

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

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Helpline No.0172-2864116(From 10.00 AM to 04.00PM on working days)



Shri Gurmej Lal,
R/o H.No.6375, Street No.16,
Guru Gobind Singh Nagar,
Backside Bachan Gas Agency,
Near Mair Di Chakki, PO Daba,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1011 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Gurmej Lal, Appellant.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, Shri Gurmej Lal, appellant is contacted through telephone and states that he not has been provided any information.
4. Nobody could be contacted through telephone from the side of PIO/respondents. On the previous date of hearing, direction was given to provide complete information as also to file an affidavit in this regard, but there has been no response from the PIO.

Cont..P-2



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AC No.1011/2020

5. PIO is again directed to supply complete information to the appellant before the next hearing. PIO is also directed to file an affidavit duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public, to the effect that the entire information in AC No.1011 of 2020 as available in the official records, has been provided and nothing has been concealed therein. The information supplied is correct and authentic. The original copy of the affidavit be sent to the appellant and photocopy thereof be sent to the Commission for record.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

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R/o H.No.6375, Street No.16,
Guru Gobind Singh Nagar,
Backside Bachan Gas Agency,
Near Mair Di Chakki, PO Daba,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1015 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Gurmej Lal, Appellant.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER: (Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, attempt is made to contact the PIO, but nobody could be contacted through telephone from the side of PIO/respondents. However, a letter dated 20.07.2020 has been received from the PIO by e.mail stating therein that the requisite information has been supplied to the appellant and an acknowledgement from the appellant has also been enclosed.
4. The appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He confirms the receipt of information to his satisfaction.
5. In view of the above, no cause of action is left in the matter. **The appeal is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
21.07.2020

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

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Shri Gurmej Lal,
R/o H.No.6375, Street No.16,
Guru Gobind Singh Nagar,
Backside Bachan Gas Agency,
Near Mair Di Chakki, PO Daba,
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1016 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Gurmej Lal, Appellant.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, Shri Gurmej Lal, appellant is contacted through telephone and states that he not has been provided any information in spite of his visit to the office of PIO on 21.06.2020 and 25.06.2020.
4. Nobody could be contacted through telephone from the side of PIO/respondents. The appellant is again advised to visit the office of PIO on any working day after tying up with the PIO. The PIO will allow the appellant to access the relevant record to identify the information as required by him. After the appellant identifies the documents/information, the PIO will provide him complete information. This is to be done before the next hearing



-2-

AC No.1016/2020

5. PIO is also directed to file an affidavit duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public, to the effect that the entire information in AC No.1016 of 2020 as available in the official records, has been provided and nothing has been concealed therein. The information supplied is correct and authentic. The original copy of the affidavit be sent to the appellant and photocopy thereof be sent to the Commission for record.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09..2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
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Helpline No.0172-2864116(From 10.00 AM to 04.00PM on working days)

Shri Sarabjeet Singh Gill,
R/o H.No.60-35-P-376-1,
Street No.8, Maha Singh Nagar,
PO Dhandari Kalan
Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.1049 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Sarabjeet Singh Gill, Appellant.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER:

(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
 2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C. Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
 3. In view of the position explained above, attempt is made to contact the PIO, but nobody could be contacted through telephone from the side of PIO/respondents. However, a letter dated 20.07.2020 has been received from the PIO by e.mail stating therein that the requisite para-wise information has been supplied to the appellant as also reply to the show cause notice has been received vide the e.mail.
 4. The appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He is read out the information supplied by the PIO. He is not convinced by the reply and alleges that Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana is not disclosing all the details as sought by him.
 5. On examination of the reply, the Bench feels that the appellant has been supplied information adequately and no further cause of action is left in the matter. **The appeal is disposed off and closed.**
- Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
21.07.2020

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

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
R/o Guru Nanak Colony,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
PO Ramgarh, Distt.Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o State Transport Commissioner,
Punjab, Sector-17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o State Transport Commissioner,
Punjab, Sector-17, Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer-cum-

Secretary, Regional
Transport Authority, Ludhiana

....Respondents

AC No.734 of 2020

Present:

- (i) **Appellant is absent**
(ii) **Shri Gural Singh, APIO O/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh, on behalf of the PIO, in person before the Bench.**

ORDER:

(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C. Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, the appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He states that no information has been supplied to him.
4. Shri Gural Singh, APIO O/o S.T.C. Punjab comes in person before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. He produces letter dated 14.07.2020 before the Bench addressed to the PIO O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Ludhiana asking him to send enquiry report to the appellant. He also makes a request for impleading the Secretary, R.T.A. Ludhiana as the Public Information Officer/Respondent.

