director,

(Regd. Post)

(Regd. Post) Local Government, Punjab,

Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35,

Chandigarh

ii) Sh. Vijay Kumar,

Law Officer, O/o The Director,

O/O THE Director,

Local Government, Punjab,

Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35,

Chandigarh

PSIC S

....Appellant

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Kuldeep Singh

S/o Sh. Gurnam Singh,

C/o Sh. Nikhil Batta, Advoate,

Chamber No. 543, Yadvindra Court Complex,

Patiala(Punjab)

V/s

i) Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Director, Technical Education

& Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

ii) Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Assistant Director

(Administration Branch)

O/o The Director , Technical Education & Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab

Encl : RTI Request Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

(Regd. Post) iii) Public Information Officer,
O/o The Deputy Controller

O/o The Deputy Controller
(Finance & Account)

O/o The Director, Technical Education & Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab

Encl : RTI Request Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Director, Technical Education & Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab (IT Wing) Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 259 of 2020

Present: Sh. J. M. Singh, on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 13.05.2019. First appeal is dated 07.12.2019.

Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 09.01.2020.

Sh. J. M. Singh, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Kuldeep Singh in today's hearing, states that the appellant has not received any information other than point no. 01, 02 and 03 of the RTI request, which is also incomplete and he has pointed out deficiencies, in writing, to the respondent office.

Contd...2/-

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 703 dated 06.11.2020, (which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 15762 dated 06.11.2020). He also intimates the Commission that the required information, whatever relates to his office, has been given to the appellant and part information in connection with point no. 03, 07 and 08 of the RTI request relates with branch of Assistant Director (Administration Branch) and part information in connection with point no. 01. 02, 04, 05, 06 and 09 of the RTI request relates with branch of Deputy Controller (Finance & Account) of Accounts Branch. It, alongwith annexure, is taken on record.

Accordingly, PIO of office of Public Information Officer office of Assistant Director (Administration Branch) and Deputy Controller (Finance & Accounts) of Accounts Branch, be impleaded as necessary parties in this case. A copy of this order be sent to them alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries mentioned above (whatever relates to their office) raised by him in his RTI request, by the next date of hearing. The above-mentioned concerned PIOs and Deputy Director are also directed to represent this case in person on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' to clear the facts of this case.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> <u>hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 9th November, 2020 <u>Encl:</u> State Information Commissioner

Punjab



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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Rakesh Kumar S/o Sh. Nem Chand, C/o Pankaj Verma, Advocate, Chamber No. 506, Yadvindra Court Complex, Patiala (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o The Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Technical Education and Industrial Training, Punjab, Sector 9, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,
O/o The Secretary to Government of Punjab,
Department of Technical Education and
Industrial Training, Punjab,
Sector 9, Chandigarh (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 160 of 2020

Present: Sh. J. M. Singh on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Attinder Singh, Senior Assistant-cum-APIO, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 08.02.2019. First appeal is dated 01.12.2019.

Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 31.12.2019.

Sh. Attinder Singh, Senior Assistant-cum-APIO, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 549 dated 25.02.2020 and the same has also been sent to the Commission (which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 3942 dated 28.02.2020). It is taken on record.

Sh. J. M. Singh, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Rakesh Kumar in today's hearing, states that no information has been supplied to him by the respondent PIO so far.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to facilitate the appellant or his authorized representative to inspect the relevant official record on 23.11.2020 at 11:00 A. M. so that the appellant could identify the information. The appellant is also advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 23.11.2020 at 11:00 A. M. to identify the information.

Both the parties mutually agreed to it during the hearing today.

Appeal Case No. 160 of 2020

-2-

The respondent-PIO concerned is directed to supply the required information, which would be identified by the appellant after inspection, to him by the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO after inspection, or not and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u> hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab



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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Labh Singh Sandhu

S/o Sh. Harwinder Singh Advocate,

Chamber No.573, Yadvindra Court Complex,

Patiala (Punjab)

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o The Director, Technical Education & Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

...Respondents

...Complainant

Complaint Case No. 684 of 2018

Present: Sh. J. M. Singh on behalf of the complainant.

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 21.04.2018. The complaint has been received in the Commission on 22.06.2018.

On the last date of hearing, held on 20.02.2020, Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director (I. T. Wing) submitted a reply vide letter no. 224 dated 20.02.02020, appended to which was a point-wise reply as 'self-declaration'. As the complainant was not available, the respondent PIO concerned was directed to send the above-mentioned reply to the complainant through registered post.

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the information demanded by the appellant relates with different branches of the Department. He further states that a reply has already been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 704 dated 06.11.2020, (which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 15763 dated 06.11.2020). It is taken on record.

Sh. J. M. Singh, who appeared on behalf of the complainant, Sh. Labh Singh Sandhu in today's hearing, states that unsatisfactory reply has been given to the appellant by the respondent PIO .

The respondent-PIO concerned is directed to send a proper reply to the queries raised by complainant through his RTI request to him with a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing.

