

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,

Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Whatsapp No. 62848-20189 Cisco Webex: 158 708 3455



Sh. Prem Kumar Rattan,
House No 78/8, Park Road,
Navi Mandi, Dhuri,
Distt Sangrur.
M : 8509580002

Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director,
Governance Reforms, PB,
Mohali.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Addl. Chief Secretary,
Department of Governance Reforms, PB,
Chandigarh.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3717/2021

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Shri Prem Kumar Rattan, appellant, on telephone.
Sh. Neeraj Clerk, on behalf of the respondents on phone.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 27.09.2021.

2. The appellant requested for the adjournment of the case telephonically. However, he has sent the written submissions in this case, which are taken on record. None is present on behalf of the respondents due to strike by the officials of the respondent authority. Accordingly, the submissions made by the appellant are being sent to the appellant along with this order to file the rejoinder, if any, before the next date of hearing.

3. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 11:30 A.M. To be heard through VC facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Dated: 01.11.2021

sd
(Suresh Arora)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Tejinder Singh Advocate,
Civil Court, Tehsil Complex,
Backside Sanjh Kender,
Phillaur-144410.

M : 9041004313

Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o Sub Registrar,
Jandiala Guru,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o SDM,
Baba Bakala,
Amritsar.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3729/2021

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Hirdeypal Singh, Naib-Tehsildar, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 27.9.2021.

2. The appellant has sent the submissions through e-mail, which are taken on record. However, the respondent-Public Information Officer states that the information as available on record has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter No. 173 dated 21.10.2021. He has also sent a copy of the same through whatsapp along with the postal receipt, which is taken on record.

3. Accordingly, the appellant is advised to go through the same and point out the deficiencies, if any, before the next date of hearing to the respondent-Public Information Officer with a copy to the Commission.

4. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 11:30 A.M. To be heard through VC facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Dated: 01.11.2021

sd
(Suresh Arora)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Love Kumar Dua, S/o Sh. Megh Raj Dua,

R/o # 125, Model Town,

Samrala Road, Khanna-141401.

M : 9815255646

Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,

O/o SDM, Khanna,

Distt Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o SDM, Khanna,

Distt Ludhiana.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3699/2021

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.
None on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 27.09.2021.

2. None is present on behalf of the respondent due to strike by the officials of the respondent-authority. Accordingly, the appellant has been informed not to appear in this case.

3. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 11:30 A.M. To be heard through VC facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Dated: 01.11.2021

sd

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Sat Pal Sharma 9463292433

3623 Street No. 1,

Durga Pura Habowal Kallan,

District Ludhiana

....Appellant

Vs

Distt. Revenue Officer-cum-

Registered

Public Information Officer

o/o Deputy Commissioner,

District Ludhiana

First Appellate Authority

o/o Deputy Commissioner

District Ludhiana

Public Information Officer **Registered**

Distt. Controller,

Food & Civil Supplies Department,

Ludhiana.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2680 of 2021

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Shri Sat Pal Sharma, appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 30.9.2021 vide which the case was adjourned for today i.e. 1.11.2021.

2 The appellant has sent the submissions through email which is taken on record. However, the reply of the respondent authority has already been received vide No. 4094 dated 15.4.2021 vide which the RTI application of the appellant has already been transferred to the District Controller, Food & Civil Supplies Department, who is impleaded as necessary party in this case to file the reply/supply the information in this case before the next date of hearing. Also a copy of the letter dated 15.4.2021 is being **sent** to the appellant along with this order.

3. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

sd

Dated: 01.11.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Tejinder Singh Advocate, Civil Court,
Tehsil Complex,
Backside Sanjh Kender, Phillaur-144410
M : 9041004313

Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o Sub Registrar,
Jagraon,
Distt Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority
O/o SDM, Jagraon,
Distt Ludhiana.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3541/2021

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.
None on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 27.9.2021.

2. The appellant has sent an email vide which it has informed that the respondent Public Information Officer has supplied the list of illegal colonies in case number 1860 of 2021 and requested that the respondent may be directed to supply him also the same list.

3. However, none is present on behalf of the respondent due to strike by the officials of the respondent authority.

4. Since the information is already available in case file as per the submissions made by the appellant, the same is being sent to the appellant along with this order with a direction to go through the same and point out deficiency, if any within a week to the respondent-Public Information Officer with a copy to the Commission. Also the respondent-Public Information Officer is directed to remove the same, in case any deficiency is pointed out by the appellant before the next date of hearing.

5. To come up on 29th November 2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana.

sd

Dated: 01.11.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Sukhchain Singh s/o Baldev Singh

r/o Basti Hajara Singh Wali,

Tehsil & Distt. Ferozepur.

..Complainant

Vs

Sh. Gurmeet Singh Kahlon,

Public Information Officer **Registered**

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Ferozepur, Ferozepur

Sh.Sarabjit Singh,

Public Information Officer **Registered**

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Mamdot, Ferozepur.

Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary (**Registered**)

-cum-Public Information Officer

Basti Hazara Singh Wali,

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer

Block Mamdot, Ferozepur.

