

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,

Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864113, Helpline No. 0172-2864100

Email: - psic22@punjabmail.gov.in

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Sh. H.S.Hundal, Advocate (9878500082)

203, District Courts,

Sector 76,

Mohali 160071.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

First Appellate Authority

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Pb.,

Chandigarh

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 3844 of 2021
Hearing through CISCO WEBEX

Present: (i) Appellant –Absent.

(ii) For the respondent: Sh. Harjit Singh, Clerk

Order

1. The RTI application is dated 15.3.2021 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 22.4.2021 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 26.8.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing through CISCO WEBEX on 12.5.2022 i.e. today
2. In today's hearing, the appellant is missing.
3. The respondent states that the information sought for is voluminous. He further requests the court that the appellant may be advised for specific information.
4. The appellant is absent despite of being aware about the date of hearing as Notice of hearing was sent to him through registered post.
5. After hearing the respondent and examining the case file,
6. In view of above, the court grants another opportunity to both the parties to represent their case on the next date of hearing. The appellant is also advised to consider specific information so that the same can be provided to him.
7. To come up on **07.07.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex** (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.5.2022 (11:00 AM)

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh. Manjit Singh (8427498620)

s/o Sh. Gurcharan Singh,
Vill. Manemajra, Tehsil Chamkaur Sahib,
Distt. Ropar

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, State Transport
Pb, , Sector 17, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, State Transport
Pb, Chandigarh

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 2548 of 2021

Heard through CISCO WEBEX

Present: (i) Sh. Manjit Singh, the appellant-(On phone)
(ii) Sh. Darshan Singh, SA- respondent at PSIC Office.

Order

1. Refer earlier order dated 10.11.2021 where the respondent was missing. The court granted another opportunity to him to represent this case on the next date of hearing to clear the facts, failing to which, appropriate order in his absence shall be passed. The case was adjourned to 12.5.2022.
2. In today's hearing both the parties are present (Appellant on phone) but the respondent PIO is present in the court.
3. The respondent states that all the information has already been got provided on 4.10.2021 but the appellant denies for the same.
4. The respondent requests that appellant may be advised to visit their office on any working day; they will provide the information again. On this the appellant agrees and wishes to visit respondent's office today.
5. The court advises the appellant to go through the information, if he receives and point out deficiencies, if any, under intimation to the Commission. The respondent is also advised to be present during visit of the appellant.
6. To come up on **12.07.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex** (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.5.2022

**(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
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Sh. Harmit Singh Sidhu(9878691567)

Reporter, RojanaDeshSewak,
C/o Baba Kala Finance Co.,
Phul Road, RampuraPhul, Bathinda

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o EO, Nagar Council, RampuraPhul,
Bathinda

First Appellate Authority

O/o Deputy Director, Local Govt,
Bathinda

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 897 of 2021
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present:

- (i) Sh. Harmit Singh Sidhu, appellant
(ii) For the respondent: Sh. Inderjit Singh AME(9067400080).

ORDER

1. The above mentioned case was earlier heard on 9.9.2021 wherein appellant stated that information sought as per RTI application is still pending. Respondent, Sh. Inderjit Singh was present for hearing The court while taking a serious view of the situation, directions were given to the respondent PIO to give the sought for information as per RTI application to the appellant within a week's time under intimation to the Commission.

On receipt of information from respondent PIO, the appellant shall point out the deficiencies, if any, in writing to the respondent PIO as per RTI application under intimation to the Commission also. Matter was adjourned to 10.03.2022 which was not heard and adjourned to 12.5.2022.

2. In today's hearing, appellant is not present but a letter dated 02.12.2021 is received from the appellant vide diary no. 27177 dated 03.12.2021 stating that information is still pending even after contacting the AME Sir but no response. This letter is taken on record.
3. Respondent PIO is absent despite being aware about the date of hearing. A final opportunity is awarded to him to supply the attested copy of the complete information within week after receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission. He is also directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing, failing which stern action as per RTI Act, 2005 will be initiated against him.
4. Final opportunity is also to the appellant to represent this case on the next date of hearing as after 03.12.2021 there is no communication from him.
5. With aforesaid directions, matter is adjourned for further hearing on **14.07.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO WEBEX** application. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.05.2022 (11:00 AM)

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh. Sanjeev Goyal(9814197689)

S/o Sh. Ashok Kumar,
148, Model Town, Phase-I,
Bathinda

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o D.C., Bathinda

First Appellate Authority

O/o D.C., Bathinda

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 742 of 2022
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: (i) Appellant –Sh. Sanjeev Goyal
(ii) For the respondent: Ms. Savita Gupta

Order

1. The RTI application is dated 1.2.2022 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 3.2.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 9.2.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing through CISCO WEBEX on 12.5.2022 i.e. today.
2. In today's hearing both the parties are present.
3. The respondent, Ms. Savita Gupta states that requisite information was supplied to the appellant on 07.02.2022 and a reply in this regard along with supplied information has already been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 367 dated 07.04.2022, which is received in the Commission vide diary no. 8042 dated 19.04.2022 and taken on record.
4. On this, appellant expresses his dissatisfaction and states that information is received but not clear.
5. After hearing both the parties and examining the case file, it is observed that copy of the supplied information is clear and readable which is received by the Commission via letter no. 367 dated 07.04.2022.
6. The respondent requests the court for an advice to the appellant to visit their office for inspection of record, so that information can be supplied to him, which is not clear.
7. In view of request of the respondent, the court fixes time for inspection of record at the respondent department's office for Monday i.e. 16.5.2022 after lunch, which both the parties agree to.
8. The court advises the appellant to go through the information and respondent PIO is directed to supply the identified pages to the appellant as per RTI application during visit of the appellant.
9. To come up on **14.07.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex** (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.5.2022

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
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Sh. Jasveer Singh Sandhu (9417508764)

S/o Sh. Balkar Singh

Crime Reporter

Vill. Jogewala,

PO Malkana, Tehsil Talwandi Saboo,

Distt. Bathinda 151301.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o DC, Bathinda

First Appellate Authority

O/o Divisional Commissioner, Faridkot

Faridkot Division

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 1060 of 2021

Heard through CISCO WEBEX

Present:

(i) Sh. Jasveer Singh, appellant

(ii) For the respondent: Sh. Harinder Singh, PIO

Order:

1. This order may be read with the previous order dated 13.4.2022 vide which respondent, Sh. Harinder Singh was again directed to comply with the orders of the Commission dated 22.06.2021 through which respondent PIO was directed to send a copy of the ਪੜਤਾਲੀਆਂ ਰਿਪੋਰਟ relates with ਦਰਖਾਸਤ dated 03.03.2020 as per RTI application to the appellant through registered post with a copy to the Commission before the next date of hearing positively. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 12.5.2022 i.e. today.
2. In today's hearing, appellant, Sh. Jasveer Singh states that status is same as it was on the previous hearing held on 13.4.2022.
3. Respondent, Sh. Harinder Singh is directed to either give information as per RTI application or submit an affidavit in original to the appellant and a copy of the same to the Commission within 10 days, failing which penalty of Rs.25000/- shall be imposed upon the concerned PIO.
4. Matter is adjourned for further hearing on **7.7.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex** (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.5.2022 (11:00 AM)

**(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
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Ms. Manjit Kaur (9357271895)

D/o Sh. Bal Krishan
R/o Bhadson, Tehsil Nabha,
District Patiala

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Rayat Bahra Group of Institutes,
Bhedpura Campus, Patiala

Respondent

Complaint Case No.: 906 of 2020
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present:

(i) Ms. Kamaljit Kaur, the complainant.

(ii) Sh. Amardeep Singh, HR, Rayat Bahra(9876015472) along with Sh. Baldev (7717305501).

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 12.4.2022 vide which complainant, Ms, Manjeet Kaur stated that information is still pending from the respondent PIO.

It was observed that respondent PIO continuously absent fourth time without any intimation, which really showed his irresponsible behavior towards his duties. As per case file, respondent PIO was absent on the first hearing held on 24.02.2021. Email was sent to the respondent PIO twice on 22.02.2021 and 23.02.2021 email ID bgoipta@gmail.com requesting therein to send the details of the concerned respondent PIO and email dated 24.02.2021 was received from department stating that CISCO WEBEX was not connected due to non providing of the password.

One opportunity was awarded to him to represent this case along with directions to supply the reply/information to the complainant. Copy of order dated 24.02.2021 was sent to the respondent PIO through **registered post.** Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 20.04.2021, which was not heard due to technical issues and adjourned for 09.06.2021.

On hearing held on 09.06.2021, both the parties were absent and matter was adjourned for further hearing on 11.08.2021 with the directions to represent this case, failing which case will be decided on merit basis.

On hearing held on 11.08.2021, respondent PIO was absent consecutively third time and a Show Cause notice was issued to him by name. Copy of order dated 11.08.2021 was sent to the respondent PIO through **registered post.** Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 22.09.2021, which was not heard due to technical issues and adjourned for 12.04.2022 i.e. today, but respondent PIO did not bother to pay heed to the Notices and Orders of the Commission even after sending to him through registered post, which are not returned to the Commission.

Complaint Case No.: 906 of 2020
Through CISCO WEBEX

Public Information Officer was directed to appear in person during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date fixed before the bench of the undersigned at PSIC Office, Chandigarh so that facts of this case could be cleared. He is also directed to file reply to the Show Cause which was issued to him vide order dated 11.08.2021, failing which penal consequences will follow as per RTI Act, 2005. A copy order was sent to him through registered post. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 12.05.2022 i.e. today.

2. In today's hearing, complainant, Ms, Manjeet Kaur states again that information is still pending from the respondent PIO even after the ample time has elapsed.
3. The respondents appearing today state that the matter is under investigation with the Redressal Committee.
4. The court after discussing the case in detail is of the view that the respondent PIO/department is not serious about the Orders of the Commission as well as RTI Act, 2005. The casual approach shows his lenient attitude towards his public duties as a public servant. Due to irresponsible behavior of the respondent PIO, disposal of the case affects and wastage of precious time and resources of the Commission. It is also observed that respondent PIO was called to represent this case today at PSIC Office, Chandigarh but concerned PIO/department failed to do so.
5. During discussion of this case, the court asks about the names of PIO from the respondents present today. They informed Sh. Pritam Singh Johal (8054640079) is the concerned respondent PIO. The court directs the persons appearing on behalf of the respondent department to inform the concerned respondent PIO to provide information within 10 days from today and reply to show cause in writing failing which, penalty will be imposed on the concerned respondent PIO as per RTI Act, 2005. A copy of this order be sent to him by name through registered post for his ready reference.
6. Respondent PIO, Sh. Pritam Singh Johal is directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing at PSIC Office, Chandigarh along with reply to the Show Cause notice which was issued vide order dated 11.08.2021
7. To come up on **6.7.2022 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex** (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 12.5.2022 (11:00 AM)

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Note: After the hearing was over, Sh. Amardeep (HR, M: 9876015472) contacted the Commission and intimated that the concerned respondent PIO is Sh. Baldev Chand (HR-cum-PIO) instead of Sh. Pritam Singh Johal.

I am of the considered view that earlier announced order stands same.

Dated: 12.5.2022

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

(Regd. Post) **Sh. Pritam Singh Johal (PIO)**
O/o Rayat Bahra Group of Institutes,
Bhedpura Campus, Patiala