

Sh. Pardeep Chauhan C/o Punjab State Information Commission, Sector 16, Chandigarh

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o MD, Punjab Financial Corporation, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o MD, Punjab Financial Corporation, Sector 17-B, Chandigarh.

Appeal Case No. 3596 of 2021

PRESENT: Sh. Pardeep Chauhan, the Appellant Sh. Mahesh Kumar, Sr. Assistant for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 16.05.2022, has sought 14-point information regarding copies of the email sent to GM, PFC on 22.09.2021, a copy of the letter sent to MD, PFC which was received in the office vide diary No.6555 dated 09.12.2021, Diary mark of email and letter, copy of noting portion where both the email and letter was dealt in the office, name of the official/officer with the designation to whom the and GM and MD marked the email and letter of action taken and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of the MD, PFC, Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the complainant filed the complaint on 03.08.2022.

The case has come up for hearing today.

As per the respondent, information as available in the record has been provided to the appellant.

As per the appellant, the PIO has not provided information on points 1 to 7. The appellant has requested for inspection of the record.

Hearing both parties, the Commission directs the appellant to inspect the record by visiting the office of the PIO on 01.11.2022 at 11.00 AM. The PIO is directed to facilitate the record inspection to the appellant on the given date and time and provide the information to the appellant.

With the above order, the case is adjourned and to come up for compliance on **14.11.2022** at 11.00 AM.

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commission

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 ... Appellant

...Respondent



Sh. Madan Lal, W-14/C-156, Railway Colony, Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Dy. Commissioner, Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Dy. Commissioner, Ferozepur.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 5453 of 2021

PRESENT: None for the Appellant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 28.07.2021, has sought information regarding the deposit of Rs.55069103/- reference to the letter dated 13.07.2021 of DRM and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of DC Ferozepur. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the first appellate authority on 01.11.2021, which took no decision on the appeal. After filing the first appeal, the PIO sent a reply to the appellant on 22.11.2021, to which the appellant was not satisfied and filed 2nd appeal in the Commission.

The case was first heard on 18.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. Both parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. Both parties are absent.

This bench has received a letter dated 04.07.2022 from the PIO-cum-DRO Ferozepur vide which the DRO has asked the PIO-ADC(UD) Ferozepur that since the record has already been transferred to them, the PIO-ADC(UD) to provide information to the appellant and attend the hearing before the Commission.

The PIO-ADC(UD) is also absent. The last opportunity is provided to the PIO-ADC(UD) Ferozepur with the direction to supply the certified information to the appellant within 15 days with a copy to the Commission. The PIO ADC (UD) is further directed to be present personally on the next date of the hearing.

The case is adjourned and to come up for compliance on **09.01.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commission

CC to Addl. District Commissioner(Urban Development), Ferozepur

Sh. Amritpal Singh, S/o Late Dr. Amarjit Singh, H No-1034, Street NO-14, Field Ganj, Opp Guru Teg Bahadur Gurudwara Sahib, Ludhaina.

... Appellant

...Respondent

Versus Public Information Officer,

O/o Deptt of Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, District Administration, Mini Secretariat, Ludhiana.

First Appellate authority, O/o Deptt of Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs, District Administration, Mini Secretariat, Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No. 5256 of 2021

PRESENT: Sh.Amritpal Singh as the Appellant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant through an RTI application dated 31.05.2021 has sought information on 11 points regarding designated ration depots and fair price shops under the ward no.63 in the area of council Luxmi Devi – complete list of ration depot with their ID number, owner name and address – number of ration cards allocated to each ration depot – quantity of items supplied from 01.01.2019 to 31.05.2019 – physical inspection reports – list of old and new cardholders entitled or ration as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Deptt of Food Civil Supplies & Consumer Affairs Ludhiana. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the first appellate authority on 07.07.2021 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case was first heard on 18.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant, the PIO did not provide the information.

The respondent was absent.

Having gone through the RTI application, the Commission observed that parts of point-3

contain personal information, which cannot be provided and points-7, 8 & 9 are in a query form and do not qualify as information under section 2(f) of the RTI Act. The PIO was directed to provide only the total number of ration cards relating to point-3. The PIO was also directed to provide information on the remaining points(1,4,5,6,10,11).

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant the PIO has not provided the information in compliance with the previous order of the Commission.



Appeal Case No. 5256 of 2021

The PIO is absent on 2nd consecutive hearing and nor is represented. There has been an enormous delay of **16 months**, the PIO has not supplied the information. The Commission has taken serious view of this and directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005** for not supplying the information within statutorily period of time. The PIO should file an affidavit in this regard. If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

The case is adjourned. To come up for compliance on **30.01.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commission

Sh. Dharminder Singh S/o Sh. Balvir Singh, R/o Village Hawara Kalan, Tehsil Khamanon, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.

Versus

... Complainant

Public Information Officer, O/o Senior Medical Officer, CHC Khamanon, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Respondent

Complaint Case No. 1213 of 2021

PRESENT: None for the complainant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The complainant, through an RTI application dated 07.09.2021 has sought information regarding copies of an MLR Report and a copy of an x-ray report relating to medical treatment undergone on 02.08.2021 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of SMO CHC Khamanon, Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the complainant filed the first appeal before the first appellate authority on 12.10.2021, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case was first heard on 18.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Fatehgarh Sahib. Both parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Fatehgarh Sahib. The complainant is absent nor is represented.

The PIO is absent on 2nd consecutive hearing, nor is represented.

Having gone through the record, it has been observed that there is an enormous delay of **more than one year**, the PIO has not supplied the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005** for not supplying the information within statutorily period of time. The PIO should file an affidavit in this regard. If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

The case is adjourned. To come up for compliance on **30.01.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commission





Smt. Baljinder Kaur W/o Sh. Makhan Singh, Village Sheikhpur, P.O Jaintipur, Tehsil Batala, Distt.Gurdaspur.

... Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Director, Health Services, Pb, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Director, Health Services, Pb, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 5198 of 2021 PRESENT: Sh. Makhan Singh husband of Smt.Baljinder Kaur as the Appellant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 27.08.2021 has sought information regarding a copy of the annual statement from 2014-15 of GPF account No.Para Medical 4637 – Balwinder Kaur up to 31.03.2020 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Director Health Services, Pb Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 02.03.2021 which tdid not decideon the appeal.

Versus

The case was first heard on 24.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Gurdaspur. The appellant's representative said the PIO had not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent nor represented.

The Commission having taken a serious view of this, issued a show cause notice to the PIO under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time and directed to file reply of an affidavit.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Gurdaspur. As per the representative of the appellant, the PIO has not supplied the information.

Given the loss and detriment suffered by the appellant during this long period in obtaining the information in the instant case, I find full justification in awarding the appellant with a suitable compensation. Therefore, in the exercise of the powers conferred by Section 19(8)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005, a compensation of Rs.5000/- (Rupees five thousand only) is awarded to the appellant and directed the respondent to pay the compensation amount through a Bank Draft from the Bank Account of the Public Authority and confirmation to this effect will be furnished to the Commission by sending a copy of the bank draft.

The PIO is given one last opportunity to provide information to the appellant and file a reply to the show cause notice on an affidavit within 15 days of the receipt of the order.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **11.01.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur. The PIO is to appear at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commission



Sh. Navneet Singhania, (8837 R/o 1609/2, Ram Gali, Katra Ahluwalia, Amritsar.

(8837867784)

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Trust Engineer, Town Improvement Trust, Ranjit Avenue, Amritsar-143001

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Executive Officer, Town Improvement Trust, Amritsar-143001.

...Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 1946 OF 2021

PRESENT: Sh.Navneet Singhania, the Appellant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 01.10.2020 has sought a copy of a contract invitation from the public for construction of road in Ram GaliKatraAhuluwalia – a copy of the applications received – a copy of the terms & conditions for completion of work – name and designation of the competent authority for approval – name & designation of the officer who certified the road completion – total contract amount as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Trust Engineer, Town Improvement Trust, Amritsar. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of the PIO dated 23.10.2020 after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the first appellate authority on 16.11.2020, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case has already been heard by Sh.Hem Inder Singh, State Information Commissioner on 26.08.2021& 10.11.2021. Both the parties were absent during the hearing on both occasions. The PIO was directed to file written submission for not attending to the RTI application.

The case come up for **hearing before this Bench** on 05.07.2022. As per the appellant, no information was provided by the PIO.

Having gone through the RTI application, the Commission observed that the RTI application was transferred by the Nodal Officer(RTI)-cum-Town Planner, Improvement Trust, Amritsar to PIO-cum-Trust Engineer, Improvement Trust, Amritsar on 08.10.2020.

The Trust Engineer, Improvement Trust, Amritsar was absent. There has been an enormous delay of more than one year and eight months in attending to the RTI application. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause** why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.

Further, since the Trust Engineer-cum-PIO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar was not appearing before the Commission despite repeated notices issued and flouting the spirit of the RTI Act continuously, to secure an erring PIO"s presence before the commission, a bailable Warrant of the Trust Engineer-cum-PIO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar was issued Under Section 18(3) of the RTI Act. through Senior Superintendent of Police, Amritsar for his presence before the Commission on **10.10.2022**.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

Chandigarh

The case has come up for hearing through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar. The appellant claimed that the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent is absent and neither represented. As per a letter received in the Commission on 21.09.2022, information to the appellant has been supplied vide letter dated 09.09.2022.

However, the PIO is absent despite the issuance of a bailable warrant, nor has filed a reply to the show cause notice. As per information, Sh.Jatinder Singh was the EO-cum-PIO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar (now transferred and posted at EO-Improvement Trust, Sangrur). To secure an erring PIO's presence before the commission, the Information Commission is empowered to issue warrants to the PIO Under Section 18(3) of the RTI Act. A fresh bailable Warrant of Sh.Jatinder Singh, EO-Improvement Trust, Sangrur (Earlier EO-cum-PIO, Improvement Trust, Amrtisar) is hereby issued through Senior Superintendent of Police, Sangrur for his presence before the Commission on 14.12.2022.

To come up for further hearing on 14.12.2022 at 11.00 AM. Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) Dated: 10.10.2022 State Information Commissioner

BAILABLE WARRANT OF PRODUCTION BEFORE SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER, PUNJAB AT CHANDIGARH

In case: Navneet Singhania V/s Trust Engineer, Town Improvement Trust, Amritsar

APPEAL CASE NO.1946 of 2021

UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

Next Date of Hearing: 14.12.2022

То

The Senior Superintendent of Police, Sangrur.

Whereas Sh.Jatinder Singh, EO-cum-PIO, Improvement Trust Sangrur (Earlier PIO-cum-EO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar) has failed to appear before the State Information Commissioner, Punjab despite the issuance of notice/summon in the above mentioned appeal case. Therefore, you are hereby directed to serve this **bailable warrant** to Sh.Jatinder Singh, EO-Improvement Trust, Sangrur(Earlier PIO-cum-EO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar) to appear before the undersigned at Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh on **14.12.2022 at 11.00A.M.**

> Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

Chandigarh Dated:10.10.2022



Sh. Tejinder Singh, Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside SanjhKender, Phillaur.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Principal. Secy, Health Department, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Principal Secy, Health Department, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

...Respondent Appeal Case No. 5359 of 2021

PRESENT: None for the Appellant None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 02.07.2021 has sought information regarding copies of property returns filed/uploaded by all Assistant Commissioners Food and Food Safety Officers under section 44(2) (3) of Lokpal Act 2014 for the years 2018-19 to 2020-21 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Principal Secretary, Health Department Pb Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the first appellate authority on 18.08.2021, which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 25.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant, the PIO had not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent nor was represented. The PIO was directed to provide information and if the information has been uploaded on the website of the department, to provide the web address of the website to the appellant. The information be provided within 15 days of the receipt of the order.

