

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**



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Shri Gurneet Singh
H.No.31/75A, Garden Colony,
Near GTB Nagar, Jalandhar-144003.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

Assistant Public Information Officer

O/o Estate Officer,
Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Estate Officer,
Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

...Respondents

AC No.1552/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Gurneet Singh, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health/PIO, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar, in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 19.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Gurneet Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
3. Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. He reiterates his version as made during previous hearing and states that the appellant was called for inspection of records two three times but he has not turned up to do so.
4. The appellant Shri Gurneet Singh contends the version of PIO and states that the statement of PIO is contrary to what is existing at site and states that there are total 333 such sites in the said colony on which constructions have been raised. He also emphasises that his RTI application is of August, 2021, whereas certain facilities were transferred to Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar after October, 2021 and that he being denied information under Section 2(f) and 7(9) of RTI Act, is unjust and incorrect.



-2-

AC No.1552/2022

5. On the asking of the Bench, the PIO states that the said reply was given on the basis of inputs provided by the APIO O/o Estate Officer, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar. As such, the APIO O/o Estate Officer, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar is impleaded as respondent No.2.

6. Post deliberations, the PIO O/o Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar is directed to call the appellant to his office and allow the appellant access to the relevant records. The APIO O/o Estate Officer, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar is directed to associate with the PIO to facilitate the appellant inspection of the relevant records. After the appellant identifies the information on inspection of the records, the PIO is directed to provide point wise information to the appellant before the next hearing. The Bench directs the PIO O/o J.D.A. and the APIO O/o Estate Officer, J.D.A. Jalandhar and the appellant to come present in person to attend hearing on the next date.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

Assistant Public Information Officer
O/o Estate Officer,
Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

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Shri Gurneet Singh
H.No.31/75A, Garden Colony,
Near GTB Nagar, Jalandhar-144003.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Estate Officer,
Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

...Respondents

AC No.1556/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Gurneet Singh, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health/PIO, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar/PIO, in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 19.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Gurneet Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
3. Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. He states that the appellant has already been supplied point-wise information vide letters dated 27.08.2021 and vide letter dated 13.09.2022 and that certain points do not pertain to J.D.A. Jalandhar and hence, information could not be provided. He also contends that information sought on certain points is in question form and is not specific and hence has not been provided. He also states that the work relating to water/ sewerage has been transferred to Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar.
4. The appellant Shri Gurneet Singh contends the version of PIO and states that the statement of PIO is contrary to what is existing at site and states that there are total 333 such sites in the said colony on which constructions have been raised. He also emphasises that his RTI application is of August, 2021, whereas certain facilities such as water & sewerage were transferred to Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar after October, 2021 and he is being denied information which is unjust and incorrect.



-2-

AC No.1556/2022

5. Post deliberations, the PIO O/o Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar is directed to call the appellant to his office and allow the appellant access to the relevant records. After the appellant identifies the information on inspection of the records, the PIO is directed to provide point wise information to the appellant before the next hearing. The Bench directs the PIO O/o J.D.A. and the appellant to come present in person to attend hearing on the next date.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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

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Shri Jatinder Kumar
C/o Sachkhand Mishthan Bhandar,
Nehru Gate, Nawanshahar.
M-98723241111.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

AC No.3465/2022

Present: (i) **Appellant- absent.**
(ii) **Shri Manoj Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, on behalf of the PIO/ Respondent- in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jatinder Kumar, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing either in person before the Bench or through cisco webex. He has, however, sent an e.mail dated 14.11.2022 stating that he has not received any information and that he is unable to attend the hearing due to a family function.
3. Shri Manoj Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the appellant visited their office on 11.11.2022 on their asking for inspection of records. However, the appellant left the office without inspection of the records saying that he has to go back due to ill health of his wife.
- 4, The PIO is directed to call the appellant again to his office and allow him access to the relevant records. The appellant, after inspection of records, will identify the information and the same will be provided by the PIO before the next hearing, duly authenticated.

Cont...P-2



-2-

AC No.3465/2022

5. The Bench again directs the PIO and the appellant to come present in person to attend hearing before the Bench and put forth their version before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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

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Shri Jatinder Kumar
C/o Sachkhand Mishthan Bhandar,
Nehru Gate, Nawanshahar.
M-98723241111.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

AC No.3464/2022

Present: (i) **Appellant- absent.**
(ii) **Shri Manoj Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, on behalf of the PIO/ Respondent- in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jatinder Kumar, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing either in person before the Bench or through cisco webex. He has, however, sent an e.mail dated 14.11.2022 stating that he has not received any information and that he is unable to attend the hearing due to a family function.
3. Shri Manoj Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the appellant visited their office on 11.11.2022 on their asking for inspection of records. However, the appellant left the office without inspection of the records saying that he has to go back due to ill health of his wife.
- 4, The PIO is directed to call the appellant again to his office and allow him access to the relevant records. The appellant, after inspection of records, will identify the information and the same will be provided by the PIO before the next hearing, duly authenticated.

Cont...P-2



-2-

AC No.3464/2022

5. The Bench again directs the PIO and the appellant to come present in person to attend hearing before the Bench and put forth their version before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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



Shri Rohit Sabharwal,
Kundan Bhawan, 126, Model Gram,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer,
O/o Superintendent, RTI (HQs),
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Commissioner, MC,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No. 2919 of 2020

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.
(ii) Shri Sanjeev Uppal, Superintendent, Tehbazari Branch, Zone-C,
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana- in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference to the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The appellant Shri Rohit Sabharwal or his representative Ms. Sukhjinder Kaur have not come present to attend the hearing either in person or through cisco webex.. However, an e.mail dated 12.11.2022 has been received from Ms. Sukhjinder Kaur stating that no information has been supplied to the Appellant and that the appellant be exempted from personal appearance for the hearing.
3. Shri Sanjeev Uppal, Superintendent, Tehbazari Branch, Zone-C, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that the information has been brought along by him and requests for perusal of the same.
4. On the asking of the Bench, as to whether reply to show cause notice has been filed and the penalty amount of Rs.15,000/- has been deposited. He replies in negative which is viewed adversely. He also shows ignorance about the manner in which the said amount of penalty has to be deposited. Then the staff of the Bench shows him the order dated 31.05.2021 wherein the head of account is mentioned in which the penalty is to be deposited. As per his request, the same is again given here under for his reference:-

-0070-Other Administrative Services-60-Other Services

-0800-Other Receipts-86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2004.

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2919/2020

5. The Bench does not accede to the request of the PIO –cum- Superintendent, Shri Sanjeev Uppal O/o Municipal Corporation, Tehbzari Branch, Ludhiana to peruse the information brought along by him and the PIO is directed to send the same to the appellant by registered post, to file reply to the show cause notice as also to deposit the amount of penalty Rs.15,000/- and produce the evidence for having deposited the penalty into Government Treasury, before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
14.11.2022

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

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Shri Rohit Sabharwal,
Kundan Bhawan,
126, Model Gram,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Greater Ludhiana Area
Development Authority, (GLADA),
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o The Greater Ludhiana Area
Development Authority, (GLADA),
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No. 1766 of 2021

Present:

- (i) Appellant- absent.
(ii) Shri Ashok Kumar, Assistant Estate Officer/APIO, and Shri Narinder Singh, Senior Assistant O/o GLADA, Ludhiana- in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing..
2. The appellant Shri Rohit Sabharwal or his representative Ms. Sukhjinder Kaur have not come present to attend the hearing either in person or through cisco webex.. However, an e.mail dated 12.11.2022 has been received from Ms. Sukhjinder Kaur stating that no information has been supplied to the Appellant and that the appellant be exempted from personal appearance for the hearing.
3. Shri Ashok Kumar, AEO/APIO and Shri Narinder Singh, Clerk O/o GLADA, Ludhiana come present in person before the Bench. Shri Narinder Singh produces before the Bench letter dated 10.11.2022 stating that the information has already been provided to the appellant vide letters dated 23.05.2022, 03.06.2021, 15.02.2021, 11.02.2021, 04.01.2021 and 10.12.2020. He also clarifies the position with regard to calling the appellant for inspection of records.
4. The representative of the appellant Ms. Sukhjinder Kaur is contacted on mobile phone. In spite of various attempts made to contact her, she does not respond to the phone calls.
5. Post deliberation, the Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow the appellant access to the official records relating to the complaint referred to in RTI application and provide information as identified after inspection of records, to the Appellant before the next hearing.

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.1766/2021

5. The PIO concerned is directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing positively bringing along the information supplied and related documents as also to submit a reply to the show cause notice. The appellant is also directed to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **Both the parties are directed to come up for hearing on 06.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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

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Shri Pardeep Preenja,
S/o Shri Om Parkash,
H. No. 60, Street Number 01,
Nehru Colony, Majitha Road,
Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No. 2368 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Pardeep Preenja- appellant- in person.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference to the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing..
2. The case has been heard today. The Appellant, Shri Pardeep Preenja comes present in person before the Bench and states that he has been provided a copy of letter dated 29.04.2022 which was given to him earlier and he has not been provided the remaining information and the position remains the same as stated during the previous hearing.
3. The PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has neither come present to attend the hearing in person nor through cisco webex nor he has sent any intimation in this regard.
4. The Bench observes that the PIO has absented himself for the second consecutive hearing and a penalty of Rs.5000/- was imposed on him during the last hearing. He has, however, failed to comply with the directions of the Bench as he has neither filed reply to show cause notice nor the amount of penalty has been deposited and the position still remains the same. **The Bench is constrained to issue Bailable Warrant to the PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next date of hearing.**
5. The Bench again directs the PIO concerned to supply information on point No.1 & 3 as available in official records to the Appellant with a copy to the Commission before the next hearing. The PIO is also directed to come present for the next hearing in person and also to produce evidence for having depositing the penalty into the Government Treasury, before the Bench.
6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
14.11.2022

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

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Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma,
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,
Pratap Bazar, Chheharta,
District Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No. 2773 of 2022

Present:

- (i) Shri Suresh Sharma, appellant, in person.
- (ii) Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar- in person.
- (iii) Shri Manmeet Singh, Urban Designer (on contract) and Shri Rajat Dhawan, Junior Engineer (on contract) from Amritsar Smart City - in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference of the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. The Appellant, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma comes present in person before the Bench and states that partial information has been supplied to him and deficiencies have been pointed out to the respondent.
3. Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar comes present in person before the Bench and produces before the Bench authority letter which is taken on record. He states that the information, after removing deficiencies, has been brought along for handing over to the appellant.
4. On the asking of this Bench, he explains to the Bench information provided on each point of the RTI application. The appellant, however, expresses dis-satisfaction on certain points. Then the Bench directs Shri Karan Kumar and the appellant to sit together in the adjoining Court room. Shri Karan Kumar is directed to show and explain information brought on each point to the appellant and then to report back to the Bench.
5. Post meeting by the appellant and respondents, the appellant points out that information is not attested and copies of MBs are not legible and that only blank tender notice has been provided whereas the tender submitted by the contractor should have been provided. He also points out that bank guarantee has not been provided.
6. The respondent states that tender notice, as asked for, has been provided and that the copy of bank guarantee cannot be provided. Then the appellant states that the amount of bank guarantee as also whether it has been realised or not be apprised to him.

