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Shri Sushil Kumar, #1410, Phase-I, Urban Estate, Dugri Road, Ludhiana-141013.

...Appellant

**Public Information Officer** 

O/o Nodal Officer, RTI Cell, Punjab State Power Corpn. Ltd., (PSPCL), Patiala.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

Chief Engineer, HRD, Punjab State Power Corpn. Ltd., (PSPCL), Patiala.

....Respondents

# AC No.4940 of 2021

Versus

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) Shri Pal Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Dy. Chief Engineer, Technical, PSPCL,

Patiala, in person.

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 15.02.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Sushil Kumar, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex. He has, however, sent an e.mail dated 09.02.2022 stating that till date, he has not received the information sought by him even after a lapse of 190 days. He has also stated therein that in case the sought for information is not available with the PIO, the PIO may be directed to provide an affidavit to this effect to him. He also states therein that the case may not be closed without his consent and in case of not doing so, he will approach the Hon'ble Punjab & Haryana High Court and the President of India.
- 3. Shri Pal Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Deputy Chief Engineer, Technical, PSPCL, Patiala comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that information on Point No.5 has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 12.05.2022. He also produces a copy of the same before the Bench. He also produces a copy of letter 27.08.2021 from Dy. Chief Engineer, Enquiry, PSPCL, Patiala whereby the PIO has supplied information on Point No.1 & 3. During the previous hearing, Shri Sunil Jain, Deputy Secretary, Enquiry, PSPCL, Patiala had stated that information on Point No.1 relating to their office has been sent to the appellant.



-2-

# AC No.4940/2021

- 4. Post deliberations, the PIO-cum-Deputy Chief Engineer, Technical, PSPCL, Patiala and Dy. Chief Engineer, Enquiry, PSPCL, Patiala are directed to check up from the records and supply information to the appellant on remaining points of the RTI application before the next hearing.
- 5. The respondents from the Departments connected with the appeal case are directed to appear for the next hearing. The appellant is also advised to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing, failing which the Bench may be constrained to decide the appeal case on the basis of documents available in the case file and the affidavit filed by the PIO.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 03.08.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to (Regd. Post)

- i) PIO-cum-Deputy Chief Engineer, Technical, PSPCL, Patiala
- ii) PIO O/o Dy. Chief Engineer, Enquiry, PSPCL, Patiala

#### **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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





Shri Jasbir SIngh, Guru Nanak Nagar, Village: Bolapur, Jhabewal, P.O:Ramgarh, Distt:Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana.

....Respondents

# AC No. 734 of 2022

**<u>Present:</u>** (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant, in person.

(ii) Shri Tarun Kumar, Clerk O/o GLADA, Ludhiana, on behalf of the

PIO/respondent.

# **ORDER**

#### (Heard in person/through Cisco Webex)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 16.03.2021 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 20.10.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 17.01.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022 through cisco webex. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Jasbir Singh, appellant comes present in person before the Bench and states that no information has been provided by the respondent/PIO.
- 3. Shri Tarun Kumar, Clerk O/o GLADA, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that the information has yet not been supplied to the appellant.
- 4. The Bench observes that in spite of lapse of a period of more than one year, the appellant has not been provided information. The Bench views this indifferent attitude of the PIO adversely.
- 5. The PIO O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and not supplying information to the appellant. He is also directed to file a written reply 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.



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# AC No.734/2022

- 6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.
- 7. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant and bring along the copy of information supplied as also the relevant record and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing.
- 8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 21.07.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh** 13.06.2022

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

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Public Information Officer O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Ludhiana.



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Shri Ankit Sehgal C/o Bomaby Studio Near Main Post Office Chowk, Pathankot.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer-cum**-O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

**First Appellate Authority-cum**-O/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

....Respondents

# AC No.692 of 2022

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.

# **ORDER:**

- 1. The RTI application is dated 01.11.2021 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 06.12.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 04.02.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022. Shri Ankit Sehgal, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing either in person or through cisco webex.
- 3. Neither the PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO.
- 4. The appellant is contacted on mobile phone. On the asking of the Bench, he denies the receipt of information from the PIO/respondent.
- 5. The Bench observes that the PIO has not come present for today's hearing nor he has supplied information to the appellant in spite of lapse of more than six months. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude on the part of the PIO is viewed adversely.

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AC No.692 of 2022

5. The PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and not supplying information to the appellant. He is also directed to file a written reply 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.

- 6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.
- 7. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant and bring along the copy of information supplied as also the relevant record and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing.
- 8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 19.07.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to (By Regd.Post):

Public Information Officer O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

#### **PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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Shri Bittu, S/o Shri Om Kumar, Village: Bolapur, Jhabewal, P.O:Ramgarh, Distt:Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA,Ludhiana.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Chief Administrator, GLADA, Mohali.

....Respondents

# AC No. 728 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, on behalf of the Appellant.

(ii) Shri Narinderpal Singh, Clerk, O/o GLADA, Ludhiana on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

#### **ORDER**

# (Heard in person/ through cisco webex)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 20.03.2021 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 21.10.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 17.01.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Jasbir Singh, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of Shri Bittu, appellant and states that the appellant has not been supplied any information so far.
- 3. Shri Narinderpal Singh, Clerk O/o GLADA comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex on behalf of the PIO. He states that the information asked for by the appellant has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 25.03.2022.
- 4. The Bench directs the PIO to send the information again to the appellant by registered post and also bring along the entire relevant official records and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing.



-2- AC No.728 of 2022

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 21.07.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Sukhwinder Singh S/o Shri Karam Singh #706, Gobind Nagar, Naya Gaon, Distt. Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/oPunjab State Power Corporation Ltd.(PSPCL), Sub Division, Jhabal Kalan, District Tarn Taran.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Sr. Executive Engineer, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd.(PSPCL), Tarn Taran Circle, Tarn Taran.

...Respondents

#### AC No.725/2022

- **Present:** (i) Shri Sukhwinder Singh, Appellant, in person.
  - (ii) Shri Narinder Singh, Assistant Engineer O/o Sub Division, Jhabal, District Tarn Taran, PIO/Respondent, in person.

- 1. The RTI application is dated 12.08.2021 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 05.10.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 04.02.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Sukhwinder Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
- 3. Shri Narinder Singh, Assistant Engineer, Sub Division, Jhabal, District Tarn Taran comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. He states that the appellant has asked for information about Tubewell Connection released to one Jagdish Singh who has since died and the consent of his son was sought to disclose this information but he has not given consent to share information and thus, the same has not been supplied.

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# AC No.725/2022

- 4. On the asking of the Bench, Shri Sukhwinder Singh, appellant states that the land on which tubewell has been installed is 'Mushtarka' land in the name of five brothers and he is youngest of all and the same has not been divided amongst the brothers. He further states that Shri Jagdish Singh has got released tubewell connection No.AP18/1965 under 2.5 acres scheme whereas the land in question is about 5 acres which stands in the name of all the brothers on account of non-division of the same. He wants to know the copy of Fard Jamabandi and other documents on which the basis of which the said connection has been got released and further states that his consent was necessary for the release of tubewell connection
- 5. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that information sought by the appellant is personal and private related to an individual. However, in view of the facts stated by the appellant, the Bench observes that it is necessary to ascertain as to whether the said tubewell connection has been got released under the facility provided by the Government on the basis of some fake documents or by giving misleading information. Thus, the Bench directs the PIO to make available the information as asked for by the appellant before the next hearing. He is also directed to bring along the relevant record and produce the same before the Bench.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 03.08.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Rajnish Bharara # 520, Preet Colony, Zirakpur, District Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara.

First Appellate Authority-cum-O/o O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara.

...Respondents

#### AC No.722/2022

- Present: (i) Shri Rajnish Bharara, Appellant, in person.
  - (ii) Shri Ashok Kumar Garg, Superintendent, RTI/PIO, O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara, in person.

- 1. The RTI application is dated 15/11/2021 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 20.12.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 04.02.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rajnish Bharara, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
- 3. Shri Ashok Kumar Garg, Superintendent, RTI/PIO, Municipal Corporation, Phagwara comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that reply has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 17.01.2022, 31.05.2022 and 01.06.2022 stating therein that the information sought by the appellant does not come within the ambit of Section 2(f) of RTI Act and the information sought is not in the public interest. He further states that it amounts to creation of information which is not permissible under the provisions of RTI Act and moreover, the information sought falls under Section 8(1)(j). He further refers to the instructions dated 14.08.2013 issued by Department of Personnel and Training, Govt. of India and orders passed by Hon'ble Supreme Court in SLP No.27734/2012 titled as Giri R.Despandey vs. Central Information Commission wherein it has been held as under:



AC No.722/2022

"The performance of an employee/officer in an organisation is primarily a matter between employee and employer and normally those aspects are governed by the service rules which fall under the express' personal information', the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or public interest. On the other hand, the disclosure of which could cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of that individual. The Supreme Court further held that such information could be disclosed only if it would serve a larger public interest."

The PIO also makes reference to the instructions dated 09.08.2021 of the Government of Punjab as per which the information asked for amounts to personal information which cannot be provided.

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- 4. The appellant contends that the pleas raised by the PIO for not disclosing the information are not correct and he has not received the Govt. letter dated 09.08.2021 and that he is not satisfied with the contentions raised by the PIO.
- 5. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the instructions dated 09.08.2021 are not attracted in this case. The PIO is directed to give point wise reply to the appellant before the next hearing.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 13.07.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Rajnish Bharara
# 520, Preet Colony,
Zirakpur, District Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara.

First Appellate Authority-cum-O/o O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara.

...Respondents

#### AC No.717/2022

- Present: (i) Shri Rajnish Bharara, Appellant, in person.
  - (ii) Shri Ashok Kumar Garg, Superintendent, RTI/PIO, O/o Municipal Corporation, Phagwara, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent, in person.

- 1. The RTI application is dated 30.10.2021 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 06.12.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 04.02.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rajnish Bharara, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that he has not received a single letter in reply to his RTI application.
- 3. Shri Ashok Kumar Garg states that he has come in place of Shri Malkeet Singh, Chief Sanitary Inspector who has been detailed for some urgent official duty. He however, states that the information has been asked for in respect of the employees engaged through outsourcing agency and the record is not maintained by the Municipal Corporation in the form in which it has been sought. A copy of the letter dated 27.12.2021 is handed over to the appellant in the court itself.
- 4. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO to give point wise reply to the appellant as available in the official records as also to bring along the original record and the postal receipt vide which the information has been sent to the appellant and produce the same before the Bench on the next date of hearing.



-2- AC No.717/2022

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 13.07.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 13.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab