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Smt. Kamaldeep Kaur W/o Shri Ajaipal Singh, Village and PO Gumtala, Near Govt. Dispensary, Amritsar..

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Executive Engineer, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Division Beas, District Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Executive Engineer, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Division Beas, District Amritsar.

...Respondents

AC No.69/2022

Present: (i) Smt. Kamaldeep Kaur, Appellant.

(ii) Shri Surinderpal Sondhi, Addl. S.E./APIO, and Shri Sukhwinder Singh, Circle Assistant, PSPCL, Rayya, Division Beas, on behalf of PIO.

ORDER:

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Smt. Kamaldeep Kaur, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. She states that she has been supplied incomplete and unattested information vide letter dated 22.12.2021 and she has also pointed out deficiencies vide letter dated 29.12.2021.
- 3. Shri Surinderpal Sondhi, Addl. S.E. and Shri Sukhwinder Singh, Circle Assistant, O/o PSPCL, Rayya, Division Beas, District Amritsar come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on behalf of the PIO. He states that the information was supplied to the appellant on 22.12.2021 in which deficiencies were pointed out by the appellant received on 03.01.2022. The information after removal of deficiencies has been supplied to the appellant on 28.04.2022. The appellant was again asked vide letter dated 27.05.2022 to visit office of PIO in case she finds that any information is still pending and was also informed on phone.

..2.. AC No. 69 of 2022

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that she has received complete information on point No.1,2,4, 6 and the information received on point no.3, 5, 7 8 & is incomplete. Then the position regarding each issue/point of RTI Application is discussed. Further, on the asking of the Bench, the APIO states that nothing beyond the information supplied is available in the official records. The appellant states that regarding point No.2, she has not received any document related to Gurjit Singh showing his ownership with regard to the

change of name in the electricity connection. The representative of PIO states that no such document form Gurjit

Singh is available and the letter sent to him has been provided to the appellant.

sent to the appellant and copy of the same be sent to the Commission for record.

5. The PIO is now directed to file an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper, within 21 (twenty one) days, 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.69/2022 has been supplied to the appellant. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the information supplied to the appellant is true and correct. The original affidavit be

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 15.06.2022 Sd/-((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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APIO/Addl.S.E., Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Rayya, Division Beas, District Amritsar, to ensure that affidavit is filed by PIO.



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Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, S/o Shri Om Parkash, Street No.2, Near Shani Dev Mandir, Patel Nagar, Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

....Respondents

AC No.5742 of 2021

Versus

Present: (i) Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, Appellant, in person.

(ii) Shri Balwinder Singh, Senior Assistant O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib

on behalf of the PIO.

(iii) Shri Rakesh, BDPO, Lambi, District Sri Muktsar Sahib in person.

ORDER:

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, appellant comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. He states that he has not been provided any information so far.
- 3. Shri Balwinder Singh, Senior Assistant O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib comes present to attend the hearing along with Shri Rakesh, BDPO, Lambi, District Sri Muktsar Sahib BDPO Lambi. The BDPO Lambi Shri Rakesh Kumar produces before the Bench letter dated 13.06.2022 from the ADC (Rrual Dev.), Sri Muktsar Sahib stating therein that with regard to the complaint referred to in RTI application of appellant, information was sought from BDPO Lambi. It has been further stated that regarding interlock tiles, the Panchayat Secretaries/V.D.Os. working during past have been changed to different districts and that the information is being collected from them and will be supplied shortly.
- 4. After hearing the version of the representative of PIO, the Bench expresses its displeasure on the delay being caused in the supply of information. But at the same time, the Bench post perusal of documents available in the case file and finds that the appellant had sent RTI application to D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib who has further transferred it to ADC (Rural Dev.), Sri Muktsar Sahib and the ADC (Urban Dev.) has referred the RTI application to the BDPO Lambi being related to him. From perusal of the file, it is observed that a letter dated 15.09.2021 has been addressed by the BDPO Lambi to all the PIOs-cum-Panchayat Secretaries/ VDOs of the Gram Panchayats in Lambi Block to supply information on three points.
- 5. The perusal of letter dated 15.09.2021 shows that the information sought by the appellant relates to a number of PIOs i.e. VDOs and Panchayat Secretaries of several Gram Panchayats in Block Lambi. The Bench also observes from the version of the the representative of PIO that the information sought by the appellant relates to different issues and it entails collection, collating and compilation of information and thus, a number of PIOs are involved.

6. The Bench, as per observations made above, is of the view that the appellant cannot seek information in single RTI application from multiple public authorities. A Full Bench of State Information Commission, Punjab has in Complaint Case No.2903 of 2011 decided on 13.01.2012, ruled as under:-

"We hold that under Section (3) of the Act ibid, the legal obligation of a PIO who receives a request for information under Section 6(1) of the Act is limited to transfer this request to only one public authority that hold the information. This obligation does not extend to transfer the request to multiple authorities.

- 7. The Bench further observes that the PIO O/o BDPO, Lambi, District Sri Muktsar Sahib has made efforts to supply information to the appellant by forwarding RTI application to different PIOs/VDOs of Gram Panchayats in Block Lambi vide letter dated 06.01.2021 but the information asked for by the appellant has to be collected, collated and compiled, thereby resulting in wastage of time of multiple PIOs involved. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in matter of CBSE vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay, (2011) 8 SCC 497, held as under:-
 - "67. Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under the RTI Act for disclosure of all and sundry information (unrelated to transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counterproductive as it will adversely affect the efficiency of the administration and result in the executive getting bogged down with the non-productive work of collecting and furnishing information. The Act should not be allowed to be misused or abused, to become a tool to obstruct the national development and integration, or to destroy the peace, tranquility and harmony among its citizens. Nor should it be converted into a tool of oppression or intimidation of honest officials striving to do their duty. The nation does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spends 75% of their time in collecting and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharging their regular duties. The threat of penalties under the RTI Act and the pressure of the authorities under the RTI Act should not lead to employees of a public authorities prioritizing "information furnishing", at the cost of their normal and regular duties.
- 8. In view of the above, it does not seem to be appropriate for the appellant to seek information which may entail engaging 75% of the employees of a public authority to collect and compile the information for furnishing the same to the appellant. The Bench advises the appellant to go for seeking information by filing separate RTI application before a specific public authority who has its separate PIO.
- 9. In view of the aforesaid observations, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, S/o Shri Om Parkash, Street No.2, Near Shani Dev Mandir, Patel Nagar, Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Sri Muktsar Sahib.

....Respondents

AC No.5738 of 2021

Present: (i) Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, Appellant.

(ii) Shri Balwinder Singh, Sr. Assistant O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib, on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Sandeep Kumar Maluja, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
- 3. Shri Balwinder Singh, Senior Assistant O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib comes present in person before the bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the information sought by the appellant has been supplied vide letter dated 06.04.2022 by registered post.
- 4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant confirms the receipt of information to his satisfaction. He, however, states that the information has been delayed inordinately.
- 5. The Bench on perusal of the case file, is convinced that the requisite information stands supplied to the appellant.
- 6. In view of the above, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and close.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Niranjan Singh S/o Late Shri Kartar Singh, R/o Village Dhaipai, Tehsil & Distt. Ludhiana. Presently R/o H.No.123, Street No.5, Bhai Bala Ji Nagri, Village Pratap Singh Wala, Tehsil and Distt:Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Sub Divisional Officer, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Narangwal, District Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Sub Divisional Officer, Punjab State Power Corporation Limited (PSPCL), Narangwal, District Ludhiana.

...Respondents

AC No.31/2022

Present: (i) Shri Niranjan Singh, Appellant, in person.

(ii) Shri Balwinder Singh, Assistant Executive Engineer, PSPCL, Narangwal, District Ludhiana, on behalf of PIO.

ORDER:

(Heard in person/on mobile phone)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench during the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Niranjan Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He reiterates his version made during the previous hearing and states no information has been provided to him so far.
- 3. Neither the PIO has come present in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representative to attend the hearing.
- 4. To ascertain the current status of the appeal case, Shri Balwinder Singh, Assistant Executive Engineer, Sub Division, PSPCL, Narangwal, District Ludhiana, who had attended the previous hearing, is contacted on mobile phone. He reiterates his statement made during previous hearing and states that the official record relating to the RTI application of the appellant, being very old, has not been traced out in spite of best efforts and as such, an affidavit to this effect has been sent to the appellant with a copy to the Hon'ble

Commission. Cont..P-2



-2- AC No.31/2022

- 4. The affidavit is shown to the appellant, he denies its receipt. The Bench, on perusal of the affidavit available in the case file, observes that the affidavit has been sent only on 13.06.2022 and it may be in transit, however, it does not contain the name of the PIO nor it bears any date on which it has been executed and the stamp of Notary Public also does not bear the date of signing. The PIO is apprised of it and that this affidavit is not accepted. The contents of the affidavit are, however, in order. The PIO is directed to file a fresh affidavit on non judicial stamp paper, indicating therein the name of PIO and the date of signing, within 21 (Twenty one) days duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public to the effect that the record relating to the information sought by the appellant is very old and in spite of best efforts of the officials of Sub Division, Narangwal, the record has not been traced out. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the statement made is true and correct. The original affidavit
- 5. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and close.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Jasbir Singh, Guru Nanak Nagar, Village Bolapur Jhabewal, PO Ramgarh, District Ludhiana-141123.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate, Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

Sub Divisional Magistrate, Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib.

....Respondents

AC No.5727 of 2021

Versus

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) Shri Harish Kumar, Junior Assistant O/o SDM Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib,

on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench during the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Jasbir Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Harish Kumar, Junior Assistant O/o SDM Malout, District Sri Muktsar Sahib 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 06.10.2021 and again vide letter dated 28.01.2022 by registered post.
- 4. The Bench apprises the representative of the PIO that an e.mail dated 12.06.2022 has been received from the appellant whereby he has confirmed receipt of information and has given his consent to close the case.
- 5. In view of the above, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Arvinder Singh, S/o Shri Kashmir Singh, R/o Village Nanhera, Tehsil Rajpura, Distt. Patiala.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer (BDPO), Shambhu at Rajpura, District Patiala.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer (DDPO), Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.5433 of 2021

Versus

Present: (i) Shri Arvinder Singh, Appellant, in person.

(ii) Shri Sukhjinder Singh, Panchayat Secretary O/o BDPO Shambu, Distt. Patiala,

on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Arvinder Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
- 3. Shri Sukhjinder Singh, Panchayat Secretary O/o BDPO Shambu at Rajpura, District Patiala comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the appellant has been supplied information vide letter dated 26.05.2022 by registered post.
- 4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that incomplete information has been supplied to him as certain bills of material have not been supplied. The representative of PIO assures to supply the same to the appellant on priority.
- 5. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO/BDPO Shambhu at Rajpura to supply the remaining information to the appellant within two weeks. Thereafter, he is directed to file an affidavit on non judicial stamp paper, within 21 (Twenty one) days to the effect that the information as available in the official records in AC No.5433/2021 has been supplied to the appellant. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the statement made is true and correct. The original affidavit be sent to the appellant and copy of the same be sent to the Commission for record.

- 6. In view of the position explained by the representative of the PIO before the Bench, the show cause notice issued is dropped.
- 7. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Shri Sukhjinder Singh, Panchayat Secretary O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer (BDPO),Shambhu at Rajpura,District Patiala.

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, R/o Krishan Valley, Street No.4, Village Kakkon, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Bassizana, Distt. Hoshiarpur.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Distt. Dev. & Panchayat Officer,

Hoshiarpur.Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4855 of 2021

Present:- (i) Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, appellant, through cisco webex.

(ii) Shri Jaswant Rai, Superintendent O/o BDPO Hoshiarpur-1,

District Hoshiarpur, through Cisco Webex.

ORDER

(Heard through Cisco Webex/on mobile phone)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 21.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Jaswant Rai, Superintendent O/o BDPO Bassizana, District Hoshiarpur comes present to attend the hearing through CISCO Webex and states that the information comprising 09 pages has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 14.03.2022 by registered post and again vide letter dated 12.04.2022 and an affidavit dated 15.03.2022 has also been sent to the appellant.
- 4. Due to disturbance in audio and connectivity through cisco webex, the appellant is contacted on mobile phone. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he is not satisfied with the information and affidavit supplied to him.
- 5. The Bench, post deliberations and examination of the documents on file observes that the information as existing in official records as well as the affidavit have been supplied to the appellant and as such, the directions of the Bench stand complied with.
- 6. In view of the above, the Bench does not fee need for further intervention in the mater. **The instant 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

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Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, R/o Krishan Valley, Street No.4, Village Kakkon, Tehsil & Distt. Hoshiarpur.`

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Bassizana, Distt. Hoshiarpur.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Distt. Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Hoshiarpur.

....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4857 of 2021

Present:- (i) Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, appellant, through cisco webex.

(ii) Shri Jaswant Rai, Superintendent O/o BDPO Hoshiarpur-1,

District Hoshiarpur, through Cisco Webex.

ORDER

(Heard through Cisco Webex/on mobile phone)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 21.03.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Shri Pardeep Kumar Mehta, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Jaswant Rai, Superintendent O/o BDPO Bassizana, District Hoshiarpur comes present to attend the hearing through CISCO Webex and states that the information comprising 16 pages has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 14.03.2022 by registered post and again vide letter dated 12.04.2022 and an affidavit dated 15.03.2022 has also been sent to the appellant.
- 4. Due to disturbance in audio and connectivity through cisco webex, the appellant is contacted on mobile phone. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he is not satisfied with the information and affidavit supplied to him.
- 5. The Bench, post deliberations and examination of the documents on file observes that the information as existing in official records as well as the affidavit have been supplied to the appellant and as such, the directions of the Bench stand complied with.
- 6. In view of the above, the Bench does not fee need for further intervention in the mater. **The**instant 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



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Shri Karan Luthra S/o Shri Deepak Luthra, Ward No.D-30, Silver Heights, Near Wadala Chowk, Jalandhar-144003.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar.

...Respondents

AC No.1934/2022

Versus

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health, J.D.A. Jalandhar.

PIO/Respondent, in person.

ORDER:

- 1. The RTI application is dated 27.10.2021 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 09.01.2022 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 15.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Karan Luthra, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health, J.D.A. Jalandhar comes present in person before the Bench and states that the appellant has been supplied information and he has also confirmed receipt of information.
- 4. The Bench, on perusal of the case file, observes that an e.mail dated 10.06.2022 has been received from the appellant whereby he has confirmed the receipt of information and has given his consent to close the case.
- 5. In view of the above, no cause of action is left in the matter. **The instant 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



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Shri Harpreet Singh S/o Shri Amrik Singh H.No.275/26, Mehtabgarh, Kapurthala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Kapurthala.

First Appellate Authority O/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Kapurthala.

...Respondents

AC No.1939/2022

- Present: (i) Appellant- absent.
 - (ii) Shri Mandhir Singh, S.E. and Shri Puneet Dhawan, Clerk, Municipal Corporation, Kapurthala, on behalf of PIO/Respondent, in person.

ORDER:

- 1. The RTI application is dated 01.01.2022 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 15.02.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 22.02.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.06.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Harpreet Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Mandhir Singh, S.E. and Shri Puneet Dhawan, Clerk come present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. Shri Mandhir Singh, S.E. states that the appellant now does not need the information and produces before the Bench a letter dated 13.06.2022 to this effect.
- 4. The Bench, on perusal of the case file, observes that an e.mail dated 17.05.2022 has been received from the appellant whereby he has informed that he does not need the information sought by him vide his RTI application and also requests for closing the appeal case.
- 5. In view of the above, no cause of action is left in the matter. **The instant 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