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Sh. Narpinder Singh, S/o Sh.Kulwant Singh, # 1361, Phase-10-A, Mohali.

... Complainant

Public Information Officer, O/o SDM, Talwandi Sabo, Distt.Bathinda..

...Respondent

Complaint Case No. 729 of 2020

Versus

Present: None for the Appellant

Ms.Pooja, PIO-Principal, Sri dashmesh Sr. Secondary School, Talwandi

Sabo for the Respondent

ORDER:

The complainant through RTI application dated 08.08.2020 has sought information regarding Sri Dashmesh Senior Secondary School Tanwandi Sabo – copies of quotation & bills for the coolers purchased in 2017-18 – school fee sip with full description of charges from parents for the year 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20 – small classes contract/agreement – books approved for teachers/DC-cum-Chairman and books recommended for children – attendance of principal, teaching staff and other information as enumerated in the RTI application, concerning the office of SDM Talwandi Sabo. The complainant was not provided the information after which the complainant filed a complaint in the Commission on 05.10.2020.

The case first came up for hearing on 03.03.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. Both the parties were absent.

Having gone through the file, the Commission observed that there has been an enormous delay of more than seven months in attending to the RTI application and even issue of notice by the Commission, the respondent has not appeared. The PIO was issued a **show cause notice under Section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 and directed to file reply on an affidavit.**

The PIO was again directed to provide information to the appellant within 10 days of the receipt of this order.

Hearing dated 15.06.2021:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. Ms.Pooja, Principal-Sri Dashmesh Sr.Secondary School, Talwandi Sabo is present and informed that the information has already been provided to the appellant on 30.04.2021. The respondent further informed that the RTI application was transferred by the SDM office to them and the reply was sent to the complainant on 06.10.2020.

At the last hearing, the respondent was absent. The PIO-SDM office Talwandi Sabo was issued a show cause notice for not attending to the RTI application within the time prescribed under the RTI Act and directed to file reply on an affidavit. The PIO-SDM is absent nor has sent any reply to the show cause notice.

Complaint Case No. 729 of 2020

The PIO-SDM, Talwandi Sabo is given one last opportunity to file reply to the show cause notice on an affidavit otherwise the Commission will be constrained to act against the PIO as per provisions of section 20 of the RTI Act.

To come up for further hearing on **22.09.2021 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda. The complainant to appear through VC at DAC Mohali..

Chandigarh Dated 15.06.2021

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Ms. Nippy Garg, D/o Sh.Sukhdarshan Lal Garg, # 21784, Street No-2, Shiv Mandir Colony, PowerHouse Road, Bathinda.

... Appellant

Public Information Officer,

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

First Appellate Authority,

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

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3348 of 2020

Present: Ms. Nippy Garg as the Appellant

Sh.Aman Kumar, Sr. Assistant (Establishment branch) for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case last came up for hearing on 03.03.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The respondent present pleaded that the information has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 04.09.2020 with a copy to the Commission.

Versus

The appellant was not satisfied and informed that the information is incomplete. Having gone through the RTI application, the information provided by the PIO and hearing both the parties, the following was concluded:

Point-1 to 4 - Sufficiently replied

Point-5 - To provide salary calculation

Point-6 - To provide copy of rule/order according to which

Retired persons were recruited/working in the department

Point-7 - Provide heads of account

The information was to be provided within 10 days of the receipt of the order.

Hearing dated 15.06.2021:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. As per the respondent, the information on points 5,6 & 7 has been sent to the appellant on 17.04.2021 with a copy to the Commission. As per the appellant, the information has not been received.

Having gone through the information, the Commission observes that the PIO has sent the information to the wrong address. A copy of the information is being sent to the appellant along with the order. The appellant is directed to point out the discrepancies to the PIO with a copy to the Commission and the PIO is directed to sort out the same.

To come up for further hearing on **22.09.2021** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda. The PIO to appear through VC at DAC Mohali.

Chandigarh Dated 15.06.2021

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Sh Anil Mittal, S/o ShDharam Pal, # 22121, Gali No-11/4, Power House Road, Bathinda.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o EO, BDA, Bathinda.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Addl, Chief Administrator, BDA, Bathinda.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1943 of 2019

PRESENT: Sh.Anil Mittal as the Appellant

Sh.Amandeep Singh, Junior Assistant O/o BDA Bathinda and Sh.Gurjant

Singh, Naib Tehsildar for the Respondent

ORDER: The case was first heard on 17.10.2019. The respondent present pleaded that the information has been provided to the appellant. The appellant was not satisfied and informed that the information supplied is incomplete and not certified. Hearing both the parties, the following was concluded:

Points-1,2,3,4,5, 7, 8, 9, 11 & 14 - Information provided.

Points-10 - Information not available in the record

Points-6, 12 & 13 - Respondent informed that the information relates to

Revenue Patwari, Patti MehnaDistt.Bathinda. The PIO is directed to transfer the RTI Application to the Concerned Patwari. The Revenue Patwari, Patti Mehna is impleaded in the case and directed to

provide the information duly certified.

The case was again heard on **23.12.2019**. Both the parties were absent. The PIO-Revenue Patwari was also absent. The PIO-Revenue Patwari, Patti Mehna, was given one more opportunity to comply with the earlier order of the Commission and be present on the next date of hearing.

The case was last heard on **17.03.2020 through** video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The appellant informed that the PIO-Revenue Patwari, Patti-Mehna has not provided the information and the information supplied on points 1,3,4,5,11 & 14 is not legible.

The Revenue Patwari, Patti Mehna was absent. The PIO was directed to provide legible and signed copies of the information to the appellant. The Revenue Patwari, Patti Mehna was given one last opportunity to provide the information concerning them as per the earlier order which still stands otherwise the Commission will be constrained to take action as per the provisions of the RTI Act. The information be provided within 15 days.

On the date of the last hearing on **07.09.2020**, the Revenue Patwari,Patti Mehna was present and informed that the information concerning them has been supplied to the appellant. The appellant stated that he had received information on point-6 only and other information that had been provided by the PIO-BDA was also not legible.

Appeal Case No. 1943 of 2019

Having gone through the RTI application and hearing both the parties, the following was concluded:

- Point-1,2,3&4 PIO-	-	As per the appellant, the information is not legible. The
		BDA to provide legible copy of the information.
- Point-5	-	PIO to respond appropriately
- Point-6	-	Copy of jamabandi to be provided by Patwari
- Point-7	-	NA
- Point-8	-	BDA to provide the information
- Point-9	-	The appellant is not satisfied with the reply. The PIO to
		Provide complete information.
- Point-10	-	PIO to provide list of litigations
- Point-11	-	Appellant not satisfied, PIO to provide complete
		information
- Point-12	-	PIO to provide demarcation
- Point-13	-	PIO to reply suitably
- Point-14	-	To reply appropriately

Since the information was voluminous, the PIO was directed to contact the appellant on his mobile No.9643122971 and sort out all the discrepancies and provide complete information within a week of the receipt of this order. Further, since there was an enormous delay in providing the information, a copy of the order was sent to the Chief Administrator, BDA Bathinda with the direction to ensure compliance of the order.

On the date of the last hearing on **09.03.2021**, the respondent informed that the record was inspected by the appellant and the available information has been supplied to the appellant. The appellant was still not satisfied.

Hearing both the parties, the PIO was directed to sort out the discrepancies and provide whatever information is available point-wise to the appellant with a copy to the Commission. If the information is not available, give in writing on an affidavit that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no further information is available in the record relating to this RTI application.

Hearing dated 15.06.2021:

The case has come for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. As per the respondent, the information has already been provided. As per the appellant, the PIO has not provided complete information nor has provided an affidavit. As per the appellant, the information on points 1,2,3&4 is not legible nor attested, the information on point-5 is incomplete and information on the remaining points as per the previous order of the Commission has not been provided by the PIO.

Earlier order stands. The PIO is given one last opportunity to comply with the earlier order of the Commission and sort out the discrepancies and provide complete information on each point duly attested. If the information is not available, to either procure from the concerned authorities and provide to the appellant or give in writing on an affidavit that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no other information is available with this public authority under which RTI application was filed.

To come up for further hearing on **22.09.2021 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda.

Chandigarh Dated 15.06.2021 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

CC to: Revenue Patwari,

Patti Mehna, Distt.Bhatinda PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh Hardiyal Singh, S/o Sh Jaswant Singh, R/o Balol Patti, Village Choke, Tehsil Maur. Distt Bathinda.

... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o EO, Nagar Panchayat, Chaoke, Tehsil Maur, Distt Bathinda.

...Respondent

Complaint Case No. 363 of 2020

PRESENT: None for the Complainant

None for the Respondent

ORDER: Facts of the case:

That the complainant through RTI application dated 05.12.2019 has sought information regarding the copy of bills for the work done under section 35-A in village Panchayat Chauke – streets constructed alongwith street number & expenditures – date of tenders passed – earth filling in the village – number of parks developed – panchayat land given on lease from year 2014 with income generated – dharamshala constructed with expenses and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of EO Nagar Panchayat, Chaoke, Tehsil Maur District Bathinda. The complainant was not provided with the information after which the complainant filed a complaint in the Commission on 28.06.2020.

That the case last came up for hearing on 09.03.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The complainant claimed that the PIO has not provided the information. The complainant further informed that he received a letter from the PIO on 16.03.2020 vide which the PIO had denied the information and asked him to inspect the record and get the information.

That the respondent was absent. The Commission observes that there has been an enormous delay in attending to the RTI application. The PIO was issued a **show-cause notice under Section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time and directed to file a reply on an affidavit. Further, if there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO was directed to inform such persons of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.**

The PIO was again directed to provide the information to the complainant within 10 days of the receipt of the order.

That the case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The respondent is again absent without any legitimate reasons for the absence nor has filed any reply to the show cause notice as well as not provided the information.

Keeping the above-mentioned facts of the case, it is clear that the PIO-Estate Officer, Nagar Panchayat, Chauke, District Bathinda is flouting the spirit of the RTI Act continuously. The PIO has not only shown utter disregard for the Commission's repeated orders to provide the information but has shown willful stubbornness in not replying to the Show Cause and not appearing before the commission despite notices/orders.

Complaint Case No. 363 of 2020

To secure an erring PIO's presence before the commission the Information Commission is empowered to issue warrants to Under Section 18(3) of the RTI Act. A bailable Warrant of the Executive Officer, Nagar Panchayat, Chauke, District Bathinda is hereby issued through Senior Superintendent of Police, Bathinda for his presence before the Commission on **22.09.2021**.

To come up for further hearing on **22.09.2021 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda. The PIO to appear at Chandigarh.

Chandigarh
Dated 15.06.2021

BAILABLE WARRANT OF PRODUCTION

BEFORE

SHRI KHUSHWANT SINGH STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER, PUNJAB

AT CHANDIGARH

In case: Hardiyal Singh V/s Public Information Officer, EO-Nagar

Panchayat, Chauke, Tehsil Maur, District Bathinda

COMPLAINT CASE NO. 363 OF 2020

UNDER SECTION 18 OF THE RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT, 2005

Next Date of Hearing: 22.09.2021

To

The Senior Superintendent of Police,

Bathinda

Whereas Executive Officer, Nagar Panchayat, Chauke, Tehsil

Maur, District Bathinda has failed to appear before the State Information

Commissioner, Punjab despite the issuance of notice/summon in the above

mentioned appeal case. Therefore, you are hereby directed to serve this

bailable warrant to the Executive Officer, Nagar Panchayat, Chauke, Tehsil

Maur, District Bathinda to appear before the undersigned at Red Cross

Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh on 22.09.2021 at

11.00 A.M.

Chandigarh

Dated: 15.06.2021

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Sh. Gurdeep Singh, R/o H No-3023, Agwaar Ladhai, Rani Wala Khu, Jagraon, Distt. Ludhiana.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Civil Surgeon, Ludhiana.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3641 of 2020

Present: Sh.Gurdeep Singh as the Appellant

None for the Respondent

Order:

The appellant through RTI application dated 20.07.2020 has sought information regarding action taken on the application dated 12.06.2020 and other information concerning the office of Civil Surgeon Ludhiana. The appellant was not provided the information, after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 08.09.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing on 17.03.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. The appellant claimed that the PIO has not provided the information. The respondent was absent.

Having gone through the record, the Commission observes that there has been an enormous delay of more than seven months in attending to the RTI application. The PIO was issued a show-cause notice under Section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 and directed to file reply on an affidavit.

The PIO was again directed to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days and send a compliance report to the Commission.

Hearing dated 15.06.2021:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant, the PIO has not supplied the information.

The PIO is absent without any legitimate reasons for the absence nor has filed a reply to the show cause notice as well as not provided the information.

The PIO is given one last opportunity to file a reply to the show cause notice otherwise the Commission will be constrained to act against the PIO under the provisions of section 20 of the RTI Act. The PIO is also directed to provide information to the appellant within 10 days.

To come up for further hearing on **18.08.2021 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh
Dated 15.06.2021

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Sh. Pargat Masih,
Office Adress 33 Foot Road,
Ghai Market, Gobind Nagar,
Street No-1, Opposite Takar Wali Building,
Chandigarh Road, Ludhiana.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o District Social Security Officer, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o District Socail Security Officer,
Ludhiana.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4116 of 2020

Present: None for the Appellant None for the Respondent

Order:

The case last came up for hearing on 17.03.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. The appellant claimed that the PIO has not provided the information. The Commission received a reply of the PIO dated 10.02.2021 through email which was taken on the file of the Commission.

In the reply, the PIO has mentioned that the appellant is running a business of contracts in a house nearby this institution and unnecessarily interfering in the functioning of the management of the school since he wants to take over the management of this institution, for which a complaint has also been filed against Pargat Masih on 17.08.2020 in police station Jamalpur. The PIO has further mentioned in the reply that the school is being run for the welfare of blind girls/boys and the responsibility for the security of these children lies on the DSSO and its staff whereas Sh.Pargat Masih has sought information regarding the decisions taken by the SSSO and its staff which cannot be provided keeping in view the welfare and security aspect of the children.

Having gone through the RTI application especially points 1 and 3, and hearing both the parties, I am of the view that the information that is being sought is purely about the list of members and office bearers etc, of the Committee constituted in the Govt School for blinds, to take the decision for allowing blind children to attend any function, competition or any other programme outside, and parting with this information cannot pose any security threat to the institution about which the information is being sought. Moreover, the respondent has written a long response about the concerns but has not availed of any exemption as provided under the RTI ACT to deny the information. However, that does not imply that the commission has not taken cognizance of the concern raised by the respondent in parting with the information.

Given the above, Information be provided for points 1 & 3.

The commission has carefully assessed the sought information in point -2 and keeping in mind the concerns raised by the PIO, I direct the PIO to submit the information regarding point-2 in a sealed envelope to the commission.

Hearing dated 15.06.2021:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. Both the parties are absent.

Earlier order stands.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **18.08.2021 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

.

Chandigarh
Dated 15.06.2021