

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,

Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864101, Fax 0172-2864110 Helpline 0172-2864100

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Whatsapp No. 62848-20189 Cisco Webex: 158 708 3455



Sh. Baldev Singh s/o Sh. Swaran Singh  
H.No. 933/7 A, Street No. 5,  
New Deep Nagar,  
Civil lines, District Ludhiana 141001 9814715043

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Joginder Singh,  
Public Information Officer (Registered)  
o/o Deputy Commissioner,  
District Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority  
o/o Deputy Commissioner,  
District Ludhiana

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1971 of 2021

(Video Conference/Cisco Webex/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Baldev Singh, appellant through cisco webex.  
Sh. Prabjot Singh, HRC Branch on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.7.2021.

2. The appellant states that no information has been provided by the respondents so far.

3. It is also a fact on record that the respondent-Public Information Officer earlier filed the reply that the sought information may be obtained from the Seva Kendra after deposit of requisite amount and the Commission passed the specific order dated 20.7.2021 to supply the information. However, a letter has been received from the respondent vide which the RTI application of the appellant has been transferred to the Sub Registrar, East, District Ludhiana.

4. The perusal of the file shows that in this case, application for information was filed on 4.1.2021 but after a lapse of more than seven months, no information has been supplied to the appellant. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondent-PIO 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 department still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act.

4. I am, therefore, of the view that ends of justice would be met by awarding a sum of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees five thousands only) by way of compensation to the appellant. This amount shall be payable to the appellant from the State Exchequer before the next date of hearing.

5. The respondent-Public Information Officer o/o the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana is also directed to file the response regarding the sought information before the next date of hearing as the appellant has filed the RTI application to public authority o/o the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana.

6. To come up on 20.9.2021 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: 20.8.2021

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Sh. Sukhchain Singh s/o Baldev Singh

r/o Basti Hajara Singh Wali,

Tehsil & Distt. Ferozepur.

..Complainant

Vs

Sh. Gurmeet Singh Kahlon,

Public Information Officer **Registered**

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Ferozepur, Ferozepur

Public Information Officer **Registered**

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Mamdot,

Ferozepur.

Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary

**Registered**

c/o Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat, Pb.,

Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62,

Mohali

Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary (**Registered**)

-cum-Public Information Officer

Basti Hazara Singh Wali,

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer

Block Mamdot, Ferozepur.

Public Information Officer

o/o The Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.

Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali

....Respondents

Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

(Video Conference/Telephone/Cisco Webex Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Sukhchain Singh, complainant.

Sh. Sandeep Kumar, Panchayat Secretary and Sh. Gurmeet Singh Samiti

Patwari 9463830644, 9646729136 on behalf of the respondent.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 3.8.2021.

2. The respondent-Public Information Officer-cum-Panchayat Secretary states that he has already been transferred and Sh. Ruldu Singh the earlier incumbent who has not handed over the record regarding the sought information, has joined as Panchayat Secretary.

3. The representative of the respondents on behalf of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer Mamdot states that Ms Baljeet Kaur is hospitalised so she is unable to file the response in this case.

4. It is a fact on record that the appellant has filed the RTI application on 15.6.2020 since then Sh. Ruldu Singh neither handed over the record nor supplied the information. Also a reference has been received from the Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Contd..p/2

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Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

-2-

Mamdot bearing No.1633 dated 20.8.2021 vide which the disciplinary action has been recommended against Sh. Bagicha Singh to the District Development and Panchayats Officer, Ferozepur, which is taken on record.

5. Since, Sh. Ruldu Singh is very well aware of the case proceedings as he himself attended the hearings in this case along with the Sarpanch Bagicha Singh and assured that the record will be handed over to Sh. Sandeep Kumar. But neither he has handed over the record nor he has supplied the information. As Sh. Sandeep Kumar, Panchayat Secretary has already been transferred so he is exempted from further appearance in this case and Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary is impleaded as necessary party in this case.

6. The respondent-Public Information Officer Sh. Ruldu Singh is absent without intimation. Video Conference Facility was introduced for convenience of general public and for government officials. Viewing the absence of the respondent seriously, Sh. Ruldu Singh, Panchayat Secretary, 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 wilful delay/denial of the information to the RTI applicant. 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 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.

7. The Public Information Officer o/o the Director, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb. was impleaded as necessary party in this case to file the reply but till date nothing has been received from him. Also a copy of the order in this case is being sent to Sh. M.S. Chhatwal, IAS, Director, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb. by registered post regularly but no action appears to be taken to hand over the record/supply the information to the complainant in this case. Therefore, it is clarified that in case of non compliance of this order/supply the information before the next date of hearing, **Sh. M.S. Chhatwal, IAS, Director, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb. will be bound for personal appearance in this case.**

8. Also a reply has been received from Sh. Gurmeet Singh Kahlon, Block Development and Panchayats Officer presently posted as Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Ferozepur regarding show cause notice issued to him, which is taken on record. He has also informed that he remained posted as Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Mamdot from 7.6.2021 to 29.6.2021 and the decision on the same will be taken on the next date of hearing.

9. To come up on 6.9.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

sd

Dated: 20.8.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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CC

Complaint Case No. 811 of 2020

**Sh. MS Chhatwal, IAS Registered**

Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.

Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali

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Sh. Suresh Kumar s/o Sh. Om Parkash

First and Second Floor,

W.No. 20, Piara Lal Thekedar Street,

Mansa 01652233614

..Complainant

Vs

Ms Manjeet Kaur, Under Secy-cum- **(Registered)**

Public Information Officer

o/o the Financial Commissioner Revenue,

Stamp and Registration Branch,

Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer

o/o the Tehsildar, Mansa

....Respondents

Complaint Case No. 846 of 2020

Present:- None on behalf of the complainant.

Sh. Charanjit Singh 7889254016, Ms Shalu Sharma 9803122959, sh. Satnam Singh, Sr. Asstt. and Sh. Gurmukh Singh, Tehsildar Mansa on behalf of the respondents. 8196031300, 9803122959 9478379829.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 23.7.2021.

2. The complainant has sent a request regarding his inability to attend, which is taken on record.

3. That, the respondent-Public Information Officer has sent the detailed reply along with 58 annexures which are being **sent** to the complainant along with this order to file the rejoinder, if any, before the next date of hearing to the respondent-Public Information Officer with a copy to the Commission.

3. To come up on 8.9.2021 at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

SD

Dated: 20.8.2021

(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Rajinder Singh 9478914723

VPO Kohara near Jeet Clinic,

District Ludhiana

....Appellant

vs

Public Information Officer

o/o Deputy Commissioner,

District Ludhiana

First Appellate Authority

o/o Commissioner,

Patiala Division,

Patiala.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3888 of 2020

(Video Conference/Cisco Webex/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Rajinder Singh, appellant.

Sh. Kuldeep Kumar \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 23.7.2021.

2. The appellant states that the respondent-Public Information Officer has not removed the deficiencies as has been pointed out by him.

3. Since, the copy of the same is available in the case file, therefore a copy of the same has been sent to the representative of the respondents during the course of hearing and also a copy of the same is being **sent** to the respondent-Public Information Officer along with this order. He is also directed to file the reply/supply the information regarding the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant before the next date of hearing failing which the penalty provisions will be invoked.

5. To come up on 20.9.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

SD

Dated: 20.8.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.