Contd...2/-

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the above-mentioned reply(which would be sent by the respondent) or not.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
<u>hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Labh Singh Sandhu

S/o Sh. Harwinder Singh Advocate,

Chamber No. 573, Yadvindra Court Complex,

Patiala (Punjab)

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o The Director, Technical Education & Industrial Training Deptt., Punjab Sector-36A, Chandigarh (U.T.)

...Respondents

...Complainant

Complaint Case No. 685 of 2018

Present: Sh. J. M. Singh on behalf of the complainant.

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 21.04.2018. The complaint has been received in the Commission on 22.06.2018.

On the last date of hearing, held on 20.02.2020, Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director (I. T. Wing) submitted a reply vide letter no. 225 dated 20.02.02020, appended to which was a point-wise reply as 'self-declaration'. As the complainant was not available, the respondent PIO concerned was directed to send the above-mentioned reply to the complainant through registered post.

Sh. Rupinder Singh, Deputy Director, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the information demanded by the appellant relates with different branches of the Department. He further states that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 705 dated 06.11.2020, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 15761 dated 06.11.2020. It is taken on record.

Sh. J. M. Singh, who appeared on behalf of the complainant, Sh. Labh Singh Sandhu in today's hearing, states that unsatisfactory reply has been given to the appellant by the respondent PIO .

The respondent-PIO concerned is directed to send a proper reply to the queries raised by complainant through his RTI request to him with a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing.

Contd...2/-

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the above-mentioned reply(which would be sent by the respondent) or not.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
<u>hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Email: psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us - www.infocommpunjab.com Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Barinder Dewett (Advocate)

S/o C. S. Dewett,

Chamber No. 9, Civil Courts,

Khanna (141401) District Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Khanna (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Regional Deputy Director,

Urban Local Bodies, Pb., Ludhiana(Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1500 of 2019

None on behalf of the appellant. Present:

Sh. Munish Kumar, Clerk, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 02.06.2017. First appeal is dated 19.07.2017. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 23.04.2019.

On the last date of hearing, held on 05.02.2020, Sh. Kulwinder Singh, Junior Engineer, appeared for the respondent and stated that he brought the requisite information in the Commission so that the same could be handed over to the appellant. The appellant was absent, hence, the respondent PIO was directed to send the requisite information to the applicant through registered post at his residential address. An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time through registered post with a copy to the Commission so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

The respondent PIO through a reply vide letter no. 2211 dated 05.11.2020, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail, has intimated the Commission that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant through registered post. It, alongwith a copy of postal receipt, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Barinder Dewett, is not present in today's hearing.

Last opportunity is given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO or it would be assumed that the appellant has received the required information and is satisfied with the information supplied to him by the respondent PIO and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing

through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Date: 9th November, 2020

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

State Information Commissioner Punjab

Note: Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '918782948'

(Sanjiv Garg)



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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Rajinder Pal Sharma, Street No. 04, Farid Nagar, T – Point, G. T. Road, Rampura Phul – 151103

Distt. - Bathinda (Punjab)

....Appellant

i) Public Information Officer,
 O/o The Secretary to
 Government of Punjab,
 Deptt. of Irrigation, Punjab,
 Pb. Mini Secretariat, Sector 9, Chandigarh

ii) Public Information Officer.

(Regd. Post) O/o The Chief Engineer/Canals,

Water Resource Department, Punjab,

(Encl : RTI request) Sector 18, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Chief Secretary to Government of Punjab, Pb. Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2107 of 2020

V/s

Present: Sh. Rajinder Pal Sharma, the appellant in person.

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 25.09.2019. First appeal is dated Nil. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 07.08.2020.

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Pal Sharma, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been supplied to him by the respondent PIO so far.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any representative of office of Secretary to Government of Punjab, Deptt. of Irrigation, Punjab, Chandigarh is present in today's hearing to represent his case.

The respondent has sent a letter no. 572/1 dated 26.10.2020, signed by Superintendent office of Water Resources(Works Branch), Punjab, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail, showing that RTI request dated 25.09.2019 of the appellant was transferred to Public Information Officer office of Chief Engineer/Canals, Water Resource Department, Sector 18, Chandigarh under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act. It is taken on record.

Since the RTI request dated 25.09.2019 of the appellant was transferred under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act to Public Information Officer office of Chief Engineer/Canals, Water Resource Department, Sector 18, Chandigarh by the respondent PIO vide letter dated 572/1 dated 26.10.2020, which is not within the stipulated period as per provisions of the Right to Information Act. Hence, Public Information Officer office of Secretary to Government of Punjab, Deptt. of Irrigation, Punjab, Chandigarh, cannot be exempted from further hearings of this case and directed to represent this case in person or through his representative on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' to clear the facts of this case.

After examining the case-file, it emerges that the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of Chief Engineer/Canals, Water Resource Department, Punjab, Chandigarh, hence, Public Information Officer office of Chief Engineer/Canals, Water Resource Department, Sector 18, Chandigarh, be impleaded as necessary party in the instant appeal case. A copy of this order be sent to him alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to send the certified copies of the required information to the appellant, as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post with a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing. He is also directed to represent this case in person on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

The case is <u>adjourned to 8th February, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for</u>
hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 9th November, 2020

(Encl : RTI request)

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab