

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864110, Helpline 0172-2864100

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Whatsapp No. 62848-20189



Sh. Jagmohan Singh Makkar (9888168223)  
334, G.T. Road, Saleem Tabri,  
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Vs.

Sh. Tapan Bhanot,  
Tehsildar (East), Ludhiana-cum-  
Public Information Officer  
O/o Tehsildar (East), Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority  
O/o Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Ludhiana (East),  
Ludhiana.

.....Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 18 of 2022.**

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Jagmohan Singh Makkar, appellant.  
Sh. Harbhajan Lal, Jr. Asstt. on behalf of the respondents.

**ORDER**

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 23.6.2022

2. The representative of the respondents submits that the reply has already been sent to the appellant. However, the appellant requested that the directions may be issued to the respondent-Public Information Officer to supply the information. After hearing both the parties, the directions are issued to the appellant and the respondent-Public Information Officer Sh. Tapan Bhanot, Tehsildar, to remain present in person on the next date of hearing along with the original record/information supplied to take the matter to its logical end.

3. To come up on 4.8.2022 at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

Sd/-

Dated:15.7.2022

(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Jasbir Singh, Guru Nanak Nagar,  
Village Bholapur, Jhabewal, Post Office Ramgarh,  
District Ludhiana-141123.  
Mobile No.9888296107.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Rachpal Singh, Supdt-cum-  
Public Information Officer  
O/o SDM (East), Distt. Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority-cum-  
SDM (East), Distt. Ludhiana.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1153 of 2022  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Kuldip Kumar, Sr. Asstt. 9915233869 on behalf of the respondents.

Order

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 22.6.2022.

2. The appellant is absent but he has sent the written submissions in this case, which are taken on record. However, the representative of the respondents submits that the directions have already been issued to the concerned clerk to file the submissions. Sh. Kuldeep Kumar, Clerk was also present during the last hearing but today he is present without any knowledge about the facts of the case. When he has asked about the name & designation of the Public Information Officer o/o the Sub Divisional Magistrate, (East), Ludhiana and earlier he submits that the S.D.M. is the Public Information Officer in this case and later on he replied that Sh. Rachpal Singh, Supdt is a Public Information Officer when he was apprised that the S.D.M. is the First Appellate Authority. Keeping in view the attitude in defending the case, the Public Information Officer Video Conference Facility was introduced for the convenience of general public and for government officials. Viewing the attitude in dealing with the RTI application of the respondent seriously, Sh. Rachpal Singh, Supdt-cum-respondent-Public Information Officer, is, thus, issued a show cause notice to explain in a self-attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to a maximum of Rs.25000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay/denial of the information to the RTI applicant.

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Appeal Case No. 1153 of 2022

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In addition to the written reply, the Public Information Officer is also given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take a note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission will proceed ex-parte.

3. Also, a copy of this order is being sent to the S.D.M. (East), District Ludhiana with the directions that Sh. Kuldeep Kumar, Sr. Assistant may not be authorized to represent the Public Information Officer in any case, in future.

4. Sh. Rachpal Singh, Supdt-cum-respondent-Public Information Officer is also directed to remain present on the next date of hearing. He is also directed to file the submissions after reconsideration of the reply already sent by him.

5. To come up on 28.7.2022 at 12.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana.

Sd/-

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

Dated:15.7.2022

Sub Divisional Magistrate (East)  
(By name)  
District Ludhiana.

To ensure compliance of this order.

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Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma (9855890233),  
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,  
Pratap Bazzar, Chhehartta, Amritsar.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon,  
Public Information Officer  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5721 of 2021  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma, appellant.  
Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer on behalf of the  
respondents(on telephone).

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.6.2022.

2. The appellant submits that he has received the information yesterday and requested to adjourn the case to go through the same.

3. During the last hearing, the respondent-Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer-cum-Public Information Officer was directed to send a copy of the information to the Commission through email so supplied to the appellant. Also, a show cause notice was already issued to him and an opportunity was granted to file the reply. But till date neither the Public Information Officer send the information to the Commission nor he has filed the reply regarding show cause notice issued to him. It is also a fact that the information has been supplied to the appellant yesterday. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondent-Public Information Officer that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. The respondent-Public Information Officer still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act.

4. Keeping in view the facts mentioned herein, it is derived that the respondent-Public Information Officer is intentionally delaying the supply of information and he has no respect

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for the orders of the Commission. It is also a fact that the respondent-Public Information Officer was contacted telephonically and he assured that he will be present during the hearing in time but the appellant appeared through video conference at around 12.50 PM.

5. In view of the defying attitude of the respondent-Public Information Officer attending the hearing in time nor submitting any explanation for the delay in supplying the information within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 25000/- (Rupees Twenty five thousand only) on the Public Information Officer. But, taking a lenient view, penalty of **Rs. 2500/- (Rs. Twenty Five hundred only)** is imposed upon the Public Information Officer. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 2500/- from the salary of Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer o/o Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar and deposit in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-

"0070-Other Administrative Services

60 other Services

800-Other Receipts

86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005"

6. Also, the appellant is directed to go through the information and point out deficiency, if any, before the next date of hearing.

7. To come up on **25.07.2022 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, District Amritsar.

Dated:15.7.2022

Sd/-  
(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

The Deputy Commissioner-cum-,  
Chairman, Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar

To ensure compliance of this order.

The Drawing & Disbursing Officer,  
Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar.

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Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma (9855890233),  
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,  
Pratap Bazzar, Chhehartta, Amritsar.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Ravinder Pal Singh Kahlon,  
Public Information Officer  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5723 of 2021  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma, appellant.  
Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer on behalf of the  
respondents(on telephone).

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.6.2022.

2. The appellant submits that he has received the information yesterday and requested to adjourn the case to go through the same.

3. During the last hearing, the respondent-Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer-cum-Public Information Officer was directed to send a copy of the information to the Commission through email so supplied to the appellant. Also, a show cause notice was already issued to him and an opportunity was granted to file the reply. But till date neither the Public Information Officer send the information to the Commission nor he has filed the reply regarding show cause notice issued to him. It is also a fact that the information has been supplied to the appellant yesterday. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondent-Public Information Officer that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. The respondent-Public Information Officer still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act.

4. Keeping in view the facts mentioned herein, it is derived that the respondent-Public Information Officer is intentionally delaying the supply of information and he has no respect

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for the orders of the Commission. It is also a fact that the respondent-Public Information Officer was contacted telephonically and he assured that he will be present during the hearing in time but the appellant appeared through video conference at around 12.50 PM.

5. In view of the defying attitude of the respondent-Public Information Officer attending the hearing in time nor submitting any explanation for the delay in supplying the information within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 25000/- (Rupees Twenty five thousand only) on the Public Information Officer. But, taking a lenient view, penalty of **Rs. 2500/- (Rs. Twenty Five hundred only)** is imposed upon the Public Information Officer. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 2500/- from the salary of Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer o/o Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar and deposit in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-

"0070-Other Administrative Services  
60 other Services  
800-Other Receipts  
86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005"

6. Also, the appellant is directed to go through the information and point out deficiency, if any, before the next date of hearing.

7. To come up on **25.07.2022 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, District Amritsar.

Dated: 15.7.2022

Sd/-  
(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

The Deputy Commissioner-cum-,  
Chairman, Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar

To ensure compliance of this order.

The Drawing & Disbursing Officer,  
Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar.

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Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma (9855890233),  
R/o New Sharma Furniture House,  
Pratap Bazaar, Chhehartta, Amritsar.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Ravinder Pal Singh Kahlon,  
Public Information Officer  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
Amritsar.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5724 of 2021  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Suresh Kumar Sharma, appellant.  
Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer on behalf of the  
respondents(on telephone).

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.6.2022.

2. The appellant submits that he has received the information yesterday and requested to adjourn the case to go through the same.

3. During the last hearing, the respondent-Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer-cum-Public Information Officer was directed to send a copy of the information to the Commission through email so supplied to the appellant. Also, a show cause notice was already issued to him and an opportunity was granted to file the reply. But till date neither the Public Information Officer send the information to the Commission nor he has filed the reply regarding show cause notice issued to him. It is also a fact that the information has been supplied to the appellant yesterday. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondent-Public Information Officer that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. The respondent-Public Information Officer still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act.

4. Keeping in view the facts mentioned herein, it is derived that the respondent-Public Information Officer is intentionally delaying the supply of information and he has no respect

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Appeal Case No. 5724 of 2021

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for the orders of the Commission. It is also a fact that the respondent-Public Information Officer was contacted telephonically and he assured that he will be present during the hearing in time but the appellant appeared through video conference at around 12.50 PM.

