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APPEAL CASE NO. 1560 of 2019

Shri Balwinder Singh, S/o Shri Arjan Singh, Village & Post Office Dhaleke, Tehsil & District Moga.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Tehsildar, Moga.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate, Moga.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Balwinder Singh, Appellant.

Sh. Surinder Pal Singh Pannu, Tehsildar -cum - PIO & Sh. Mangaljit Singh, Clerk.

ORDER:

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 28.01.2020.

- 2. The Appellant states that Sh. Surinder Pal Singh Pannu, Tehsildar –cum PIO appears in person and handed over the compensation draft of Rs. 3000/- to the Appellant and files an Affidavit mentioning therein that the requisite information has been provided to the Appellant and he has acknowledge the same.
- 3. The Respondent PIO has also files a reply in response to the show cause notice issued to the then PIO, today in the Commission. Keeping in view all the facts mentioned in the reply the show cause notice is hereby dropped.
- 4. In view of the above, the Respondent has files an Affidavit in response to the information supplied to the Appellant and the same is handed over to him. The same is acknowledged by the Appellant. Therefore, no further cause of action is left in this case, hence the Appeal Case is **disposed of and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 1847 OF 2019

Advocate Avinash Kumar Goyal,(9464276244) # 426, Phase-I, Model Town, Bathinda.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, (By Name) (Regd. Post) O/o Executive Officer, Improvement Trust, Bathinda.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Mini Secretariat, Bathinda.

...Respondents

PRESENT: None for the Parties.

ORDER:

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated: 28.01.2020.

- 2. The Appellant is absent for today's hearing in the Commission and he was absent on the last 5th consecutive hearings dated 09.07.2019, 28.08.2019, 10.12.2019 and 28.01.2020. However, he has E-mailed in the Commission and stating therein that he is unable to attend today's hearing in the Commission due busy in another Court.
- 3. Neither the PIO nor his representative is present for today's hearing nor has any written reply been filed. This shows his/her disregard to the Commission. He was absent on the last 3rd consecutive hearings.
- In view of the above, the Public Information Officer O/o Executive Officer, Improvement Trust, Bathinda is directed to **Show Cause** why action should not be taken against him/her for not attending the hearing despite the repeated orders of the Commission. He should file a written reply in the shape of Affidavit 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 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 penalty, on the next date of hearing.

Cont...P2

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APPEAL CASE NO. 1847 OF 2019

He may take note that in case he does not file his/her written reply and does not avail himself/herself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the date fixed, it will be presumed that he/she has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him/her ex-parte.

- 5. Last & Final opportunity is given to the Appellant to represent his case personally or by the authorized representative in the Commission, failing which appropriate orders in his absence shall be initiated.
- 6. The case is adjourned to **19.03.2020 at 11:30 AM.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 12.02.2020

Sd/(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4454 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer -cum - PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 23.05.2019 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 11.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant states that no information has been provided to him by the RespondentPIO till date.
- 4. Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum- PIO appears in person and orally states the RTI application of the Appellant is not specific and a reply in this regard has already been sent to him.
- 5. In view of the above, the Respondent PIO is directed to provide the available information to the Appellant, before the next date of hearing, if there is no information available in the record then files a proper Affidavit in this regard, on the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 6. The case is adjourned to **24.03.2020 at 11:30 AM.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4455 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 28.08.2019 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 11.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant states that no information has been provided to him by the RespondentPIO till date.
- 4. Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum- PIO appears in person and orally states the RTI application of the Appellant is not specific and a reply in this regard has already been sent to him.
- 5. In view of the above, the Respondent PIO is directed to provide the available information to the Appellant, before the next date of hearing, if there is no information available in the record then files a proper Affidavit in this regard, on the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 6. The case is adjourned to **24.03.2020 at 11:30 AM.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4456 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer -cum - PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 06.09.2019 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 11.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant states that no information has been provided to him by the RespondentPIO till date.
- 4. Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum- PIO appears in person and orally states the RTI application of the Appellant is not specific and a reply in this regard has already been sent to him.
- 5. In view of the above, the Respondent PIO is directed to provide the available information to the Appellant, before the next date of hearing, if there is no information available in the record then files a proper Affidavit in this regard, on the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 6. The case is adjourned to **24.03.2020 at 11:30 AM.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4457 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer -cum - PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 14.09.2019 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 18.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant states that no information has been provided to him by the RespondentPIO till date.
- 4. Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum- PIO appears in person and orally states the RTI application of the Appellant is not specific and a reply in this regard has already been sent to him.
- 5. In view of the above, the Respondent PIO is directed to provide the available information to the Appellant, before the next date of hearing, if there is no information available in the record then files a proper Affidavit in this regard, on the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 6. The case is adjourned to **24.03.2020 at 11:30 AM.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4458 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer,

Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 24.09.2019 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 18.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant appears and submits a letter mentioning therein that he wants to withdraw the case, being premature. The copy of the same is taken on record.
- 4. On the written submissions of the Appellant for withdrawal of this appeal, the instant Appeal Case is allowed to be withdrawn as per Order 9 of the Office Order dated 24.08.2012 of the Commission. The case is hereby disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4459 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer.

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer -cum - PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 26.09.2019 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 18.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- 3. The Appellant appears and submits a letter mentioning therein that he wants to withdraw the case, being premature. The copy of the same is taken on record.
- 4. On the written submissions of the Appellant for withdrawal of this appeal, the instant Appeal Case is allowed to be withdrawn as per Order 9 of the Office Order dated 24.08.2012 of the Commission. The case is hereby disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh) **State Information Commissioner**

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4460 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu,

District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 15.10.2019 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 18.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant appears and submits a letter mentioning therein that he wants to withdraw the case, being premature. The copy of the same is taken on record.
- 4. On the written submissions of the Appellant for withdrawal of this appeal, the instant Appeal Case is allowed to be withdrawn as per Order 9 of the Office Order dated 24.08.2012 of the Commission. The case is hereby disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4461 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer,

Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 10.10.2019 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 18.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- 3. The Appellant appears and submits a letter mentioning therein that he wants to withdraw the case, being premature. The copy of the same is taken on record.
- 4. On the written submissions of the Appellant for withdrawal of this appeal, the instant Appeal Case is allowed to be withdrawn as per Order 9 of the Office Order dated 24.08.2012 of the Commission. The case is hereby disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4623 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 22.10.2019 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 25.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- The Appellant appears and submits a letter mentioning therein that he wants to withdraw the case, being premature. The copy of the same is taken on record.
- 4. On the written submissions of the Appellant for withdrawal of this appeal, the instant Appeal Case is allowed to be withdrawn as per Order 9 of the Office Order dated 24.08.2012 of the Commission. The case is hereby disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4640 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer.

O/o Deputy Commissioner,

Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Faridkot.

...Respondents

Sh. Laipat Rai, Appellant. PRESENT:

Sh. Jagdeep Singh, Jr. Assistant & Ms. Kamaljit Kaur, Steno for the Respondents.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 04.09.2019 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 30.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 13.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- 3. The Appellant states that irrelevant information has been provided to him by the Respondent – PIO.
- 4. The Respondents states that information had already been provided to him.
- 5. The Respondent - PIO is directed to provide the requisite information to the Appellant, as discussed today in the Commission, before the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him/her as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 6. The case is adjourned to 24.03.2020 at 11:30 AM. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh) **State Information Commissioner**

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4641 OF 2019

Sh. Lajpat Rai, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal, House No. B-3/287, Romana Street, Jaito, District Faridkot.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Deputy Commissioner,

Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Faridkot.

...Respondents

PRESENT: Sh. Lajpat Rai, Appellant.

Sh. Jagdeep Singh, Jr. Assistant & Ms. Kamaljit Kaur, Steno for the Respondents.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 03.07.2019 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 30.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 13.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- 3. The Appellant states that incomplete information has been provided to him by the Respondents PIO.
- 4. The Respondent appears along with the remaining information and same is handed over to the Appellant, during the hearing.
- 5. After going through the information, the Appellant accepts that he has received the information relating to point no. 1 and 2, but incomplete information relating to point no. 3 & 4 and no information relating to point no. 5.
- 6. The Respondent PIO is directed to provide the remaining information as discussed today in the Commission, before the next date of hearing, failing which strict action will be initiated against him/her as per provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 7. The case is adjourned to **24.03.2020** at **11:30 AM**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Hem Inder Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4462 OF 2019

Advocate Bharat Goyal, S/o Sh. Raj Kumar, Near Telephone Exchange, Tappa Mandi (Barnala).

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Jaitu, District Faridkot.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Deputy Director, Local Government, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

PRESENT: None on behalf of the Appellant.

Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum – PIO.

ORDER:

The RTI application is dated 15.10.2019 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 17.10.2019 and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on 02.12.2019 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 12.02.2020 to appear before the Commission.
- 3. The Appellant is absent for today's hearing without any intimation to the Commission.
- 4. Sh. Gurdas Singh, Executive Officer –cum PIO appears in person and states that the Appellant is filing numerous complaints to the Public Authority. Without waiting for the appropriate response in stipulated period from the Public Authority, he approaches the Commission. The appeal, as such, is premature. It has been noticed that his RTI applications are directed against the officials of the Municipal Council, Jaitu which by and large concerned third parties. He further states that he is using the RTI Forum as an instrument to harass the Public Authorities. He never responds or participates in the proceedings and he is wasting the precious time of the officials of the Public Authority as well as the Commission.

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APPEAL CASE NO. 4462 OF 2019

5. Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in CBSE vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay, (2011) 8 SCC 497, explained that:

> "Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under the RTI Act for disclosure of all and sundry information (unrelated to transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counterproductive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result in the executive getting bogged down with the nonproductive work of collecting and furnishing information. The Act should not be allowed to be misused or abused, to become a tool to obstruct the national development and integration, or to destroy the peace, tranquility and harmony among its citizens. Nor should it be converted into a tool of oppression or intimidation of honest officials striving to do their duty. The nation does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spends 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharging their regular duties. The threat of penalties under the RTI Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of a public authorities prioritizing "information furnishing", at the cost of their normal and regular duties."

- 6. The Commission finds substance in the submissions made by the PIO. Seeking repetitive information in stereotyped applications certainly amounts to misuse, rather abuse of the RTI Act. The instant case squarely comes in the domain with regard to which the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India was constrained to make aforementioned observations.
- 7. In view of the above, the Appellant has not exhausted the entire available channel, as such the present RTI application based on apprehension, is premature. Hence, this Appeal Case is **disposed of and closed**. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh 12.02.2020

(Hem Inder Singh) **State Information Commissioner**