#### PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh. Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com CISCO Webex Meeting Code : 15857-

#### 23975 Helpline No. 0172-2864100 ( 10:00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days )

Dr.Sandeep Kumar Gupta, House no.1722, Sector-14, Hisar-125001 (Haryana)

..... Complainant

PSIC

Versus

#### Public Information Officer,

O/o Superintendent, Municipal Services Cell, Department of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh..

# Remanded Back First Appellate Authority, O/o Under Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh..

(i)

(ii)

.....Respondent

#### CC No.345 of 2022

#### Present:

#### Complainant- absent.

Shri Sukhdev Singh, Superintendent/PIO and Shri Mandeep Kamboj, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-1 Branch, O/o Addl.Chief Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, respondent- in person.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

1. The RTI application is dated 18.11.2021 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on 26.05.2022 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. The case has been heard today. Dr.Sandeep Kumar Gupta, complainant has not come present in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.

3. Shri Sukhdev Singh, Superintendent/PIO and Shri Mandeep Kamboj, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-1 Branch, O/o Addl. Chief Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Mandeep Kamboj states that the complainant has sought information with regard to the fake degree of Shri Surinder Singh Bindra, MTP, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana. The information has been supplied to the complainant vide letter 04.08.2022 stating therein that the matter is at present pending in the Hon'ble High Court. He also produces before the Bench order dated 29.08.2022 as per which the matter is listed before Hon'ble High Court on 19.10.2022.

4. The Bench observes that the complainant has directly approached the Commission by preferring complaint in the Commission. The Bench further observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the

#### CC No.345/2022

Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Shri Manjit Singh, Under Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Local Govt., Chandigarh.** The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to hear the complainant within ten days and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

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

# Chandigarh 14.09.2022

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

First Appellate Authority, Shri Manjit Singh, Under Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of Local Government, Chandigarh.

#### -2-



Shri Rohit Sabharwal, # 126, Model Town, Ludhiana-141002.

....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Chief Vigilance Officer Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

# First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.632 of 2022

Present:(i)Appellant- absent.(ii)Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Department and Shri Navdeep<br/>Sharma, Chief Sanitary Inspector, O/o Director,Local Govt., Punjab,<br/>Chandigarh -in person.

# ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 21.10.2021 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 01.12.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 27.01.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rohit Sabaharwal, appellant has not come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. However, the representative of the appellant Mrs. Sukhjinder Kaur has sent written submission by e.mail dated 13.09.2022 expressing dis-satisfaction over the reply given by the PIO.

3. Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Branch O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant has sought action taken report on letter dated 08.09.2021 issued by office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab. He

#### AC No.632/2022

further states that the complaint made regarding works got executed by B&R Branch of Municipal Corporation was entrusted to Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana from whom report has been received and the said enquiry report is still under process and any decision taken at the Govt. level after final action on the report will be sent to the appellant. He further states that reply to this effect has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 10.06.2022.

4. The representative of the appellant is contacted on mobile phone and asked to attend the hearing through cisco webex. She refers to the submissions made by e.mail. Then, she is made to talk to Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent who explains to her the position regarding the enquiry report and that unless enquiry report is finalized, it cannot be provided to the appellant. The representative of appellant agrees and requests the Bench to direct the PIO to send a copy of the action taken report as and when the enquiry report is finalized.

4. As per request made by the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to supply requisite information to the appellant as and when the enquiry report is finalised.

5. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Shri Rohit Sabharwal, # 126, Model Town, Ludhiana-141002.

....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Chief Vigilance Officer Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

### AC No.2854 of 2022

Present:(i)Appellant- absent.(ii)Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Department, O/o Director,<br/>Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh -in person.

#### ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 05.03.2022 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 12.04.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 17.06.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rohit Sabaharwal, appellant has not come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. However, the representative of the appellant Mrs. Sukhjinder Kaur has sent written submission by e.mail dated 13.09.2022 whereby she has denied to have received reply in this appeal case.

3. Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Branch O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant has sought action taken report on his complaint dated 16.10.2021 read with his complaint dated 01.08.2020



#### AC No.2854/2022

regarding non disposal of complaints by the Chief Vigilance Officer, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab. He further states that the information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 30.03.2022 and again on 04.09.2022 informing that a number of complaints have been disposed off and that weekly meetings are held with regard to disposal of such complaints.

