

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Nirmaljeet Singh,(9988885115),  
S/o Sh. Jora Singh, H.No.2976,  
Phase-7, Mohali.

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Registrar of Firms and Societies,  
Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o Registrar of Firms and Societies,  
Punjab, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

## **AC.No. 4018 of 2019**

**PRESENT :** (i) Sh. Nirmaljeet Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Sh. Sarbjit Singh, Registrar-cum-PIO, the respondent.

### **ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant states that he has received the information and is satisfied.
3. Sh. Sarbjit Singh, Registrar-cum-PIO is appearing in person states that as per the directions of the Commission during the last hearing, complete information has been provided to the appellant.
4. After deliberation on the case as also hearing both the parties and perusing the record as available on the file, it is ascertained that information pertaining to the RTI application of the appellant has been provided to him and he requests for closure of the case.
5. No further cause of action is left in the instant Appeal case. The same, is hereby, **disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**10.02.2020**

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Rajnish Kumar President,  
# 19274, Street No.6, Bibi wala Road,  
Bathinda.

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**

O/o Registrar,  
Punjabi University,  
Patiala.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**

Registrar,  
Punjabi University,  
Patiala.

...Respondent

**AC.No. 4025 of 2019**

**PRESENT :** (i) Sh. Rajnish Kumar, the appellant.  
(ii) None is present on behalf of the respondent.

**ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant states that till today, no information has been provided to him by the respondent. He files rejoinder in response to the letter dated 26.12.2019 of the PIO i.e Punjabi University, Patiala.
3. The PIO is absent for today's hearing inspite of the orders of the Commission. However, intimation has been received from Sh. Surajpreet Singh Kang, Advocate of Punjabi University, Patiala for a short adjournment as he is unable to attend today's hearing due to some personal emergency. The reply of the PIO dated 26.12.2019 has been received in the Commission vide diary no. 24842 dated 30.12.2019 stating that Punjabi University gave affiliation to the DAV College, Bathinda and after that University has no role in the functioning of the College and it is controlled by the Governing body of the college.
4. The Bench overrules the plea taken by the PIO and directs that information be provided to the appellant as asked for vide RTI application and come present on the next date of hearing failing which action under section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 will be initiated.
5. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **02.03.2020 at 11.30AM** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**10.02.2020**

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

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Ms Santosh Kumari,  
H.No.2650, ward No.12, Opp. Dusshera,  
Ground, Kharar. 140301.

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (SE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o District Education Officer (SE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

...Respondent

**AC.No. 4017of 2019**

**PRESENT :** Sh. Charanjit Bansal on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Suptd.,-cum-PIO and Smt. Pardeep Bedi, Jr. Assistant-cum-  
APIO o/o DEO(SE), Punjab the respondent.

**ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. Sh. Charanjit Bansal is appearing on behalf of the appellant states that inspite of the directions of the Commission during the last hearing, complete information has not been given to the appellant by the PIO. He further states that he visited the office of the respondent on 05.12.2019 and 03.01.2020 but no information has been made available by the PIO during his visits.
3. Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Suptd.,-cum-PIO is appearing in person states that as per the official record of the department information as sought by the appellant is not available in their official records and the appellant has been informed in this regard.
4. After discussion of the issue at hand in detail, the Bench gives another opportunity to the appellant to visit the office of the respondent on any working day and peruse the original records as available in the office of the respondent with prior notice to the PIO. The respondent is directed to provide access to records in his office and give copies of documents needed by the appellant. Photocopies of the same be provided to him duly page numbered, stamped and authenticated by the PIO. The Bench directed that the PIO thereafter will file an affidavit clearly mentioning that the information sought by the appellant as available in official records has been shared. Nothing has been concealed. The affidavit must be filed by the PIO and duly attested by the Notary Public, before the next date of hearing.

Contd...p-2

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**AC.No. 4017of 2019**

5. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on 20.04.2020 at 11.30AM Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh  
10.02.2020

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Dr. Surinder Kumar Jindal,(9876135823).  
# 310, Shivalik Apartments,  
Opp Court Complex, Near Shivjot,  
Kharar.

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (SE),  
Mohali.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o District Education Officer (SE),  
Mohali.

...Respondent

## **AC.No. 3964 of 2019**

### **PRESENT:**

- (i) None is present on behalf of the appellant.
- (ii) Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Suptd.,-cum-PIO and Smt. Pardeep Bedi, Jr. Assistant-cum-APIO o/o DEO(SE), Punjab the respondent.

### **ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant is absent for today's hearing and was also not present during the last hearing.
3. Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Suptd.,-cum-PIO and Smt. Pardeep Bedi, Jr. Assistant-cum-APIO are appearing on behalf of the o/o DEO(SE), Punjab state that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 24.01.2020 by registered post. They further add that till date, no further communication has been received from the appellant.
4. After perusing the record as available on the file, the Bench has observed that the questions asked and the answers given shows that the information, as demanded, has been supplied in its entirety by the Respondent. The respondent states that information as available has been shared and the appellant can also approach their office on any working day, in case, he wants any further clarification. The appellant has also not attended any of the hearing in the Commission inspite of the second opportunity given to him in today's hearing by the Bench. The PIO is now, directed to file an affidavit that complete information as per official records stands provided and no other document or information has been withheld relating to the RTI application of Dr. Surinder Kumar Jindal, the appellant. The affidavit must be filed by the PIO and duly attested by the Notary Public within seven days.

Contd...p-2

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**AC.No. 3964 of 2019**

5. With these observations, the instant Appeal case is hereby, **disposed off and closed**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh  
10.02.2020

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Jagtar Singh,  
#2028/66, Mohali.  
M.946364909

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Block Primary Education Officer,  
Banur

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o DPI (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

.....Respondent

**AC.No. 3970 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) Sh. Jagtar Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO, the respondent.

## **ORDER**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant states that inspite of the directions of the Commission, complete information has not been provided and information provided is misleading.
3. Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO is appearing in person states that information is to be supplied by the PIO o/o Block Primary Education Officer, Banur and appellant has been informed accordingly.
4. The Bench heard the appellant as also the PIO at length. The Bench took serious note of the manner in which the appellant has been harassed and provided misleading & incomplete information. So much so, he has been asked counter questions in the reply given.
5. The Bench observed that the appellant is seeking very basic information with regard to his probation period. He has sought documents related to non-confirmation/ completion of his probation period. Complete information be provided, before the next date of hearing.

Contd....p-2

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**AC.No. 3970 of 2019**

5. In view of the foregoing, **PIO O/o District Education Officer (EE), Mohali and PIO o/o Block Primary Education Officer, Banur** are directed to show cause why action should not be taken against them for not providing complete and authenticate information to the appellant within the stipulated time as prescribed under the RTI Act, 2005. They should file a written reply in response to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting misleading information. In addition to the written reply PIOs are 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. They may take note that in case they do not file their written replies and do not avail themselves of the opportunity of personal hearing on the date fixed, it will be presumed that they have nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against them ex-parte.

6. The District Education Officer (EE), Mohali is also directed to appear in person, on the next date of hearing.

7. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **02.03.2020 at 11.30AM** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**10.02.2020**

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

### **Regd. Post.**

CC: (i) PIO O/o District Education Officer (EE), Mohali (By Name)  
(ii) PIO O/o Block Primary Education Officer, Banur (By Name)  
(iii) District Education Officer (EE), Mohali (By Name)



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Sh. Anmol Singh, S/o Sh. Harinder Singh ,  
R/o H. No.540, Indira Nagar, Nangal Township,  
Distt:Roopnagar.

.....Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Registrar,  
Firms & Societies, Punjab,  
Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o Chief Secy.,  
Deptt of Corporation, Pb Civil Sectt.,  
Sector:09, Chandigarh.

.....Respondent

## **AC.No. 3972 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) Sh. Anmol Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Sh. Sarbjit Singh, Registrar-cum-PIO, the respondent.

### **ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant states that he had requested the office of Registrar, Firms & Societies, Punjab, Chandigarh to provide certified copy of amended memorandum. Even after a lapse of more than eight months, satisfactory reply is awaited from the PIO.
3. Sh. Sarbjit Singh, Registrar-cum-PIO, is appearing in person states that interim reply to the appellant has been sent vide letter dated 22.11.2019. He states that the information as asked for by the appellant is under process. The PIO assured that information will now be made available within seven days.
4. The respondent/PIO in the instant case has delayed responding to the request for information by nearly eight months, however, during deliberations the Bench observed that the intentions of the PIO are genuine and hence the Bench takes a lenient views of the time delay and directs the PIO to be more sensitive and prompt in dealing with RTI applications.
5. With these directions to the PIO, the instant Appeal Case is hereby, **disposed off and closed**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh  
10.02.2020

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Twinkle Mehta, Advocate, (8872419600)  
# 28, Mahavir Enclave, Barewal Octroi,  
Post Road, Near Magnet Resorts,  
Ludhiana. 141012.

.....Complainant.

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o DPI (Colleges), Pb,  
Punjab School Education Board (PSEB),  
Complex, Near Mohali Old Bus Stand,  
Phase-8, Mohali.

.....Respondent

## **CC.No. 946 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) None is present on behalf of the Complainant.  
(ii) Dr. Jagdeep Singh, Deputy Director-cum-PIO, the respondent.

### **ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The complainant is absent for today's hearing without any intimation to the Commission.
3. Dr. Jagdeep Singh, Deputy Director-cum-PIO is appearing in person states that information pertaining to point no. 2 and 3 has already been sent to the complainant vide letter dated 27.12.2019. He further adds that information on point no.1 could not be supplied as there is ambiguity in point no.1 and clarification on the same has been sought from the complainant vide letter dated 10.01.2020.
4. During the proceedings, the complainant was contacted on telephone by the Bench and advised to visit the office of the PIO for obtaining the balance of information.
5. The complainant is now, advised to visit the office of the respondent on any working day and peruse the original records as available in the office of the respondent with prior notice to the PIO. The respondent is directed to provide access to records in his office and give copies of documents needed by the complainant. Photocopies of the same be provided to him duly page numbered, stamped and authenticated by the PIO under intimation to the commission.

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**CC.No. 946 of 2019**

6. With these directions to the PIO and assurance given by the PIO to provide complete information to the complainant, the instant Complaint Case is hereby, **disposed off and closed.**

Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

**Chandigarh  
10.02.2020**

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Jagtar Singh,  
#2028/66, Mohali.  
M.946364909

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o DPI (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

.....Respondent

**AC.No. 4231 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) Sh. Jagtar Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO, the respondent.

## **ORDER**

1. The RTI application is dated 07.01.2019 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 25.02.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 14.11.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 10.02.2020 by the Commission.

3. The appellant states that till today, no information has been provided to him by the respondent.

4. Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO is appearing in person states reply to the appellant has already been sent vide letter dated 14.11.2019 stating that this information cannot be shared as per the provisions of Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005.

5. After deliberations and perusal of the record as available on the file, the Bench observes that a government employee has the right to know the reasons for which he has been suspended so as to carry out self-introspection and choose the next course of action. With these observations, the plea taken by the PIO to deny information is overruled. The PIO is now directed to provide the information pertaining to RTI application of the appellant, before the next date of hearing, failing which action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 will be initiated.

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## **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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**AC.No. 4231 of 2019**

6. The District Education Officer (EE), Mohali is also directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing.

7. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **02.03.2020 at 11.30AM** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh  
10.02.2020**

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

**Regd. Post.**

CC: District Education Officer (EE), Mohali, (By Name)

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Jagtar Singh,  
#2028/66, Mohali.  
M.946364909

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.  
**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o DPI (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

.....Respondent

**AC.No. 4233 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) Sh. Jagtar Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO, the respondent.

## **ORDER**

1. The RTI application is dated 18.04.2019 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 06.09.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 14.11.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 10.02.2020 by the Commission.
3. The appellant states that till today, no information has been provided to him by the respondent.
4. Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO is appearing in person. Neither any reply to the Notice of the Commission nor any response to RTI application has been filed by the PIO. This shows her disregard to the authority of the Commission. Such lackadaisical attitude on the part of the PIO is viewed adversely.
5. The PIO is directed to provide the information pertaining to RTI application of the appellant, before the next date of hearing, failing which action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 will be initiated.
6. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **02.03.2020 at 11.30AM** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**10.02.2020**

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Jagtar Singh,  
#2028/66, Mohali.  
M.946364909

...Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o DPI (EE),  
Punjab, Mohali.

.....Respondent

**AC.No. 3969 of 2019**

**PRESENT:** (i) Sh. Jagtar Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO, the respondent.

## **ORDER**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 25.11.2019.
2. The appellant states that till today, no information has been provided to him by the respondent.
3. Smt. Bhupinder Kaur, Suptd.,-cum-PIO is appearing in person. Neither any reply to the Notice of the Commission nor any response to RTI application has been filed by the PIO. This shows her disregard to the authority of the Commission. Such lackadaisical attitude on the part of the PIO is viewed adversely.
4. The Bench heard the appellant as also the PIO at length. The Bench took serious note of the manner in which RTI application in the instant case has been handled by the PIO. The Bench observed that the appellant is seeking information regarding processing of applications dated 23.02.2017, 15.01.2018 and 20.04.2018 forwarded by him to the department seeking permission to pursue higher education and permission to take PCS examination. Basic information which is the right of a citizen has been denied on one pretext or the other.
5. In view of the foregoing, **PIO O/o District Education Officer (EE), Mohali is** directed to show cause why action should not be taken against her for not providing the information to the

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## **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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**AC.No. 3969 of 2019**

appellant within the stipulated time as prescribed under the RTI Act, 2005. She should file a written reply in response to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in not getting the information. 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. She may take note that in case she does not file her written reply and does not avail herself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the date fixed, it will be presumed that she has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against her ex-parte.

6. The District Education Officer (EE), Mohali is also directed to appear in person, on the next date of hearing.

7. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **02.03.2020** at **11.30AM** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**10.02.2020**

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

### **Regd. Post.**

CC: (i) PIO O/o District Education Officer (EE), Mohali (By Name)  
(iii) District Education Officer (EE), Mohali (By Name)



# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Subhash Chander Kundra Judge (Advocate),  
Pidit Organisation, Japo, Ludhiana,  
Society for Fast Justice,  
# 1447, Sector:32-A, Chandigarh Road,  
Ludhiana.

...Complainant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Education Officer (SE),  
Ludhiana.

...Respondents

**CC.No. 978 of 2019**

**PRESENT :** (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.  
(ii) Sh. Ashwani Kumar, Jr. Assistant on behalf of the respondent.

**ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 05.09.2018 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 13.11.2019 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 04.02.2020 by the Commission.
3. The complainant is absent for today's hearing without any intimation to the Commission.
4. Sh. Ashwani Kumar, Jr. Assistant is appearing on behalf of the PIO without any authority letter states that complete information has already been provided to the complainant by hand on 25.07.2019. He produces the receiving letter given by the complainant in the Court.
5. The complainant was contacted on telephone, he has informed the Bench that incomplete information in this complaint case has been given by the PIO.
6. The complainant is, therefore, advised to visit the office of the respondent on any working day and peruse the original records as available in the office of the respondent with prior notice to the PIO. The respondent is directed to provide access to records in his office and give copies of documents needed by the complainant. Photocopies of the same be provided to him duly page numbered, stamped and authenticated by the PIO.

Contd...p-2

## **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,  
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

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**CC.No. 978 of 2019**

7. The PIO is absent inspite of the Notice of the Commission. The absence of the PIO is viewed adversely. The Bench directed the PIO O/o District Education Officer(SE), Ludhiana to file an affidavit duly attested by the Notary Public within one week stating that information as available on their office records has been supplied to the complainant and no information has been withheld.

8. Last opportunity is now being given to the complainant to follow up the case, failing which decision be will taken in his absentia based on documents available on file.

9. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **18.03.2020 at 11.30AM through Video Conference at Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh  
04.02.2020**

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

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Sh. Lakha Singh Azad, S/o Sh. Mangal Singh Fauji,  
VPO: Raiya (Khurd), Ward NO.3, Tehsil: Baba Bakala,  
Distt: Amritsar.

... Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Deputy Director,  
Local Bodies, Amritsar.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o Principal Secretary,  
Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh.

..... Respondent

## **Appeal Case No.4187 of 2019**

**PRESENT :** (i) None is present on behalf of the appellant.  
(ii) Sh. Balwinder Singh, Clerk on behalf of the respondent.

## **ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 20.06.2019 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 09.08.2019 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 08.11.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 04.02.2020 by the Commission.
3. The appellant is absent for today's hearing. Intimation has been received from the appellant in the Commission by email mentioning therein that even after a lapse of six months, no information has been provided to him by the PIO.
4. Sh. Balwinder Singh, Clerk is appearing on behalf of the PIO without any authority letter states that information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 13.08.2019.
5. The appellant was contacted on telephone during the hearing, he has informed the Bench that no information in this appeal case has been given by the PIO.
6. The appellant is, therefore, advised to visit the office of the respondent on any working day and peruse the original records as available in the office of the respondent with prior notice to the PIO. The respondent is directed to provide access to records in his office and give copies of documents needed by the appellant. Photocopies of the same be provided to him duly page numbered, stamped and authenticated by the PIO.

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### **Appeal Case No.4187 of 2019**

7. The PIO is absent inspite of the Notice of the Commission. The absence of the PIO is viewed adversely. The Bench directed the PIO to file an affidavit duly attested by the Notary Public within one week stating that information as available in their office records has been supplied to the appellant and no information has been withheld.

8. Last opportunity is now being given to the complainant to follow up the case, failing which decision be will taken in his absentia based on documents available on file.

9. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **18.03.2020 at 11.30AM through Video Conference at Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**04.02.2020**

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

# **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Sh. Sukhchain Singh,  
Sonam Mohalla, Fatehgarh Churian,  
Tehsil:Batala, Distt:Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

**Vs**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Deputy Director,  
Local Bodies, Amritsar.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-**  
O/o Director,  
Local Bodies, Punjab,  
Chandigarh.

.....Respondent

## **Appeal Case No.4180 of 2019**

**PRESENT** : (i) Sh. Sukhchain Singh, the appellant.  
(ii) Sh.Baldev Singh, Clerk on behalf of the respondent o/o Nagar Council,  
Fatehgarh Churian.

### **ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 12.07.2019 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 19.08.2019 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 08.11.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 04.02.2020 by the Commission.

3. The appellant states that till date, no information has been given to him by the PIO. He further states that a letter has been received from the department to deposit Rs. 42/- as documentation fee. He visited the office of the respondent to deposit the documentation fee in cash and collect the information, however the dealing Clerk Sh. Vijay Kumar refused to hand over copies of information and said that same will be sent to him by registered post as requested in his RTI application. This attitude of the department to RTI applications has been viewed adversely by the Bench.

4. Sh. Baldev Singh, Clerk is appearing on behalf of the o/o Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Fatehgarh Churian having been duly authorized by the PIO files reply to the Notice of the Commission, which is taken on record.

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### **Appeal Case No.4180 of 2019**

5. The appellant is now again advised to visit the office of the respondent on any working day and peruse the original records as available in the office of the respondent with prior notice to the PIO. The respondent is directed to provide access to records in his office and give copies of documents needed by the appellant. Photocopies of the same be provided to him duly page numbered, stamped and authenticated by the PIO.

6. After deliberations and perusal of the record as available on the file, it is ascertained that the PIO is unnecessarily delaying provision of information and harassing the appellant. The RTI Act 2005 is meant to promote transparency in functioning of public authorities. The PIO is also absent in spite of the Notice of the Commission. The absence of the PIO is viewed adversely. The Bench directed the PIO to provide the complete and correct information to the appellant, free of cost, before the next date of hearing and personally appear on the next date of hearing, failing which action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 will be initiated.

7. The matter is adjourned. To come up for further hearing now on **04.03.2020 at 11.30AM**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**04.02.2020**

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