On the date of hearing on 01.08.2022, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. Both the parties are absent.

There is nothing on record which shows that the RTI application has been attended to by the PIO within time. There has been an enormous delay of more than one year in providing the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. The PIO should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons/PIOs responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies. The PIO is further directed to supply the information to the appellant within 15 days of the receipt of the Commission with a copy to the Commission.

To come up for compliance **on** 30.01.2023 **at 11.00 AM** through video conference acility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh Dated 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner



Sh.Yogesh Maini S/o Late ShKapilBhushan, H NO-678/1, Prem Nagar, Shiv Mandir Road, Civil Lines, Ludhiana.

... Appellant

...Respondent

Public Information Officer, O/o Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana.

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Appeal Case No. 4810 of 2021 PRESENT: Sh.YogeshMaini for the Respondent Dr. Rajesh Garg, for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant through an RTI application dated 26.07.2021 has sought information regarding the License issued to Hotel Grand Silverspoon Ludhiana under Food Safety Standard Act – date of inspection with the name of inspector and mobile number as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Civil Surgeon Ludhiana. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the first appellate authority on 01.09.2021, which took no decision on the appeal.

Versus

The case first came up for hearing on 02.03.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant, the PIO has not provided the information.

The respondent present pleaded that since the information relates to District Health Officer (DHO) Ludhiana, the RTI application was transferred to them on 02.08.2021. The respondent has sent a copy of the transfer letter to the Commission through email which has been taken on record.

The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.

The PIO-DHO O/o Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana was again directed to provide information to the appellant within 15 days of the receipt of the order and send a compliance report to the Commission.

On the next date of hearing on 01.08.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana., the appellant claimed that the PIO had not supplied the information.

The PIO O/o the DHO, Ludhiana, was again absent. The PIO had not submitted the reply to the show cause notice.

As per the record procured from the DHO Ludhiana office, Dr. Rajesh, SMO, was the DHO-cum-PIO at the time of the filing of the RTI application (from 04.03.2020 to Nov. 21) and is currently posted at CHC Ahmedgarh Mandi district Malerkotla. The Commission directed Dr. Rajesh Garg, to file a reply to the show cause notice and the current PIO is directed to supply the information to the appellant within 15 days.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. Dr. Rajesh Garg pleaded that the information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 28.09.2021 and he was transferred to CHC Ahmedgarh after 03.11.2021 and after that the responsibility to attend the case was with the then First Appellate Authority-cum-DHO, Ludhiana.

The appellant claims that the PIO vide letter dated 28.09.2021 has denied the information u/s 8(1)(j) and u/s 11 of the RTI stating that the information is third-party information.

The Commission observes that there is an enormous delay of more than one year in supplying the information because of which there is a clear loss and detriment suffered by the appellant during the long period in obtaining the information.

I find full justification in awarding the appellant with a suitable compensation. Therefore, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 19(8)(b) of the RTI Act, 2005, a compensation of **Rs.5000/-** (Rupees five thousand only) is awarded to the appellant and directed the respondent to pay the compensation amount through a Bank Draft from the Bank Account of the Public Authority and confirmation to this effect will be furnished to the Commission by sending a copy of the bank draft.

As per the respondent, after his transfer to CHC Ahmedgarh Dr. Tarun Bansal, joined as DHO, Ludhiana.

However, the Commission directs Dr. Rajesh Garg to procure the information and supply certified information to the appellant with a copy to the Commission. Dr. Rajesh Garg is further directed to file a reply to the show cause notice before the next date of hearing for he was the PIO when the RTI application was filed and a violation of section 7 occurred during his tenure.

The Commission also directs the current PIO Dr. Bansal to ensure the supply of certified information to the appellant and he should also be present on the next date of hearing.

The case is adjourned. To come up for compliance on **30.01.2023**_ at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh Dated: 10.10.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

CC to : 1. Dr. Rajesh Garg CHC, Ahmedgarh District Malerkotla

> 2. Dr. Tarun Bansal, PIO-DHO O/o Civil Surgeon Ludhiana