



Smt. Paramjit Kaur,
R/o Ward No.24, Amal Street,
Malerkotla Road, Khanna,
District Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Nagar Council,
Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Director,
Local Govt. Department,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1136 of 2020

Present: (i) **Appellant- absent**
(ii) **Shri Raghbir Singh, Sanitary Inspector, O/o Municipal Council, Khanna, District Ludhiana on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 24.11.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing
2. The case been heard today through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Smt. Paramjit Kaur has not come present to attend the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Raghbir Singh, Sanitary Inspector, Municipal Council, Khanna comes present to attend the hearing through V.C.
4. On perusal of the case file, the Bench observes that neither any information has been supplied to the appellant nor the reply to the show cause notice issued on the previous hearing has been filed. The Bench also observes that the PIO has also failed to produce any evidence regarding the deposit of penalty imposed on the previous hearing.
5. On the asking of the Bench, Shri Raghbir Singh, Sanitary Inspector is not able to give satisfactory reply and rather, he makes an attempt to justify the non-deposit of penalty by the PIO. The Bench takes serious note of the approach being adopted by the PIO towards the directions given by the Bench.

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AC No.1136/2020

6. The PIO is given last opportunity to supply complete information to the appellant before the next date of hearing. He is further directed to file reply to the show cause notice as also to file an affidavit, as per directions earlier given by the Bench. The PIO is also directed to produce evidence for the deposit of penalty on the next hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Shri Ram Avtar
S/o Shri Ram Sagar
R/o H.No.1998/A, Main Barota Road,
Mohalla Guru Gobind Singh Nagar,
New Shimlapuri, New Sai
Public School, Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.2232 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Ram Avtar, appellant
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 24.11.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Shri Ram Avtar comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that he has not received any information regarding his balance amount due from the Municipal Corporation.
3. Neither the PIO has come present to attend the hearing nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing through V.C. on his behalf.
4. The Bench, on perusing the case file, observes that the PIO is absent for the third consecutive hearing and only partial information in terms of deposit of Rs.29,207 in the bank account has been supplied to the appellant. Neither the information regarding the status of the payment of remaining amount has been supplied to the appellant nor reply to show cause notice has been filed. The Bench observes that the PIO has been adopting casual

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AC No.2232/2020

approach towards the directions issued by the Bench. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude of the PIO towards the direction of the Bench is viewed adversely.

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 Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, to be deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head. The Drawing & Disbursing Officer concerned is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs.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 before the next date of hearing as also to come in person to attend the hearing before the Bench on the next date of hearing. He is further directed to file reply to the show cause notice as also to produce the evidence on account of deposit of the amount of penalty imposed.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
10.02.2021

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

Copy to (Regd.Post)

PIO O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana (By name)

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Shri Sanjeev Kumar (Mohni)
Press Reporter, Punjab Kesari,
Jagbani, # 539/4A, Street No.1,
New Vishnupuri Road,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Director, State Transport
Department, Punjab,
Sector-17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority-cum-
O/o Director, State Transport
Department, Punjab,
Sector-17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.2298 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Sanjeev Kumar, Appellant**
(ii) **Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Director, State Transport, Punjab, Chandigarh, in person before the Bench.**

ORDER

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 24.11.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today through Video Conferencing at D.C. Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Shri Sanjeev Kumar has come present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that he had visited the office of PIO on 24.11.2020, but he was not entertained nor Rs.3100/- deposited by him towards supply of information refunded as per directions of the Bench.
3. Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Director, State Transport, Punjab attends the hearing before the Bench in person. Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant states that as per directions of the Bench, the appellant was called to their office on 24.01.2021 at 11.00 AM but the appellant reached very late and a meeting was to be held in O/o Director, State Transport, due to which the appellant was asked to come some other day. The appellant was also issued two letters to inspect the official records as also to get the refund of Rs.3100/- but he has not shown up as requested by the respondent(s).

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AC No.2298/2020

4. Shri Darshan Singh further informs the Bench that the appellant has now been called to inspect the official records on 08.03.2021. The information will be supplied to the appellant and the cheque for the refund of Rs.3100/- is ready which will also be given on the same day. As such, he requests for an early date for next hearing.

5. Acceding to the request of the representative of PIO, the Bench gives short adjournment to enable the PIO to supply the information to the appellant. The Bench directs the PIO to comply with the directions of the Bench in its entirety before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 17.03.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Er. Arun Garg S/o Shri Sham Lal
H.No.40-41, Central Town
Village Dad, PO Lalton Kalan,
District Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o District Magistrate-cum-
Deputy Commissioner,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority-cum-
O/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1313 of 2019

Present: (i) **Appellant – absent.**
(ii) **Shri Paramjot Singh, Junior Assistant O/o Deputy
Commissioner, Ludhiana on behalf of PIO.**

ORDER

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. This appeal case has been transferred from the Bench of Hon'ble State Information Commissioner Ms. Preety Chawla to this Bench vide office order dated 17.11.2020. Accordingly, the notice for the hearing through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ludhiana was issued by the Commission to the parties for 10.02.2021.

2. The case has been heard today through Video Conferencing at D.C. Office, Ludhiana. The appellant Er. Arun Garg has not come present to attend the hearing through V.C. He has, however, sent an e.mail dated 10.02.2021 stating that he is not well and cannot attend the hearing and that he will be available on his Mobile No.7888459837 if so required.

3. Shri Paramjot Singh, Junior Assistant O/o Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. He states that the appellant vide his RTI application dated 03.12.2018 had sought information regarding the action taken on his application dated 22.11.2013 with regard to reimbursement of medical expenditure incurred while he was confined to Jail. He further states that vide letter dated 27.12.2018, the appellant was asked to supply copy of said application but the letter was

Cont..P-2



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AC No.1313/2019

received back undelivered. He further states that official record was searched to trace out the application, but it could not be traced out. Accordingly, in the Court of Hon'ble State Information Commissioner, Ms. Preety Chawla, on the request of PIO, directions were issued to the appellant to make available the copy of said application, but the same was not provided and report to this effect was filed before the Hon'ble State Information Commissioner. Thereafter, an affidavit dated 04.11.2019 and another affidavit dated 12.10.2020 were filed before Hon'ble State Information Commissioner with regard to the non-availability of application of the appellant in the official records.

4. To ascertain the version of the appellant, repeated attempts were made to contact him on his given mobile number but the service to the same has been found to be temporarily suspended and as such, he could not be contacted.

5. The PIO is directed to bring all the relevant official records including the affidavits filed, on the next date of hearing and produce before the Bench. The appellant is also advised to present himself before the Bench at Chandigarh.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 22.03.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Shri Terlochan Singh,
T2-R, Focal Point,
Naya Nangal-140126
District Rupnagar

..... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Municipal Council,
Nangal, Distt. Rupnagar

....Respondent

CC No.854 of 2020

Present: (i) **Complainant- absent**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER

(Contacted on Mobile Phone)

1. The RTI application is dated 23.07.2020 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint has filed by the complainant in the Commission on 09/12.11.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 10.02.2021 by the Commission through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ropar. The Complainant Shri Terlochan Singh, complainant has not come present to attend the hearing through V.C. However, an e.mail has been received from him stating that due to ill health, old age and being a senior citizen, he is not in a position to attend the hearing through V.C.

3. Neither the PIO has come present to attend the hearing through V.C. nor he has deputed any official to attend the hearing on his behalf. As such, he is contacted on mobile phone. He is apprised of the complaint case of the complainant. He states that he is not aware of complete status of the instant complaint case. The PIO is directed to attend the hearing in person before the Bench at Chandigarh.

4. The complainant, being a senior citizen, is given liberty to attend the next hearing either through V.C. in D.C. Office, Ropar or on mobile phone.

Cont...P-2



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CC No.854/2020

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Shri Manjinder Singh
R/o #2469, Sunny Enclave
Sector-125, Kharar,
District SAS Nagar (Mohali).

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Regional Transport Authority,
Jalandhar.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-
State Transport Commissioner,**
Punjab, Sector-17C, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.1562 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Manjinder Singh, Appellant in person before the Bench.**
(ii) **Shri Hari Om, Junior Assistant, O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Jalandhar,
on behalf of the PIO**

ORDER

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 24.11.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case has been heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Jalandhar. Shri Manjinder Singh, appellant comes present for the hearing in person before the Bench at Chandigarh.
3. Shri Hari Om, Junior Assistant, O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Jalandhar comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. on behalf of the PIO. He states that reply has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 19.01.2021 that the information sought by the appellant amounts to creation of information and moreover, it is third party information as by extracting registration numbers of the vehicles which have been allotted national permits, from the relevant website, the whole personal detail about the vehicle owner gets extracted from the website, being linked to the registration number and as such, it cannot be supplied.
4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he is not satisfied with the reply received by him vide letter dated 19.01.2021 as the similar information has earlier been supplied to him by PIO O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Jalandhar and thus, it cannot be termed as third party information. He also shows the said information to the Bench.

Cont...P-2



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AC No.1562/2020

5. Post deliberations and on perusal of the case file, the Bench over rules the contention of the PIO that the information is third party and directs the PIO to supply complete information to the appellant before the next hearing.

6. With the afore said directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on **03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Shri Shiv Narayan Jangra
S/o ShriRamjiDass,
Raftaar News Channel
Press Complex, ArnaBarnaChowk,
Patiala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o PEPSU Road Transport Corporation,
(PRTC), Patiala.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o PEPSU Road Transport Corporation,
(PRTC), Patiala.

...Respondents

AC No.1621/2020, AC No.1622/2020 and AC No.1619/2020

Present: (i) Appellant- absent
(ii) Shri Amanvir Singh Tiwana, Traffic Manager, PRTC, Patiala/PIO
along with Shri Natinder Kumar, in person before the Bench.

ORDER:

(Contacted on mobile phone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 24.11.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The cases were scheduled to be heard today through Video Conferencing facility in D.C. Office, Patiala. The appellant Shri Shiv Narayan Jangra has not come present to attend the hearing through V.C. He has, however, sent an e.mail that due to a Bhog ceremony of one of his relatives at Patiala, he is unable to appear for the hearing and as such, has requested for another date.
3. Shri Amanvir Singh Tiwana Traffic Manager, PRTC Patiala/PIO attends the hearing through V.C. He states that the matter regarding which the information has been sought by the appellant is under consideration before the Chairman of P.R.T.C. in his capacity as Arbitrator in all the three appeal cases. He states that the arbitration proceedings are quasi-judicial proceedings in which the appellant himself has participated. The matter, being pending under arbitration proceedings, cannot be shared with the appellant.

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.1621/2020,1622/2020&AC No.1619/2020

4. The appellant is contacted on mobile phone. He is apprised of the version of the PIO that matter being under arbitration proceedings before the Chairman, PRTC/Arbitrator, the information cannot be shared. He states that he does not agree with the PIO regarding the fact that arbitration proceedings come within the ambit of RTI Act. He, however, requests for another date as he has come to attend a bhog ceremony.

5. On the asking of the Bench, the PIO states that he has clarified the position in another appeal case No.4103 of 2019 filed by the appellant and he reiterates the same in this regard also. The Bench on perusing the reply of PIO in AC No.4103/2020 finds that PIO has made an attempt to narrate the entire sequence of events relating to the said appeal case. The PIO states that the information was collated from different depots and compiled in a format designed with the consent of appellant who was called to office pursuant to directions of Hon'ble Commission and information in the format was supplied to the appellant and an affidavit was also filed. He further states an arbitration case of M/s Graphisads Pvt. Ltd. relating to the information sought in the instant appeal case is pending with the Chairman, PRTC in his capacity as the sole Arbitrator in which the appellant has also participated. The PIO also makes reference to the decision dated 18.09.2017 of Chief Information Commissioner in an appeal No.CIC/AT/A/2006/00586 to the effect that once it is established to a quasi-judicial proceedings, RTI Act cannot be invoked to access the information to the proceedings. The PIO states that in spite of that, their office supplied information to the appellant in compliance with the order of Commission. The PIO further brings to the notice of Bench that the appellant has filed four other appeals in the Commission seeking information similar in nature, out of which AC No.4102/2019 stands disposed off by this Bench and he has shown in the reply the comparative position in these appeal cases in the form of a chart. The P.I.O. contends that in such a situation, the appellant is not entitled to seek information as held in the decision taken by the Chief Information Commissioner (CIC) in Appeal Case

Cont..P-3



-3- **AC No.1621/2020,1622/2020&AC No.1619/2020**

No.CIC/OK/A/2006/00268-272 dated 29.12.2006 in which case the appellant had filed five applications to the Railway Authorities asking for “all records” regarding various services and categories of staff of Railways and reproduced the decision as under;-

“The CIC observed that though the RTI Act allows citizens to seek any information other than the 10 categories exempted under Section 8, it does not mean that the public authorities are required to entertain all sort of frivolous applications. The CIC held that asking for “all records” regarding various services and categories of staff in the Railways only amount to making a mockery of the Act”.

6. The Bench observes that in view of the submissions made by the PIO in his reply in AC No.4103 of 2020, this contention of appellant does not hold good in the instant appeal cases also, as the arbitration proceedings are to be construed as quasi-judicial in view of decision of appeal case mentioned above.

7. Since the appellant has not come to attend the hearing today, to hear his version further in this regard in case he has any other contention to raise, his request for adjournment is acceded to.

8. In view of the above, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission’s office at Chandigarh.** Copies of order be given to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

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Shri Amrit Lal,
Driver NO.P-82,PPO No.3784
R/o # D-414, Azad Nagar,
Sirhind Road, Patiala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Pepsu Road Transport
Corporation (PEPSU),
Head Office, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Pepsu Road Transport
Corporation (PEPSU),
Head Office,Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.3427 of 2020

Present: (i) **Appellant- absent.**
(ii) **Shri Amanvir Singh Tiwana, Traffic Manager, PRTC Patiala
PIO/Respondent, in person before the Bench.**

ORDER:

(Contacted on Mobile phone)

1. The RTI application is dated 10.09.2019 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 30.06.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 09.11.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 10.02.2021 by the Commission through V.C. in D.C. Office, Patiala. Accordingly, the case has been heard today through V.C.
3. Shri Amanvir Singh Tiwana, Traffic Manager/PIO, P.R.T.C. Patiala comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the information regarding Points No.1 & 2 of RTI application has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 05.02.2021.

Cont..P-2



4. The appellant has not come present to attend the hearing. He is contacted on mobile phone. He states that he has not received any information from the PIO. Then he is made to talk to the PIO who clarifies to him the position with regard to his RTI application as contained in letter dated 05.02.2021. The appellant requests for another hearing which is acceded to.

5. Post deliberations, the PIO is directed to again send a copy of the information to the appellant by registered post.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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Shri Labh Singh,
S/o Shri Surjit Singh,
D-105, Deep Nagar,
Patiala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Addl. Superintending Engineer,
Civil Works, Punjab State
Power Corporation Ltd.(PSPCL),
Patiala.

First Appellate Authority-cum-
O/o Chief Engineer,
Civil Construction Division,
Punjab State Power
Corporation Ltd.(PSPCL),
Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.4036 of 2020

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

ORDER:

(Heard through Video Conferencing)

1. The RTI application is dated 13.07.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 03.12.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 15.12.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 10.02.2021 by the Commission through V.C. in D.C. Office, Patiala.
3. Neither the appellant has come present to attend the hearing through V.C. nor he sent any intimation in this regard.

Cont...P-2



4. Neither the PIO o/o Addl. S.E. Civil Works, PSPCL, Patiala has come present to attend the hearing through V.C. nor he has supplied any information to the appellant. The Bench on perusing the case file, finds that a letter dated 13.01.2021 has been written by the Senior Executive Engineer, Civil Works Division, PSPCL, Patiala to Dy. Chief Chief Engineer, Civil Works Circle, PSPCL, Patiala requesting for supplying the information to the appellant, from whom there has been no response to the appellant.

5. Since the version of the appellant and the PIO could not be heard, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.05.2021 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
10.02.2021**

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