# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Smt Samridhi Bedi, D/o Sh Surinder Pal Singh, 51-Hide Market, Opposite Old SAbji Mandi, Near Asian Batteries, Amritsar.

... Appellant

**Public Information Officer,** 

O/o DCP, Amritsar.

**First Appellate Authority,** O/o Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3305 of 2021

PRESENT: Sh.S.K.Sharma, Advocate for the Appellant

Sh.Surinder Singh, ASI & Sh.Harjit Singh-SI for the Respondent

Versus

#### ORDER:

The appellant through RTI application dated 22.06.2021 has sought information under the proviso of Life and Liberty regarding copies of the complaint filed by her husband and her-in-laws – a copy of the complaint made to CM Punjab and down marked to the office of DSP – a copy of the complaint made to DGP and marked to DSP – a copy of the complaint made to Pb State Women Protection Commission – the file notings against each complaint – status report on all complaints – day-to-day progress report – action taken on the complaints – a copy of notice/memo issued – statement of the appellant recorded – statement of her-in-laws – list of complaints received u/s 498 IPC and its status – detail of pending complaints – list of officers concerned posted in Mahila Police Station-2 with designation and tenure of posting – an inspection of the record and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of DCP Amritsar. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of the PIO dated 05.07.2021 after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 05.07.2021 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 17.08.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar under Life and Liberty. As per the respondent, the information had already been provided to the appellant vide letters dated 05.07.2021 and 12.08.2021.

As per the appellant, the information was incomplete since the PIO had provided information only on point-1, 10 & 11. Further, the information that was provided on points 10 & 11 was incomplete as the soft copy of the statement was not provided. Also, the information provided was not duly indexed, signed or certified by the PIO or APIO. As per the appellant, the investigation had already been completed on 05.08.2021 but the PIO did not provide the complete information.

Having gone through the RTI application, reply of the PIO and hearing both the parties, the PIO was directed to relook at the RTI application and provide point-wise information to the appellant which is indexed and attested by the PIO/APIO. The information be provided within 48 hours.

**The case** was again heard on 19.08.2021. The respondents informed that the information has been supplied to the appellant.

## Appeal Case No. 3305 of 2021

As per the appellant, the provided information was incomplete. Having gone through the RTI application and hearing both the parties, the following was concluded:

-	Point 1,2 & 3 Point-4 Point 5,6,7, 8 &9	- - -	Information provided Information provided during the hearing If any document/information exists in the record, the PIO to provide
-	Point 10 & 11	-	Information provided. However, the appellant wants the Soft copy of the statement. Since this is a deviation from the original RTI, the appellant is directed to submit reasons for asking the same.
-	Point-12	-	Information provided
-	Point-13	-	To provide list of complaints recd u/s 498 IPC
-	Point-14	-	To provide the information
-	Point-15	-	To provide names, designation, postings & tenure only
-	Point-16	-	Allowed to inspect the record after the above information

On the date of the next hearing on **23.08.2021**, the respondent informed that the complete information as available in the record has been provided to the appellant and no further information is available in the record. The respondent also sent a reply through email which was taken on the file of the Commission.

has been given.

The appellant was not satisfied with the provided and informed vide email that information on points 5,6,7& 8 has not been provided and the information on points 10 & 11 is incomplete.

Since there was a constant disagreement between what has been provided by the PIO and what has been sought by the appellant, the PIO was directed to file an affidavit on the matter stating that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no other information relating to this RTI application is available in the record. The affidavit should be on a stamp paper duly signed by the PIO.

On the date of hearing on **25.08.2021**, the respondent brought the affidavit and handed it over to the counsel of the appellant and the counsel received the same. However, the counsel was not satisfied with the affidavit.

The case was then referred to the Chief Information Commissioner for constituting a full bench to hear the case further.

The case came up for hearing on 08.09.2021 before this bench through video conferencing at DAV Amritsar.

Due to a technical fault in the VC, the hearing could not be completed. The case was adjourned.

The case has come up for hearing today before the bench.

Sh.S.K.Sharma, the advocate is present on behalf of the appellant and Sh. Surinder Singh-ASI & Sh. Harjit Singh-SI is present on behalf of the respondent PIO.

The advocate present pleaded that the information is still incomplete and not as sought in the RTI application.

The respondents pleaded that the complete information as available in the record has been provided and no further information is available in their record relating to this RTI application. An affidavit in respect thereto has also been provided to the appellant.

Given the above, the bench is of the following view-

That the case was first heard by the bench of Sh. Khushwant Singh, who directed the PIO to provide all the information available on record immediately since the hearing of the case was listed under the proviso of Life and Liberty.

That the information was provided and the discrepancies were removed subsequently.

That the counsel for the appellant was not satisfied with the information and hence the respondent was asked to file an affidavit in the commission as well as to the appellant stating that the information that has been provided was complete, true and no further information was available.

That keeping the spirit that Justice must not only be done, but must also be seen to be done, a full bench was constituted to hear the case further.

Given the above, the bench is of the view that all necessary steps have been taken to make the appellant possess with the information that will help her prevent any harm to her life and liberty. If there are other causes that threaten the appellant's life and liberty, the appellant is advised to seek further remedial measures as the domain of the Information Commission is to the extent of helping an individual equip with information, which could only be a partial part of a process of securing life and liberty of an individual.

In this case since the information has been provided, discrepancies have been sorted out and an affidavit (that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no other information is available in the record of the PIO) has been provided, no further course of action is required.

The appellant is allowed to inspect the complete record uptill the date of filing of the RTI application. The case is disposed of and closed.

> Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner

Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma)

Sd/-(Maninder Singh Patti) **State Information Commissioner** 

Chandigarh Dated:13.09.2021

CC: - Ld Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, State Information Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

Ld Sh Maninder Singh Patti, State Information Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

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Sh.S.K.Sharma, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, 51-Hide Market, Near Bridge View Hotel Opposite Old Sabji Mandi, Amritsar.

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,** O/o DCP, Macload Road Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Commissioner of Police, Macload Road, Amritsar.

...Respondent

### Appeal Case No. 3888 of 2021

PRESENT: Sh.S.K.Sharma, Advocate for the Appellant

Sh.Surinder Singh, ASI & Sh.Harjit Singh-SI for the Respondent

#### ORDER:

The appellant through RTI application dated 10.08.2021has sought information on 19 points under Life and Liberty regarding complaint made by Mandeep Singh s/o Joginder Singh r/o Moon Avenue and his family members against the applicant and his client Smridhi Bedidiary number-register where such complaints are entered – summons issued –videography made - day-to-day progress report - statement of the appellant, his client, her mother, Mandeep Singh & his family – the name of the person who typed the application –movement register – noting/order – details of counseling held - and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of DCP Amritsar. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 15.08.2021 which took no decision on the appeal. After filing the first appeal, the PIO sent information to the appellant vide letter dated 24.08.2021 to which the appellant was satisfied and filed 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal in the Commission on 07.09.2021.

The case has come up for hearing before this bench today under Life and Liberty. Sh.Surinder Singh, ASI & Sh. Harjit Singh-SI is present on behalf of the respondent PIO. The appellant claims that the information that has been supplied by the PIO on 24.08.2021 is incomplete and not as per the RTI application.

The respondent present pleaded that the information relating to the case of Smridhi Bedi has already been provided in appeal case No.3305 of 2021 and complete information relating to Sh.S.K.Sharma as available in the record has also been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 24.08.2021 and no further information is available in the record. The respondent also submitted a reply which has been taken on the file of the Commission.

We are in agreement with the respondent's plea that information regarding Smridhi Bedi has already been provided in case number 3305 of 2021, which was heard on this very day (13.09.2021) hence only the matter related to SK Sharma will be heard.

The appellant is in agreement with the view of the bench and has claimed that all information has been provided. The appellant however has pleaded that the respondent PIO file an affidavit stating that the information regarding SK Sharma is true, complete and no further information is available.

The bench is in agreement with the appellant's plea and hereby direct the respondent to provide an affidavit stating that the information provided is true, complete and no other information relating to this RTI application is available in the record. The affidavit should be on a stamp paper duly signed by the PIO.

Since no further interference of the commission is required on the matter, the case is disposed of and closed.

Sd/-

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) (Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma) State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner

> Sd/-(Maninder Singh Patti) **State Information Commissioner**

Chandigarh Dated:13.09.2021

CC: - Ld Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, State Information Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

Ld Sh Maninder Singh Patti, State Information Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.