Public Information Officer

Registered

o/o The Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.

Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali

....Respondents

Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Sukhchain Singh, appellant.

Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary 9780432301, in person, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 4.10.2021.

2. The complainant states that no compensation amounting to Rs.10,000/- (Rupees ten thousands only) has been paid to him. However, no satisfactory reply has been given by the respondent Panchayat Secretary in this regard.

3. During the hearing on 4.10.2021, the following order was passed:-

“2. The complainant states that the information related to NAREGA supplied by the respondent is not legible and requested for the compensation due to harassment being caused to him in getting the information from the respondents. However, no satisfactory reply is given by the respondents in this regard. Sh. Jasdev Singh, Panchayat Officer present during the hearing states that due to illness of the mother of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer Sh.Sarabjit Singh, he is absent.

Contd..p/2

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Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

-2-

3. However, the representative of the respondents Sh. Sanjeev Garg, Deputy Director Rural was present during the last hearing on behalf of the Sh. M.S. Chhatwal, IAS, Director, Rural Development & Panchayat, Pb. and assured that the complete information will be supplied to the complainant before the next date of hearing and according to his request the case was adjourned. But today i.e. 4.10.2021 he is absent without intimation and also incomplete information has been supplied to the complainant so far.

4. It is a fact on record that the copies of orders of the Commission are being sent to the Public Information Officer o/o Director, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb. Director, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb. as well as to the Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Mamdot through registered post but the order of the Commission are not being complied with.

5. The perusal of the file shows that in this case, application for information was filed on 15.06.2020 but after lapse of more than one year, incomplete information has been given to the complainant so far. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondents that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. The department still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act. 5. I am, therefore, of the view that ends of justice would be met by awarding a sum of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only) by way of compensation to the Appellant. This amount shall be payable from the State Exchequer by the office of the Director, Rural Development and Panchayats, Punjab before the next date of hearing as the case was adjourned on 6.9.2021 on the assurance given by Sh. Sanjeev Garg, Deputy Director, Rural, and he is absent without intimation, and the incomplete information has been supplied to the complainant. In addition, he is also directed to ensure that the complete information be supplied to the complainant before the next date of hearing.

6. Also a reply regarding show cause notice issued to Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary has been received and the decision on the same will be taken on the next date of hearing.

7. Copy of this order is being sent to Sh. M.S. Chhatwal, IAS, Director, Rural Development & Panchayat, Pb., and Sh. Sanjeev Garg, Deputy Director, Rural and Sh. Sarabjit Singh, Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Mamdot for the compliance of this order failing which they will be bound for personal appearance on the next date of hearing.

Contd..p/3

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Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

-3-

3. Despite the specific order dated 4.10.2021 passed by the Commission in this particular case, as has been reproduced above, which was sent to **Sh. M.S. Chhatwal, IAS, Director, Rural Development & Panchayats Punjab** through registered post none is present. Accordingly, a copy of this order is being sent to the Secretary, Rural Development & Panchayats Punjab to look into the matter. He is also directed to ensure that **Sh. Sarabjit Singh, Block Development and Panchayats Officer** remain present on the **next date of hearing** failing which the case will be considered for recommendation of disciplinary proceedings against him.

4. To come up on 29.11.2021. at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

Dated: 01.11.2021

sd

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

Sh. Rahul Bhandari, IAS **Registered**
Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Deptt. Of Rural Development & Panchayats,
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62,
Mohali

Sh. MS Chhatwal, IAS **Registered**
Director
Rural Development & Panchayats, Punjab
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62,
Mohali

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Ms Jotsna d/o Sh. Gurcharanjit 7355688321

1307, St. No. 5, Shimlapuri, Gill Road,

District Ludhiana.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Navdeep Bhogal,

Registered

Public Information Officer

o/o Tehsildar East,

District Ludhiana

First Appellate Authority

o/o Deputy Commissioner,

District Ludhiana.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2691 of 2021

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Ms. Jotsna, appellant.

Sh. Navdeep Bhogal, Tehsildar on telephone, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 5.10.2021.

2. The appellant states that neither the compensation amounting to Rs.10,000/- as has been awarded by the Commission has been paid to her nor the certified copy of the JAMABANDI duly certified has been supplied, as has been sought by her.

3. However, the respondent Public Information Officer requested for the adjournment of the case due to strike by the officials of the respondent authority and assured that the complete information will be supplied to the appellant before the next date of hearing along with the compensation. Also, he has sent the written reply regarding show cause notice issued to him, which is taken on record and the decision on the same will be taken on the next date of hearing. The respondent Public Information Officer is also clarified that in case of non compliance of assurance the compensation amount will be enhanced on the next date of hearing.

4. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

sd

Dated: 01.11.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Nitin Kumar Garg,
C/o Police Public Dairy 15 A,
Shastari Nagar , Model Town,
Ludhiana.
M : 7814322100

Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o Sub Registrar,
Ludhiana (East).

First Appellate Authority
O/o DC,
Ludhiana.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3549/2021

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Nitin Kumar Garg, appellant.
Sh. Shiv Reader on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 27.9.2021.

2. The appellant states that he is not satisfied with the reply filed by the respondent regarding form TS 1 issued by the Municipal Corporation to be submitted at the time of registration of property.

3. After hearing the submissions made by the appellant, the directions are issued to the respondent PIO to remain present during the next date of hearing to take the matter to its logical end.

4. To come up on 29.11.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Dated: 01.11.2021

sd
(Suresh Arora)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

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Sh. Brichh Bhan 9876101698

H.No. 33, Kahangarh Road,

Patran, Patiala

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Rajneesh Garg, 7986875019,

Registered

Public Information Officer

o/o the Executive Officer,

Block Samiti, Patran, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority

o/o the Executive Officer,

Block Samiti, Patran, Patiala.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2930 of 2020

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Brichh Bhan, appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 5.10.2021.

2. The brief of the case is that the appellant has sought the information pertaining to the expenditure to vacate the illegal possession of Panchayat land. The appellant states that no information has been supplied to him so far. Also, he states that the compensation amount has also not been paid to him as has been awarded in this case. The appellant filed the RTI application dated 8.7.2020 and filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 10.8.2020 and he filed the second appeal before the Commission on 6th October, 2020. Accordingly a notice was issued to the parties for hearing on 8th January, 2021. During the hearing on 8th January, 2021, the respondent Public Information Officer Smt. Parmjit Kaur, Block Development and Panchayats Officer assured that the information will be supplied to the appellant before the next date of hearing. Accordingly, the case was adjourned for 20th February, 2021. During the hearing on 20th February, the respondent party once again requested to adjourn the case and assured that the complete information will be supplied to the appellant before the next date of hearing. Thus, the case was further adjourned for 26th March, 2021. However, due to administrative reasons, the case could not be heard and was adjourned for 28th April, 2021 and further for 2nd June, 2021. During the hearing on 2nd June, 2021 none was present on behalf of the respondent Public Information Officer, therefore, considering the assurances given by the respondent on the

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Appeal Case No. 2930 of 2020

-2-

previous dates, the show cause notice was issued to the respondent Public Information Officer Shri Rajnish Garg, Block Development and Panchayats Officer to file the reply along with the direction to supply the information and the case was adjourned for 8th July, 2021. Even though the show cause notice was issued to the Block Development and Panchayats Officer, the respondent remained absent and due to non-supply of information and the financial loss suffered by the appellant in getting the information, the Commission awarded a sum of Rs.5000/- as compensation to the appellant in this case and the case was adjourned for 5th August 2021. Also the said orders of the Commission were sent to the Block Development and Panchayats Officer-cum-Executive Officer, Block Samiti, Sh. Rajneesh Garg through registered post. Even though none was present on the next date of hearing i.e. 5th August, 2021, the Commission considered the facts of the case including non-supply of information, the Commission enhanced the compensation from Rs. 5000/- to Rs.10000/- and the orders dated 5th August 2021 were sent to Sh. Parvej Goyal who has joined the post as Public Information Officer-cum-Executive Officer, Block Samiti and the case was adjourned for 8th September, 2021. Due to non compliance of the orders of the Commission, the respondent-Public Information Officer –cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer was directed to place on record the name of the officers along with their mobile numbers and present posting from the date of RTI application that is 6th July 2020 and the case was adjourned for 5th October 2021. During the hearing on the said date, Shri Kashmir Singh, Supdt. o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer was present on behalf of the respondent-Block Development and Panchayats Officer and brought to the notice of the Commission that the compensation amount was not paid to him due to non-posting of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer and he stated that Shri Rajnish Garg again joined as Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Patran and the compensation will be paid to the appellant before the next date of hearing and the case was adjourned for 1st November 2021.

4. That during the hearing today i.e. 1st November 2021, the appellant sent an email that neither he has received the information nor the compensation, which is taken on record and he also reiterated the same during the hearing whereas respondent-Public Information Officer was absent.

Contd..p/3

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Appeal Case No. 2930 of 2020

-3-

5. Keeping in view the above and the harassment being caused to the appellant in getting the information, the compensation amount is enhanced from Rs.10,000/- to Rs.20,000/- which has to be paid by the respondent authority out of the funds of the state exchequer and the copy of the order is being sent to the Secretary, Rural Development and Panchayat Punjab to ensure that the compensation amount be paid to the appellant before the next date of hearing along with the complete information as the information is related to the vacation of panchayat land from illegal possession. He is also directed to ensure that the officers posted since the RTI application of the appellant i.e. 6th July 2020, the names of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer along with their mobile numbers and present place of posting be placed on record so that appropriate action can be taken as per the provisions of the RTI Act on the next date of hearing.

6. To come up on 25.11.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala.

sd

Dated: 01.11.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

CC

Sh. Rahul Bhandari, IAS **Registered**
Secretary to Govt. of Punjab
Deptt. of Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali

Sh. MS Chhatwal, IAS **Registered**
Director,
Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali