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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

First Appellate Authority o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3267 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Sham Lal, A.T.O. 9914223294 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 29.7.2019 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 25.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 28.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents handed over the information during the course of hearing to the appellant and after going through the same, the appellant states that he is not satisfied with the information pertaining to Point No. 1 of the RTI application as the name of the receipt employee along with his order has not been supplied. But the representative of the respondents states that by rotation the employees are being assigned the receipt of dak. In addition, the representative of the respondents further states that the appellant has not mentioned any particular date regarding which he is seeking the information. Furthermore, the representative of the respondents states that presently Ms Salinder Kaur is receiving the dak.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the above, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

First Appellate Authority o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3268 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Sham Lal, A.T.O. 9914223294 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 29.7.2019 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 25.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 28.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents handed over the information during the course of hearing to the appellant and after going through the same, the appellant states that he is not satisfied with the information pertaining to Point No. 1 of the RTI application as the name of the receipt employee along with his order has not been supplied. But the representative of the respondents states that by rotation the employees are being assigned the receipt of dak. In addition, the representative of the respondents further states that the appellant has not mentioned any particular date regarding which he is seeking the information. Furthermore, the representative of the respondents states that presently Ms Salinder Kaur is receiving the dak.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the above, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3032 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, 9988574550 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 6.7.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 18.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 28.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents handed over the complete information during the course of hearing to the appellant with a copy to the Commission and after going through the same, the appellant states that Sh. Gurpal Singh cannot attend the hearing as he is not the employee. However, the representative of the respondents Sh. Gurpal Singh states that he is working on contract basis and the office has assigned the duty to attend the hearing. He has also placed on record the copy of his contract letter bearing No. 42-44 dated 1.1.2021. Furthermore, he states that the complete information has been supplied to the appellant so the case may be closed.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd sd sc

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3191 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 4.11.2019 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 22.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents handed over the complete information during the course of hearing to the appellant with a copy to the Commission. Furthermore, the representative of the respondents states that the complete information has been supplied to the appellant so the case may be closed. After going through the same, the appellant shows his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. A copy of the information so supplied by the respondents is also **sent** with this order to the appellant. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Encls a/a Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3139 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 8.6.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents states that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter No. 27676 dated 14.12.2020 with a copy to the Commission. However, the appellant denied the fact and states that he has not received the same. Since, the copy of the complete information supplied to the appellant is available on record, therefore, the copy of the same has been handed over to him during the course of hearing. After going through the same, the appellant showed his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. A copy of the same is also **sent** with this order. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd	sd	so

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab Punjab Punjab

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3162 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 8.6.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents states that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter No. 27851 dated 14.12.2020 with a copy to the Commission. However, the appellant denied the fact and states that he has not received the same. Since, the copy of the complete information supplied to the appellant is available on record, therefore, the copy of the same has been handed over to him during the course of hearing. After going through the same, the appellant showed his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. A copy of the information is **sent** with this order. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Encls a/a

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3163 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 8.6.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents states that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter No. 27873 dated 14.12.2020 with a copy to the Commission. However, the appellant denied the fact and states that he has not received the same. Since, the copy of the complete information supplied to the appellant is available on record, therefore, the copy of the same has been handed over to him during the course of hearing. After going through the same, the appellant showed his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. A copy of the information is also **sent** with this order. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Encls a/a

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3164 of 2020

Present:- Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant.

Sh. Gurpal Singh, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 8.6.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The representative of the respondents states that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter No. 27681 dated 14.12.2020 with a copy to the Commission. However, the appellant denied the fact and states that he has not received the same. Since, the copy of the complete information supplied to the appellant is available on record, therefore, the copy of the same has been handed over to him during the course of hearing. After going through the same, the appellant showed his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- 3. After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. A copy of the information is also **sent** with this order. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

Sd sd sd

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner,

Punjab Punjab Punjab

Encls a/a

Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab Sector 17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3195 of 2020

Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant. Present:-

Sh. Gurpal Singh, 9988574550 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 8.6.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons the case was adjourned for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- The representative of the respondents states that complete information has already been sent to the appellant vide letter No. 27678 dated 14.12.2020 with a copy to the Commission. However, the appellant denied the fact and states that he has not received the same. Since, the copy of the complete information supplied to the appellant is available on record, therefore, the copy of the same has been handed over to him during the course of hearing. After going through the same, the appellant showed his satisfaction with the information so supplied by the respondents.
- After hearing both the parties and keeping in view the information supplied, the 3. Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Therefore, the case is disposed of and closed. A copy of the information so supplied by the respondents is also **sent** with this order to the appellant. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within 10 days in case of any further submissions.

(Khushwant Singh) (Mrs. PreetyChawla) (Suresh Arora)

State Information Commissioner State Information Commissioner, Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab

Punjab Punjab

Encls a/a Dated 19.1.2021

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Sh. Manjit Singh 7696282813 H.o. 388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala & ors.

First Appellate Authority o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3192 of 2020, Appeal Case No. 3193 of 2020, Appeal Case No. 3194 of 2020, Appeal Case No. 3196 of 2020, Appeal Case No. 3197 of 2020, Appeal Case No. 3198 of 2020 Appeal Case No. 3199 of 2020 and Appeal Case No. 3266 of 2020 (Video Conference/telephone/cisco webex Proceedings)

Present:-

Sh. Manjit Singh, appellant in person

Sh.Sham Lal, A.T.O. Patiala 9914223294 in person, Sh.Gurpal Singh, 9988574550 in person o/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Sh. KS Chinna, RTA Sangrur 9872426400 in person, Sh. Balwant Singh (through VC) o/o RTA Jalandhar 9872413497, Sh. Gurdev Singh (through VC), o/o RTA District Amritsar 9464090292, Sh. Manoj Kumar(through VC), o/o RTA District Ludhiana 9877934000, Sh. Simran Sra, ATO, 8427820090 (in person) o/o RTA Mohali and Sh. Ravi Dutt (through VC) o/o RTA Hoshiarpur, on behalf of the

respondents.

ORDER

The appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application by filing 8 number of RTI applications, in question, to the Regional Transport Authorities of the Punjab State. Almost all the RTI applications were of dated 22.11.2019 and the first appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 24.8.2020 and in all the cases second appeal was filed in the Commission on 22.10.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.12.2020 but due to administrative reasons all the cases were postponed for today i.e. 19.1.2021.

- 2. The appellant has sought 8 points information.
- 3. The appellant contended that he has sought the similar information related to the various VIP/vanity registration numbers like PCL 2, PIL 1, PJC 9 along with the copy of their

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form 24 submitted by the applicants at the time of registration etc. He further states that he has filed the RTI applications to all the Regional Transport Authorities of the Punjab State. As such all his cases may be clubbed together. Therefore, on the request of the appellant, all the cases are hereby clubbed.

- 4. With regard to the information, the appellant states that nothing has been supplied by the respondents. However, the representative of the respondents states that the appellant is seeking similar information from almost all the Regional Transport Authorities of the State. The representative of the respondents also states that in such cases, the Commission has already disposed of 126 number of appeals of this appellant, Sh. Manjit Singh and out of which 34 number of RTI applications were related to the VIP/vanity numbers and copies of form 24 submitted by the Registered Vehicle Owners were sought in these cases.
- 5. The Public Information Officer-cum- Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Ludhiana has sent the submissions through email, which are taken on record and are reproduced below:-
 - 1) ਲੜੀ ਨੰਬਰ 1 ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਸਾਏ ਗਏ ਵਹੀਕਲ ਨੰਬਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਪੰਜਾਬ ਟਰਾਂਸਪੋਰਟ ਡਿਪਾਰਟਮੈਂਟ ਦੀ ਵੈਬਸਾਈਟ punjabtransport.org ਅਤੇ www.parivahan.gov.in ਤੇ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਚੈਕ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾ ਸਕਦਾ ਹੈ।
 - 2) ਪੁਰਾਣੇ ਨੰਬਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਰਿਟੇਨ ਕਰਨ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੱਥੀ ਹੈ
 - 3) ਇਹ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਤੀਜੀ ਧਿਰ ਨਾਲ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਹੋਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ।
 - 4) ਇਹ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਤੀਜੀ ਧਿਰ ਨਾਲ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਹੋਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ।
 - 5) ਲੜੀ ਨੰਬਰ 1 ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਸਾਏ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰਾਂ ਨੂੰ ਜਾਰੀ ਕਰਨ ਸਮੇਂ ਮਿਸ ਕਿਰਨਜੀਤ ਕੌਰ, ਜੂਨੀਅਰ ਸਹਾਇਕ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਗੁਰਮੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ, ਸੀਨੀਅਰ ਸਹਾਇਕ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਮਰਦੀਪ ਸਿੰਘ, ਕਲਰਕ, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਰੋਹਿਤ ਸੂਦ, ਜੂ: ਸਹਾਇਕ ਅਤੇ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਸ਼ਵਨੀ ਸ਼ਰਮਾ ਡੀ.ਟੀ.ਓ., ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਨਿਲ ਗਰਗ ਡੀ.ਟੀ.ਓ., ਸ੍ਰੀ ਦਲਵਿੰਦਰ ਸਿੰਘ ਡੀ.ਟੀ.ਓ, ਮਿਸ ਲਵਜੀਤ ਕਲਸੀ ਡੀ.ਟੀ.ਓ./ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਏ.।, ਸ੍ਰੀ ਦਮਨਜੀਤ ਸਿੰਘ ਮਾਨ ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਏ. ਤੈਨਾਤ ਰਹੇ ਹਨ।
 - 6) ਲੜੀ ਨੰਬਰ 1 ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਸਾਏ ਗਏ ਨੰਬਰਾਂ ਦਾ ਕੰਮ ਉਕਤ ਕਲਰਕਾਂ ਦੀ ਆਈ.ਡੀ. ਵਿੱਚੋ ਕੀਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ, ਜਿੰਨਾ ਦਾ ਆਈ.ਡੀ. ਨੰਬਰ ਗੁਪਤ ਹੋਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਮੁਹਈਆ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਵਾਏ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੇ।
 - 7) ਸਾਲ 2014 ਵਿੱਚ ਸੀਰੀਜ ਨੂੰ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਖੁਲਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਪੱਤਰ ਜਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਸੀ।
 - 8) ਇਹ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਤੀਜੀ ਧਿਰ ਨਾਲ ਸਬੰਧਤ ਹੋਣ ਕਾਰਨ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਨਹੀਂ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀ।

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The representative of the respondents also referred the Full Bench decision dated 8.6.2020 (Regarding Point No. 3 of the RTI application in the instant case) of the Punjab State Information Commission regarding supply of information related to the VIP/vanity numbers/Form 24 of this appellant Sh. Manjeet Singh in which 126 appeal cases were disposed of and the relevant para of the order is reproduced below:-

(b) Similar type of 34 cases – AC 4134 of 2019,AC 4133 of 2019,AC 4132 of 2019,AC 4131 of 2019,AC 4124 of 2019,AC 4123 of 2019, AC 4122 of 2019,AC 4121 of 2019,AC 2055 of 2019,AC 4532 of 2019,AC 4533 of 2019,AC 4534 of 2019,AC 4535 of 2019,AC 4536 of 2019,AC 4537 of 2019AC 4538 of 2019,AC 4539 of 2019,AC 4540 of 2019,,AC 4541 of 2019,AC 4542 of 2019,AC 4543 of 2019,AC 4531 of 2019,AC 62 of 2019,AC 3928 of 2018,AC 3925 of 2018,AC 3923 of 2018,AC 3921 of 2018,AC 3917 of 2018,AC 3930 of 2018,AC 3932 of 2018,AC 61 of 2019, AC 1047 of 2019,AC 1046 of 2019, AC 3931 of 2018. - After hearing the respondents and going through the record, it has been ascertained that the information related to Form 24 of vehicles registration, is available on the website of Government of India i.e. www.parivahan.gov.in/rcdlstatus/ from which anybody can get the information of any vehicle registered in India i.e. the registration number, engine number, chassis number etc. of each vehicle. Rest of the information relating to the vehicles is also available on the respective website of the vehicle manufacturers. With regard to the status whether the vehicle is hypothecated or not, which is part of Form 24, the bench is of the view that the same cannot be provided to the appellant since the information relates to the finances of an individual and is clearly personal in nature. Section 8(1)(j) is very clear that there is no obligation on the information officer to give personal information, disclosure of which has no relationship with public activity or interest, or which would cause unwarranted invasion of the privacy of the individual unless the authority is satisfied that larger public interest justifies the disclosure of this information. In fact in future if the public authority has to hand out information regarding Form 24, the PIOs are instructed to apply section 10 of the RTI Act to severe the financial information from the form. unless they see a larger public interest in revealing the entire information. Since, the appellant can access the rest of information, barring whether the vehicle is hypothecated or not, from the website mentioned above the bench sees no further course of action in these cases. As such these cases are disposed of and closed. "

In the instant appeal cases, the similar replies have been filed by the Public Information Officer's o/o Regional Transport Authorities of Amritsar, SAS Nagar, Faridkot and Patiala, which are taken on record.

Thereafter, the appellant showed his ignorance of Commission's order dated 8.6.2020 which was passed by the Full Bench in his 126 cases and were disposed of.

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After point wise deliberations regarding the present case(s), the appellant pointed out only deficiency that the respondent-Public Information Officer has supplied the instructions dated 3.8.2018 pertaining to Point No.2 of the RTI application whereas the numbers were also being issued prior to the instructions issued on 3.8.2018.

Accordingly, the respondent-Public Information Officer o/o the State Transport Commissioner was directed to supply the same.

- 6. Sections 2(n) and 11 of the RTI Act read as under:
 - "2(n) "third party" means a person other than the citizen making a request for information and includes a public authority"

"11. Third party information. (1) Where a Central Public Information Officer or a State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, intends to disclose any information or record, or part thereof on a request made under this Act, which relates to or has been supplied by a third party and has been treated as confidential by that third party, the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, shall, within five days from the receipt of the request, give a written notice to such third party of the request and of the fact that the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, intends to disclose the information or record, or part thereof, and invite the third party to make a submission in writing or orally, regarding whether the information should be disclosed, and such submission of the third party shall be kept in view while taking a decision about disclosure of information:

Provided that except in the case of trade or commercial secrets protected by law, disclosure may be allowed if the public interest in disclosure outweighs in importance any possible harm or injury to the interests of such third party.

(2) Where a notice is served by the Central Public Information Officer or State Public Information Officer, as the case may be, under sub-section (1) to a third party in respect of any information or record or part thereof, the third party shall, within ten days from the date of receipt of such notice, be given the opportunity to make representation against the proposed disclosure."

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- 7. Whereas, the exemptions have been provided under Section 8 of the RTI Act.
- 8. It is also appropriate to mention the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Civil Appeal No. 10044 of 2010 Central Public Information Officer, Hon'ble Supreme Court of India Vs Subhash Chandra Agarwal in which the issue regarding the exemptions under Section 8, procedure under Section 11 to be adopted by the Central Public Information Officer/State Public Information Officer has been elaborated in detail which are in line with the cases in question. The relevant potion of the judgement is reproduced below:-