4. The representative of the appellant is contacted on mobile phone and asked to attend the hearing through cisco webex. She refers to the submissions made by e.mail. Then, she is made to talk to Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent who explains to her the position regarding the action taken report on the complaint of the appellant. The representative of appellant agrees and requests the Bench to direct the PIO to send copies of the letters referred to above.

4. As per request made by the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to supply copies of the aforesaid letters to the appellant on WhatsApp number of Smt. Sukhjinder Kaur. Then, on the asking of the Bench, she confirms receipt of copies of the letters.

5. In view of the above, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Pundo of the Information Con-

Shri Rohit Sabharwal, # 126, Model Town, Ludhiana-141002.

....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Chief Vigilance Officer Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.2468 of 2022

<u>Present:</u> (i) Appellant- absent. (ii) Shri Rajiv Saggar, Su

) Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Department, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh -in person.

# ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 14.12.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on25. 01.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 27.01.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rohit Sabaharwal, appellant has not come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. However, the representative of the appellant Mrs. Sukhjinder Kaur has sent written submission by e.mail dated 13.09.2022 expressing dis-satisfaction over the reply given by the PIO.

3. Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Branch O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant has sought action taken report on his complaint dated 23.08.2021. He further states that appellant had already been informed vide letter dated 14.02.2021 that the enquiry into the complaint has not been finalized and as such, information cannot be supplied under Section 8(1)(h) of the RTI Act. He further states that the

appellant was called during first appeal by First Appellate Authority on 17.02.2022 and then, on 31.03.2022 but he did not come present to attend the hearing.

4. The representative of the appellant is contacted on mobile phone and asked to attend the hearing through cisco webex. She refers to the submissions made by e.mail. Then, she is made to talk to Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent who explains to her the position regarding the enquiry report and that unless enquiry report is not finalized, it cannot be provided to the appellant. The representative of appellant agrees and requests the Bench to direct the PIO to send copy of the action taken report as and when the enquiry report is finalized.

4. As per request made by the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to supply requisite information to the appellant as and when the enquiry report is finalised.

With the aforesaid directions, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.
Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Shri Rohit Sabharwal, # 126, Model Town, Ludhiana-141002.

....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

### AC No.2466 of 2022

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) Shri Sukhdev Singh, Superintendent/PIO and Shri Mandeep Kamboj, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-2 Branch, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, Chandigarh -in person.

# ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 17.01.2022 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 05.03.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 19.05.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 13.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rohit Sabaharwal, appellant has not come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. However, the representative of the appellant Mrs. Sukhjinder Kaur has sent written submission by e.mail dated 13.09.2022 expressing dis-satisfaction over the reply given by the PIO.

3. Shri Sukhdev Singh, Superintendent and Shri Mandeep Kamboj O/o Addl.Chief Secretary, Local Government, Punjab come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Mandeep Kamboj states that the appellant has sought action taken report on his complaint dated 29.128.2022 regarding non-deposit of Measurement Books by the officials of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.



#### AC No.2466/2022

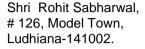
He further states that reply has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 01.06.2022 and 07.09.2022 stating that since the matter regarding complaint of appellant is still under consideration of the Govt., as such, the department is unable to supply this information to the appellant.

4. The representative of the appellant is contacted on mobile phone and asked to attend the hearing through cisco webex. She refers to the submissions made by e.mail. Then, she is made to talk to Shri Mandeep Kamboj, Senior Assistant who explains to her the position regarding the pendency of enquiry at the level of Municipal Corporation and no enquiry report has been received, it cannot be provided to the appellant. The representative of appellant agrees and requests the Bench to direct the PIO to send copy of the letter written to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana in this regard.

5. As per request made by the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to supply copy of letter written to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana to the appellant within next ten days.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



The PSiC South Constants

....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Chief Vigilance Officer Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Director, Deptt. Of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

#### AC No.2908 of 2022

# Present:(i)Appellant- absent.(ii)Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Department, O/o Director,<br/>Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh -in person.

#### ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 21.03.2022 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 28.04.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 17.06.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Rohit Sabaharwal, appellant has not come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. However, the representative of the appellant Mrs. Sukhjinder Kaur has sent written submission by e.mail dated 13.09.2022 whereby she has expressed dis-satisfaction over reply in this appeal case.

3. Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Branch O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant has sought action taken report on his complaint dated 27.08.2021 regarding non compliance of order dated 04.08.20214 of the Chief Secretary, Punjab regarding preparation and maintenance of agreed list by office

#### AC No.2908/2022

of Chief Vigilance Officer, Department of Local Govt., Punjab. He states that reply has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 09.09.2022 to the effect that preparation of the Agreed List is under consideration of the Govt. of Punjab and the information can only be provided to appellant after decision at the level of Govt. is taken.

4. The representative of the appellant is contacted on mobile phone and asked to attend the hearing through cisco webex. She refers to the submissions made by e.mail. Then, she is made to talk to Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent who explains to her the position regarding the pendency of matter at the Govt. level. The representative of appellant agrees and requests the Bench to direct the PIO to provide information to the appellant as and when a decision is taken by the Government.

4. As per request made by the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO to provide the requisite information to the appellant as and when a decision is taken at the Govt. level in this case.

5. In view of the above, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

PSiC State Mormation

Shri Gurdev Singh, S/o Shri Pooran Singh R/o Village Jamalpur, Tehsil Baba Bakala Sahib, District Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Executive Engineer(Operational), Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar.

### **First Appellate Authority**

O/o Chief Engineer, Border Zone, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Amritsar.

...Respondents

#### AC No.3155/2022

# Present:(i)Shri Gurdev Singh, Appellant in person.(ii)Shri Ravinder Singh, AEE and Sh. Nirmal Singh, Jr. Engineer,<br/>O/o XEN, PSPCL Division,Rayya, District Amritsar,<br/>on behalf of PIO/Respondent- in person.

#### <u>ORDER</u>

1. The RTI application is dated 30.07.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application in Complaint Case No.05 of 2022. The same was remanded back to First Appellate Authority vide order dated 09.03.2022 to treat the RTI as First Appeal. However, not receiving hearing from the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) has approached the Commission by filing the second appeal to the Commission on 05.07.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022 in Commission's Office at Chandigarh. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Gurdev Singh, complainant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.

3. Shri Ravinder Singh, AEE and Sh. Nirmal Singh, Jr. Engineer O/o Executive Engineer(Operational), Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Ravinder Singh states that point wise reply has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 10.01.2022, 30.03.2022 and on 12.09.2022 by hand.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant expresses dis-satisfaction over the information supplied by the PIO. He alleges that the previous J.E. had taken money from four house owner of his locality and then installed the transformer for electricity supply to their houses, however, no receipts have been made available to them by the said J.E. for the money paid to him. He also alleges that from this transformer, electricity supply is given to another person un-authorisedly which results in interruption of power supply to their houses frequently.

5. The representative of the PIO denies the allegations made by the appellant and also shows the map to the Bench where the transformer has been got installed by the said J.E. Shri Amarjit Singh. They state that there is no such problem and the electricity load is within the capacity of the transformer and no money has exchanged hands and the allegation of corruption made by the appellant is not correct.

6. The Bench, on hearing the version of the appellant and the representatives of PIO, observes that the information has been adequately supplied to the appellant and the appellant has only grievance against PSPL Rayya Division, the redressal of which is executive action at the level of authorities of the PSPCL. The Bench, however, observes that the appellant has been made to run from pillar to post for the redressal of his grievance, as such, the Bench feels that it is a just case for the award of compensation and awards a compensation of Rs.5,000/-(Rupees Five thousand only) to the appellant. The compensation amount must be paid by the respondent PIO O/o XEN PSPCL, Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar through cheque or demand draft in favour of Gurdev Singh from the account of the public authority and not from the individual's account. He is also directed to send a photocopy of the cheque or draft to the Commission.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the appeal case is disposed off and closed.** However, as regard the part of the orders relating to payment of compensation to the appellant, the Deputy Registrar shall monitor and ensure that the directions of the Bench are complied with. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

# Chandigarh 14.09.2022

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

AC No.3155/2022

Copy to (By Regd. Post): Deputy Registrar, PSIC, Chandigarh for necessary action, as above.

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Shri Gurdev Singh, S/o Shri Pooran Singh R/o Village Jamalpur, Tehsil Baba Bakala Sahib, District Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

### **Public Information Officer**

O/o Executive Engineer(Operational), Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar.

### **First Appellate Authority**

O/o Chief Engineer, Border Zone, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Amritsar.

...Respondents

## AC No.3156/2022

# Present:(i)Shri Gurdev Singh, Appellant in person.(ii)Shri Ravinder Singh, AEE and Sh. Nirmal Singh, Jr. Engineer,<br/>O/o XEN, PSPCL Division,Rayya, District Amritsar,<br/>on behalf of PIO/Respondent- in person.

# <u>ORDER</u>

1. The RTI application is dated 30.07.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application in Complaint Case No.06 of 2022. The same was remanded back to First Appellate Authority vide order dated 16.03.2022 to treat the RTI as First Appeal. However, not receiving hearing from the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) has approached the Commission by filing the second appeal to the Commission on 05.07.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022 in Commission's Office at Chandigarh. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Gurdev Singh, complainant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.

3. Shri Ravinder Singh, AEE and Sh. Nirmal Singh, Jr. Engineer O/o Executive Engineer(Operational), Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Ravinder Singh states that point wise reply has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 10.01.2022, 30.03.2022 and on 12.09.2022 by hand.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant expresses dis-satisfaction over the information supplied by the PIO. He alleges that the previous J.E. had taken money from four house owner of his locality and then installed the transformer for electricity supply to their houses, however, no receipts have been made available to them by the said J.E. for the money paid to him. He also alleges that from this transformer, electricity supply is given to another person un-authorisedly which results in interruption of power supply to their houses frequently.

5. The representative of the PIO denies the allegations made by the appellant and also shows the map to the Bench where the transformer has been got installed by the said J.E. Shri Amarjit Singh. They state that there is no such problem and the electricity load is within the capacity of the transformer and no money has exchanged hands and the allegation of corruption made by the appellant is not correct.

6. The Bench, on hearing the version of the appellant and the representatives of PIO, observes that the information has been adequately supplied to the appellant and the appellant has only grievance against PSPL Rayya Division, the redressal of which is executive action at the level of authorities of the PSPCL. The Bench, however, observes that the appellant has been made to run from pillar to post for the redressal of his grievance, as such, the Bench feels that it is a just case for the award of compensation and awards a compensation of Rs.5,000/-(Rupees Five thousand only) to the appellant. The compensation amount must be paid by the respondent PIO O/o XEN PSPCL, Rayya Division, Beas, District Amritsar through cheque or demand draft in favour of Gurdev Singh from the account of the public authority and not from the individual's account. He is also directed to send a photocopy of the cheque or draft to the Commission.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the appeal case is disposed off and closed.** However, as regard the part of the orders relating to payment of compensation to the appellant, the Deputy Registrar shall monitor and ensure that the directions of the Bench are complied with. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

# Chandigarh 14.09.2022

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

AC No.3156/2022

Copy to (By Regd. Post): Deputy Registrar, PSIC, Chandigarh for necessary action, as above.

-2-

Shri Tarun Rishi S/o Shri Varinder Rishi, R/o B-34-10897, Street No.5, Raghuvir Park, Haibowal Kalan, Ludhiana-141001.

Versus

....Appellant

**Public Information Officer** 

O/o Secretary, Local Government,Punjab, Chandigarh.

# First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.2404 of 2021

# Present:(i)Appellant- absent.(ii)Shri Jasbir Singh, Superintendent /PIO and Shri Akhtar Hussain, Sr. Asstt.<br/>Local Govt.-3 Branch,O /o Addl.Chief Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab,<br/>Chandigarh- in person.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg

has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Tarun Rishi, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.

3. Shri Jasbir Singh, Superintendent and Shri Akhtar Hussain, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, O/o Addl. Chief Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Akhtar Hussain states that the appellant has sought information regarding the promotions and DPC meetings held in this regard in respect of Executive Officers of different Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats as also the CDC charge given. He further states that the requisite information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 10.11.2021 and also produces an affidavit to this effect before the Bench.



#### AC No.2404/2022

4. The Bench observes that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> hearing in the appeal case. The appellant is absent for the second consecutive hearing. To know about the version of appellant in this regard, the Bench makes efforts to contact the appellant on his given mobile phone. However, the phone is picked up by another person who shows his ignorance about the appeal case.

5. The Bench on examining the contents of RTI application, the information supplied vide letter dated 10.11.2021 as well as the contents of affidavit, is convinced that adequate information stands supplied to the appellant.

6. In view of the above, the Bench is not inclined to proceed further in the matter. As such,, **the appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Shri Tarun Rishi S/o Shri Varinder Rishi, R/o B-34-10897, Street No.5, Raghuvir Park, Haibowal Kalan, Ludhiana-141001.

Versus

....Appellant

Public Information Officer O/o Secretary, Local Government,Punjab, Chandigarh.

# First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

#### AC No.2403 of 2021

Present:(i)Appellant- absent.(ii)Shri Jasbir Singh, Superintendent /PIO and Shri Akhtar Hussain, Sr. Asstt.<br/>Local Govt.-3 Branch,O /o Addl.Chief Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab,<br/>Chandigarh- in person.

## ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has

been heard today. Shri Tarun Rishi, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.

3. Shri Jasbir Singh, Superintendent and Shri Akhtar Hussain, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, O/o Addl. Chief Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Akhtar Hussain states that the appellant has sought information regarding the seniority list of Superintendent Grade-2 and Executive Officers of different Municipal Councils, Nagar Panchayats. He further states that the seniority list of only Executive Officers as per letter received from Director, Local Govt., Punjab,has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 10.11.2021 and also produces an affidavit to this effect before the Bench.

#### AC No.2403/2022

4. The Bench observes that this is the 6<sup>th</sup> hearing in the appeal case. The appellant is absent for the second consecutive hearing. To know about the version of appellant in this regard, the Bench makes efforts to contact the appellant on his given mobile phone. However, the phone is picked up by another person who shows his ignorance about the appeal case.

5. The Bench on examining the contents of RTI application, the information supplied vide letter dated 10.11.2021 as well as the contents of affidavit, is convinced that adequate information stands supplied to the appellant.

6. In view of the above, the Bench is not inclined to proceed further in the matter. As such,, **the appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

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

Chandigarh 14.09.2022

Shri Rajinder Kumar S/o Shri Mehar Chand Ward No.2, Supreme Enclave, Near Vishavkarma Bhawan, Link Road, Mansa-151505.



....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Director, Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.713 of 2022

# Present:(i)Shri Rajinder Kumar, Appellant- cisco webex.(ii)Shri Tarvinder Singh, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell,<br/>O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, on behalf of PIO/Respondent

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg

has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has

been heard today. Shri Rajinder Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.

3. Shri Tarvinder Singh, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, O/o Director, Local Bodies, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that the information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 04.08.2022 by registered post.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant confirms receipt of information and gives his consent to close the case.

5. In view of the above, no further cause of action is left in the matter. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

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

Chandigarh 14.09.2022



Shri Rajinder Kumar S/o Shri Mehar Chand Ward No.2, Supreme Enclave, Near Vishavkarma Bhawan, Link Road, Mansa-151505.

....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Director, Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Director, Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.712 of 2022

# Present:(i)Shri Rajinder Kumar, Appellant- cisco webex.(ii)Shri Sandeep Kumar, Senior Assistant, Establishment Branch,<br/>O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, on behalf of PIO/Respondent

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has

been heard today. Shri Rajinder Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.

3. Shri Sandeep Kumar, Senior Assistant, Establishment Brnach, O/o Director, Local Bodies,

Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that the information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 07.06.2022 by ordinary post.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant denies the receipt of information. Then he is made to talk to the representative of PIO who explains to him the details of information supplied. Then, Shri Sandeep Kumar, the respondent is directed to send copy of information by registered post as also on WhatsApp number of the appellant. The respondent makes a Pdf file of the information and forwards the same to the appellant on his WhatsApp number in the presence of the Bench. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he wants to go through the information supplied.

# AC No.712/2022

5. The Bench apprises that the Bench has examined the contents of the information supplied and finds the same in order and further apprises that a copy of the same will also be sent along with the order.

6. With the aforesaid directions to the PIO, the appeal case is disposed off and closed.Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Shri Nand Kishore S/o Shri Sardari Lal, R/o #716, Hargobind Nagar, Phagwara, District Kapurthala.

....Appellant

Versus

# Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

# First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.2366 of 2022

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent , Vigilance Branch O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh in person.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Nand Kishore, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex, without any intimation to the Commission.

3. Shri Rajiv Saggar, Superintendent, Vigilance Branch, O/o Directorate of Local Govt., Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that with regard to the complaint made by the appellant, an enquiry was initiated and matter being under investigation, the appellant was denied information under Section 8(1)(h) of RTI Act, vide letter dated 19.01.2022. He further states that as per report received form Executive Officer, Improvement Trust, Phagwara, it has been



#### AC No.2366/2022

decided that no action is required to be taken by Vigilance Branch as the matter involved in the complaint of appellant is an administrative matter and accordingly, the complaint has been sent to Superintendent, Local Govt.-2 Branch for filing the complaint and considering the matter as closed.

4. The Bench observes that the appellant is absent for today's hearing without any intimation to the Commission. He is contacted on mobile phone. However, the phone call is not responded and then, the phone is switched off. He has also not responded back thereafter.

5. The Bench, on hearing the version of the representative of PIO and also on perusing the letter dated 24.08.2022 addressed to the Commission, is convinced that adequate information has been supplied to the appellant.

6. In view of the aforesaid, the Bench does not feel need for further intervention in the matter.As such, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

# Chandigarh 14.09.2022

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post)

PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-2 Branch O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

-2-



Shri Nand Kishore S/o Shri Sardari Lal, R/o #716, Hargobind Nagar, Phagwara, District Kapurthala.

....Appellant

Versus

# **Public Information Officer**

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.2912 of 2022

Present:	(i)	Appellant- absent.
	(ii)	None on behalf of the PIO/ Respondent.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Nand Kishore, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex without any intimation to the Commission.

3. Neither the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab has come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor any representative has been deputed to attend the hearing. The Bench, however, observes on perusal of case file that a letter dated 29.07.2022 is available whereby the appellant was called for inspection of records by the Superintendent, Local Govt.-2 Branch. But there has been no response from the appellant regarding inspection of records.

4. The Bench observes that the appellant is absent for today's hearing without any intimation to the Commission. He is contacted on mobile phone. However, the phone call is not responded and then, the phone is switched off. He has also not responded back thereafter.

5. The Bench has no option but to conclude that the appellant is not interested in pursuing the appeal case further. Thus, the Bench is not inclined to proceed further in the matter.

6. In view of the aforesaid, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post)

PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-2 Branch O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

Shri Kuldip Kumar, H.No.3261, Rattan Singh Chowk, Fatehgarh Churian Road, Amritsar-143001.

....Appellant

PSIC

Versus

**Public Information Officer** 

O/o Director, Department of Local Govt., Sector-35, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** 

O/o Principal Secretary, Deptt. Of Local Government, Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

# AC No.2680 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Kuldip Kumar, Appellant- cisco webex.

- (ii) Shri Puneet Gill, Senior Assistant O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, in person.
- (iii) Shri Paramjit Singh, Junior Assistant, Improvement Trust, Amritsar.
- (iv) Shri Harpal Singh, APIO, Trust Services Cell, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, in person.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg

has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Kuldip Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.

3. Shri Puneet Gill, Senior Assistant O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, come present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. Shri Harpal Singh, APIO, Trust Services Cell, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, comes present in person before the Bench. He states that the RTI application was transferred to PIO O/o Improvement Trust, Amritsar vide letter dated 07.03.2021. Shri Paramjit Singh, Junior Assistant, Improvement Trust, Amritsar comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 01.09.2022 by registered post.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant denies the receipt of information. Then he is made to talk to Shri Paramjit Singh, representative of PIO, Improvement Trust, Amritsar who explains to him the details of information supplied. He also states that the tender referred to in RTI application was cancelled and no work was executed as such on ground.

5. The Bench, on examining the documents produced by the representative of PIO before the Bench and hearing the version of the representative of PIO, is convinced that adequate information stands supplied to the appellant.

6. In view of the above, the Bench is not inclined to proceed further in the matter. As such,the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

# Chandigarh 14.09.2022

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

# Copy to (By Regd. Post)

- i) Public Information Officer O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.
- ii) PIO, Trust Services Cell, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.
- iii) PIO O/o Improvement Trust, Amritsar.

A B T JUST ARAIN

ShriJagdeep Singh S/o Shri Boota Singh, Village Uppal Kheri, PO Haider Nagar, Tehsil & Distt. Malerkotla-148023.

....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Director, Local Govt. Department, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Secretary, Local Government Deptt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

### AC No.2530 of 2022

# Present:(i)Shri Jagdeep Singh, Appellant- in person.(ii)Smt. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent and Shri Soni, Clerk, Recruitment Cell,<br/>O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, in person.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has

been heard today. Shri Jagdeep Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.

3. Smt. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent, Recruitment Cell O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,Chandigarh, comes present in person before the Bench. She states that the information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 18.02.2022 by registered post. She further explains that the appellant wants to know the reasons as to why he has not been appointed under Handicapped category against Advertisement dated 28.05.2019 and public notice dated 31.05.2019 issued for recruitment in the Municipal Corporations, Municipal Councils and Nagar Panchayats in the State. The appellant belongs to Orthopedically Handicapped category, however, since there was no post in this category, as such, the appointment of the appellant could not be made. Copy of letter is also handed over to the appellant relating to the information sought vide his RTI application. Cont...P-2

#### AC No.2530/2022

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant expresses his dis-satisfaction over the information supplied. Then the Bench directs Smt. Sunita Sharma to sit in the adjacent court room and explain in detail the position regarding the information supplied to him. Thereafter, Smt. Sunita Sharma comes present before the Bench along with the appellant. She states that she has tried her best to make the appellant understand the factual position but he is not ready to accept the position explained to him. She further states that the appellant requests that hard copy of information which is available on website of department may be supplied to him. The Bench directs the PIO to send a hard copy of the information to the appellant as desired by him.

5. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO O/o Director, Local Government (Recruitment Cell), Punjab, Chandigarh to file an affidavit on non judicial stamp paper, within 21 (Twenty one) duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public to the effect that the information as available in the official records in AC No.2530/2022 has been supplied vide letter dated 18.02.2022 to the appellant. It be also stated that the appellant was also allowed inspection of relevant records. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the statement made is true and correct. Original affidavit be sent to the appellant and copy of the same be sent to the Commission for record.

With the aforesaid directions, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.
Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 14.09.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to (By Regd. Post)

PIO, Superintendent, Recruitment Cell, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

Ms. Asha Rani R/o MCBZ-06-05949,Street No.30/1, Backside Vishavkarma Mandir Partap Nagar, Bathinda.

....Appellant

PSIC

Versus

**Public Information Officer** O/o Bathinda Development Authority, Bathinda.

**First Appellate Authority** O/o Bathinda Development Authority, Bathinda.

....Respondents

# AC No.3148 of 2022

# Present:(i)Advocate Varun Bansal, on behalf of the Appellant-cisco webex.(ii)Shri Arvind, Clerk O/o Bathinda Development Authority, Bathinda,<br/>on behalf of the PIO/ Respondent- in person.

# ORDER:

1. The above said appeal case which was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg has been reallocated to Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 12.07.2022.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 14.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Varun Bansal, Advocate, comes present through cisco webex to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant, as per authority letter sent by the appellant by e.mail.

3. Shri Arvind, Clerk, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the appellant has sought information in respect of house which is in the name of her father. The consent of person concerned Shri Manmohan Singh, father of the appellant was sought in this regard. He has refused permission to share his information. The appellant filed first appeal and the said person had also refused permission to share his information, being third party and personal information, regarding which the First Appellate Authority was also apprised, who rejected the appeal of appellant. Accordingly, the appellant was denied information vide letter dated 21.06.2022 being personal and third party information.

#### AC No.3148/2022

4. On the asking of the Bench, the representative of appellant states that the appellant has sought information in respect of house in the name of her father and wants to know as to whether this house was transferred in his name after the death of her mother on the basis of WILL or not and justifies the demand of information by the appellant.

5. The Bench is not in agreement with the contention of representative of the appellant and is convinced that the appellant has been rightly denied information and upholds the decision of the PIO as well as First Appellate Authority.

6. In view of the aforesaid, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

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

Chandigarh 14.09.2022