Cont..P-2

7. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO concerned to supply attested copy of the information, legible copies of MBs as also to intimate the amount of Bank guarantee and date of its realisation. He is also directed to appear in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
14.11.2022

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

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Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma,
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,
Pratap Bazar, Chheharta,
District Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o The Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No. 2774 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Suresh Sharma, appellant, in person.
(ii) Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar- in person.
(iii) Shri Manmeet Singh, Urban Designer (on contract) and Shri Rajat Dhawan, Junior Engineer (on contract) from Amritsar Smart City - in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference of the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. The Appellant, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma comes present in person before the Bench and states that partial information has been supplied to him and deficiencies have been pointed out to the respondent.
3. Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar comes present in person before the Bench and produces before the Bench authority letter which is taken on record. He states that the information, after removing deficiencies, has been brought along for handing over to the appellant.
4. On the asking of this Bench, he explains to the Bench information provided on each point of RTI application. The appellant, however, expresses dis-satisfaction on certain points. Then the Bench directs Shri Karan Kumar and the appellant to sit together in the adjoining Court room. Shri Karan Kumar is directed to show and explain information brought on each point to the appellant and then to report back to the Bench.
5. Post meeting by the appellant and respondents, the appellant states that information has been received by him. He, however, needs some additional time to go through the documents and point out deficiencies to the PIO.
6. The request of the appellant is acceded to and he is advised to point out deficiencies to the PIO expeditiously and the PIO will remove the said deficiencies and provide rectified information to the appellant before the next hearing.

7. The appellant as well as the PIO are directed to appear in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
14.11.2022**

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

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Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma,
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,
Pratap Bazar, Chheharta,
District Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o The Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Municipal Corporation,
Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No. 2775 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Suresh Sharma, appellant, in person.
(ii) Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar- in person.
(iii) Shri Manmeet Singh, Urban Designer (on contract) and Shri Rajat Dhawan, Junior Engineer (on contract) from Amritsar Smart City - in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference of the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. The Appellant, Shri Suresh Kumar Sharma comes present in person before the Bench and states that partial information has been supplied to him and deficiencies have been pointed out to the respondent.
3. Shri Karan Kumar, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar comes present in person before the Bench and produces before the Bench authority letter which is taken on record. He states that the information, after removing deficiencies, has been brought along for handing over to the appellant.
4. On the asking of this Bench, he explains to the Bench information provided on each point of RTI application. The appellant, however, expresses dis-satisfaction on certain points. Then the Bench directs Shri Karan Kumar and the appellant to sit together in the adjoining Court room. Shri Karan Kumar is directed to show and explain information brought on each point to the appellant and then to report back to the Bench.
5. Post meeting by the appellant and respondents, the appellant points out that information is not attested and copies of MBs are not legible.
6. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO concerned to supply attested copy of the information, legible copies of Measurement Books to the appellant before the next hearing. He is also directed to appear in person before the Bench on the next hearing.
8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
14.11.2022

Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
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Shri Mohit Kamboj,
S/o Shri Daulat Ram,
R/o Main Idgah Road,
Abohar, District Fazilka.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation Abohar,
District Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation Abohar,
District Fazilka.

....Respondents

AC No. 2729 of 2022

Present: (i) **Shri Mohit Kamboj, appellant- in person.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference to the order dated 29.09.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. The Appellant, Shri Mohit Kamboj comes present in person before the Bench and states that he has not been provided any information by the PIO.
3. Neither the PIO 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 the PIO.
4. The Bench observes that the PIO has absented himself for the third consecutive hearing and he has also not sent any intimation in this regard nor he has supplied information to the appellant. This indifferent attitude and casual approach of the PIO towards the directions of the Bench is viewed adversely.
5. The PIO O/o Municipal Council, Abohar, District Fazilka 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 for 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. In view of the absence of the PIO for the third consecutive hearing, **the Bench is constrained to issue Bailable Warrant to the PIO to ensure his presence before the Bench on the next hearing.** He is directed to supply information to the appellant before the next date of hearing as also to appear in person before the Bench.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To **come up for hearing on 19.12.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
14.11.2022

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

Copy to(By Regd.Post)

**Public Information Officer, O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation Abohar, District Fazilka.**