"The definition of a "third party" includes a public authority. 'Third party information' is information which "relates to or has been supplied by any other person (including a public authority) other than the information applicant and has been treated as confidential by such third party. Where disclosure of 'third party information' is sought, and such information has been prima facie treated as confidential by the third party in question, the procedure under Section 11 of the RTI Act is mandatory. The Information Officer shall, within five days of receiving the request for 'third party information' notify the relevant third party to whom the information relates or which had supplied it. The notice shall invite the third party to submit reasons (in writing or orally) as to whether or not the information sought should be disclosed. Section 11(2) provides the third party with a right to make a representation against the proposed disclosure within ten days of receiving the notice. The provision expressly mandates the Information Officer to take into consideration the objections of the third party when making a decision with respect to disclosure or non-disclosure of the information. It encapsulates the fundamental idea that a party whose personal information is sought to be disclosed is afforded the opportunity to contest disclosure. The proviso to sub section (1) of Section 11 permits disclosure where the "public interest" in disclosure "outweighs" any possible harms in disclosure highlighted by the third party.

Sections 8 and 11 must be read together. Other than in a case where the information

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applicant seeks the disclosure of information which relates to the information applicant himself, information sought that falls under the category of "personal information" within the meaning of clause (j) of Section 8(1) is also "third party information" within the ambit of Section 11, Therefore, in every case Where the information requested is "personal information" within the operation of clause (j) of sub section 1 of Section 8, the procedure of notice and objections under Section 11 must be complied with. The two provisions create a substantive system of checks and balances which seek to balance the right of the information applicant to receive information with the right of the third party to prevent the disclosure of personal information by permitting the latter to contest the proposed disclosure."

Furthermore, the apex court has held that

- "Reading of the aforesaid judicial precedents, in our opinion, would indicate that personal records, including name, address, physical, mental and psychological status, marks obtained, grades and answer sheets, are all treated as personal information. Similarly, professional records, including qualification, performance, evaluation reports, ACRs, disciplinary proceedings, etc. are all personal information. Medical records, treatment, choice of medicine, list of hospitals and doctors visited, findings recorded, including that of the family members, information relating to assets liabilities, income tax returns, details of investments, lending and borrowing, etc. are personal information. Such personal information is entitled to protection from unwarranted invasion of privacy and conditional access is available when stipulation of larger public interest is satisfied."
- 9. The Commission noted that the appellant is not aware of the orders of the Commission dated 8.6.2020 in which 126 of his appeal cases were disposed of. This ignorance reflects that the appellant has not read an order passed by the Commission.
- 10. It is pertinent to mention that the Hon'ble High Court of Madras in the case of Public Information Officer, Registrar (Administration) Vs B. Bharathi (WP No. 26781/2013 dated 17.9.2014) has also given its opinion about such vexatious litigation crippling the public

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authorities and held as follows:-

- "...he cannot overload a public authority and divert its resources disproportionately while seeking information and that the dispensation of information should not occupy the majority of time and resource of any public authority, as it would be against the larger public interest...."
- 11. The issue has also been elaborated by the Supreme Court of India in the matter of Central Board of Secondary Education & Anr. Vs. Aditya Bandopadhyay & Ors (Civil Appeal No.6454 of 2011) reported as 2011(3) RCT (Civil) as follows:-
 - "...The RTI 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, tranquillity 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-National does not want a scenario where 75% of the staff of public authorities spends 75% of their time in collection and furnishing information to applicants instead of discharging their regular duties----Indiscriminate and impractical demands or directions under RTI Act for disclosure of all the sundry information (unrelated to transparency and accountability in the functioning of public authorities and eradication of corruption) would be counter-productive 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".
- After hearing both the parties, judicial pronouncement and going through the record 12. available on the case file, the plea taken by the respondent-Public Information Officer on behalf of the RTA, Ludhiana pertaining to Point No. 1 & 3, it has transpired that the reply of the respondent-Public Information Officer is in line, on the similar issue that has already been decided by the Punjab State Information Commission in the appellant's 126 cases, which were disposed of by the Commission on 8.6.2020 on the one hand and the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India on the other, although the Public Information Officer o/o the Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar decided to supply the information pertaining to Point No. 3 of the RTI application. Regarding Point No. 4 and Point No. 8 of the RTI application the respondent pleaded that the information relates to the 3rd party so no information has been supplied to the appellant, is considered. After consideration, it is appropriate to mention that in case the information relates to the $\mathbf{3}^{\text{rd}}$ party then the respondent-Public Information Officer is bound to adopt the procedure laid down under Section 11 of the RTI Act, 2005. But no such procedure has been adopted by the respondent authorities. In case all the Regional Transport Authorities are directed to adopt the