5. In view of the defying attitude of the respondent-Public Information Officer attending the hearing in time nor submitting any explanation for the delay in supplying the information within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 25000/- (Rupees Twenty five thousand only) on the Public Information Officer. But, taking a lenient view, penalty of **Rs. 2500/- (Rs. Twenty Five hundred only)** is imposed upon the Public Information Officer. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 2500/- from the salary of Public Information Officer Sh. Raminder Pal Singh Kahlon, Executive Engineer o/o Amritsar Improvement Trust, Amritsar and deposit in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-

"0070-Other Administrative Services  
60 other Services  
800-Other Receipts  
86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005"

6. Also, the appellant is directed to go through the information and point out deficiency, if any, before the next date of hearing.

7. To come up on **25.07.2022 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, District Amritsar.

Dated: 15.7.2022

Sd/-  
(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

The Deputy Commissioner-cum-,  
Chairman, Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar

To ensure compliance of this order.

The Drawing & Disbursing Officer,  
Amritsar Improvement Trust,  
District Amritsar.

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Sh. Prabhjot Singh Gill, S/o Sh Jagjit Singh.

#329. VPO Doda Baja Patti,

Village Doda, Muktsar-152031. M 8146007472

RTI Application No 10859.

.. appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,

O/o DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,

Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74,

Mohali-160071

First Appellate Authority

O/o DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,

Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74, Mohali 160071

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.. Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2455 of 2022

Present: None on behalf the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 1.7.2022

2. The appellant informed telephonically yesterday that he will not attend the hearing in person and will attend the hearing through cisco webex. Accordingly, the respondent-Public Information Officer was informed not to appear in this case. As the information was sent by the respondent through registered post and the appellant was directed to file the rejoinder, if any, before the next date of hearing but so far no rejoinder has been filed by him.

3. After going through the RTI application of the appellant and the reply filed by the respondent, the case was fixed for hearing in person at Chandigarh to resolve the matter. Therefore, one opportunity is granted to the appellant to remain present in person on the next date of hearing at Chandigarh failing which ex-parte decision will be taken.

4. To come up on 25.7.2022 at 12.30 PM Chandigarh.

Sd/-

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

Dated:15.7.2022

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Whatsapp No. 62848-20189



Sh. Prabhjot Singh Gill, S/o Sh Jagjit Singh.  
#329. VPO Doda Baja Patti,  
Village Doda, Muktsar-152031. M 8146007472  
RTI Application No 10861.

.. appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,  
O/o DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,  
Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74,  
Mohali-160071

First Appellate Authority  
O/o DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,  
Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74, Mohali 160071

--..Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2456 of 2022

Present: None on behalf the appellant.  
None on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 1.7.2022

2. The appellant informed telephonically yesterday that he will not attend the hearing in person and will attend the hearing through cisco webex. Accordingly, the respondent-Public Information Officer was informed not to appear in this case. As the information was sent by the respondent through registered post and the appellant was directed to file the rejoinder, if any, before the next date of hearing but so far no rejoinder has been filed by him.

3. After going through the RTI application of the appellant and the reply filed by the respondent, the case was fixed for hearing in person at Chandigarh to resolve the matter. Therefore, one opportunity is granted to the appellant to remain present in person on the next date of hearing at Chandigarh failing which ex-parte decision will be taken.

4. To come up on 25.7.2022 at 12.30 PM Chandigarh.

Dated:15.7.2022

Sd/-  
(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Prabhjot Singh Gill, S/o Sh Jagjit Singh.  
#329. VPO Doda Baja Patti,  
Village Doda, Muktsar-152031. M 8146007472  
RTI Application No 10861.

.. appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,  
O/o DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,  
Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74,  
Mohali-160071

First Appellate Authority  
O/o,DGR, PB, Plot No. D-241,  
Industrial Area, Phase-8B, Sector-74, Mohali 160071

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.. Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2454 of 2022

Present: None on behalf the appellant.  
None on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 1.7.2022

2. The appellant informed telephonically yesterday that he will not attend the hearing in person and will attend the hearing through cisco webex. Accordingly, the respondent-Public Information Officer was informed not to appear in this case. As the information was sent by the respondent through registered post and the appellant was directed to file the rejoinder, if any, before the next date of hearing but so far no rejoinder has been filed by him.

3. After going through the RTI application of the appellant and the reply filed by the respondent, the case was fixed for hearing in person at Chandigarh to resolve the matter. Therefore, one opportunity is granted to the appellant to remain present in person on the next date of hearing at Chandigarh failing which ex-parte decision will be taken.

4. To come up on 25.7.2022 at 12.30 PM Chandigarh.

Dated:15.7.2022

Sd/-  
(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.