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procedure laid down under Section 11 of the RTI Act, 2005 then almost all the resources of the public authorities will have to divert its resources and for these reasons the issue has already been decided by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India mentioned herein. Therefore, after going through the judgement passed by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India enumerated above and the orders dated 8.6.2020 passed by the Commission, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken by the respondent authorities with regard to the information pertaining to Point No. 1,3,4 & 8 of the RTI application.

- 13. With regard to the information pertaining to Point No. 5 & 6 of the RTI application, the respondent-Public Information Officer has mentioned the name of the officers/officials. Regarding the computer ID number of the computer operator sought by the appellant as per Point No. 6 of the RTI application, the respondent-Public Information Officer has not disclosed the same being the secret information. The Commission accepted the plea taken by the respondent-Public Information Officer.
- 14. Regarding Point No. 7 of the RTI application the respondent-Public Information Officer has filed the specific reply that

"ਸਾਲ 2014 ਵਿੱਚ ਸੀਰੀਜ ਨੂੰ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਖੁਲਵਾਉਣ ਲਈ ਪੱਤਰ ਜਾਰੀ ਨਹੀਂ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਸੀ" Therefore, the reply filed by the respondent-Public Information Officer is also accepted.

15. Regarding Point No. 2, the respondent-Public Information Officer has already supplied a copy of instructions dated 3.8.2018 to retain the old numbers. But the appellant contended that the VIP/vanity numbers were also retained prior to 2018 but no such instructions have been supplied to him for which the Public Information Officer o/o the State Transport Commission, Punjab is impleaded as necessary party in this case. He is also directed to place on record the copy of the instructions to allocate the VIP/vanity numbers prior to the instructions dated 3.8.2018, if any and in case there are no instructions, then the specific reply may be sent to the appellant with a copy to the Commission in this regard. But after the hearing was over, the Public Information Officer o/o the State Transport Commissioner, Punjab placed on record a copy of instructions dated 5th August, 2014 vide which the field offices of the State Transport Commissioner, Punjab dealt with the issue

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concerning the VIP/vanity numbers as has been sought by the appellant. A copy of the same is **sent** along with this order to the appellant. Therefore, the Commission accepts the reply given by the respondent-Public Information Officer in this regard and observes that no further action is required to be taken in this regard.

- 16. The replies sent by the Public Information Officer's of the Regional Transport Authorities of Amritsar, SAS Nagar, Faridkot and Patiala, which are in line with the reply of Public Information Officer o/o the Regional Transport Authority, Ludhiana considered above. The same is hereby accepted. The replies sent by the Public Information Officer o/o the Regional Transport Authorities of Ludhiana, Amritsar, SAS Nagar, Faridkot and Patiala are also **sent** along with this order to the appellant.
- 17. Accordingly, the Public Information Officer's o/o the Regional Transport Authorities, Jalandhar, Sangrur and Hoshiarpur are directed to send the information as has been sent by the Public Information Officer o/o the Secretary Regional Transport Authority, Ludhiana as enumerated above within four weeks from the issue of this order. However, the liberty is granted to the appellant to approach the Commission within six weeks from the issue of this order in case he does not receive the information from the Public Information Officer's o/o the Regional Transport Authorities, Jalandhar, Sangrur and Hoshiarpur. With these directions, the Commission opines that no further action is required to be taken in these cases. Hence, the cases are disposed of and closed.

Sd/ sd/ sd/

(Khushwant Singh)(Mrs. Preety Chawla)(Suresh Arora)State Information Commissioner, PunjabPunjabPunjabPunjab

Dated 19.1.2021

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CC

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Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Hoshiarpur.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar, Mohali.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Sangrur.

Public Information Officer o/o Regional Transport Authority, Jalandhar.