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.734/2020

5. On going through the file, the Bench observes that the complaint made by the appellant dates back to the year 2015, to which a response was given by the State Transport Commissioner on 09.06.2016 ordering enquiry by the Secretary, R.T.A. Ludhiana. It is surprising that the office of S.T.C. Punjab even after four years has failed to get the enquiry completed and providing copy of enquiry report to the appellant.

6. The Secretary, Regional Transport Authority is impleaded as the PIO . He is also directed to supply the complete information to the appellant regarding the status of the enquiry currently. The impleaded PIO is also directed to come present in person before the Bench on the next date of hearing.

7. The PIO O/o S.T.C. Punjab is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and to explain as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for the delay caused in the supply of information to the appellant and for not attending the hearing. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

8. In addition to the written reply, PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for a personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceeding against him ex-parte.

9. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

The Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Ludhiana/PIO.

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
R/o Guru Nanak Colony,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
PO Ramgarh, Distt.Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

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

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

Public Information Officer
O/o Secretary, Regional
Transport Authority, Ludhiana

....Respondents

AC No.771 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant .**
(ii) **Shri Gural Singh, APIO O/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab,
Chandigarh, on behalf of the PIO in person before the Bench.**

ORDER:
(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, the appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He states that no information has been supplied to him.
4. Shri Gural Singh, APIO O/o S.T.C. Punjab comes in person before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. He states that the application of the appellant stands transferred to the Secretary, R.T.A. Ludhiana who is to supply the information.
5. A letter dated 17.07.2020 addressed to the appellant has been received through e.mail which shows that the information has been supplied to the appellant. The appellant is advised, on receipt of information, to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied.

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.771/2020

6. The PIO O/o Secretary, RTA Ludhiana, is directed to supply the requisite information after addressing the deficiencies, if pointed out, by the appellant based on scrutiny of information supplied on 17.07.2020 before the next date of hearing. The PIO is also directed to come in person on the next date of hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
R/o Guru Nanak Colony,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
PO Ramgarh, Distt.Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, State
Transport Deptt., Punjab,
Sector-17, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o The Director, State
Transport Deptt., Punjab,
Sector-17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.737 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:
(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, the appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He states that no information has been supplied to him.
4. Neither the PIO comes present to attend the hearing at the Commission in Chandigarh nor he has deputed anybody to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO.
5. The Bench, on perusing the file, finds that the PIO O/o Director, State Transport, Punjab, Chandigarh was issued show cause notice on the previous date of hearing, but no reply to the show cause notice has come forth. PIO is directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information and also explaining his absence from the hearing.

Cont...P-2



-2-

AC No.737/2020

6. The PIO is directed to supply complete information to the appellant as also to come in person before the Bench on the next date of hearing, failing which the penal consequences shall follow.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
R/o Guru Nanak Colony,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
PO Ramgarh, Distt.Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Secretary,
Regional Transport Authority,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o State Transport Commissioner,
Punjab, Sector-17, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.770 of 2020

Present: (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Contacted through Telephone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, the appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He states that no information has been supplied to him.
4. In view of the position explained above, attempt is made to contact the PIO, but nobody could be contacted through telephone from the side of PIO/respondents. However, a letter dated 19.06.2020 has been received from the PIO by post stating therein that the information in the form sought by the appellant cannot be supplied and as such, the appellant was to carry out inspection of the relevant record to identify the information he requires, on any working day, which he has not done yet.
5. In view of the above, the appellant is again advised to visit the office of PIO on any working day to peruse the official record and identify the information he requires. The PIO will provide him the documents/ information so identified by him. This is to be done before the next hearing.

Cont...P-2



-2-

AC No.770/2020

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

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Shri Jasbir Singh,
R/o Guru Nanak Colony,
Village Bolapur Jhabewal
PO Ramgarh, Distt.Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary to
Government of Punjab,
Department of Local Govt.,
Punjab Civil Sectt.-2, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary to
Government of Punjab,
Department of Local Govt.,
Punjab Civil Sectt.-2, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.4031/2019 along with AC No.3963 of 2019

Present: (i) **Shri Jasbir Singh, Appellant (Contacted through telephone)**
(ii) **Sh.Jaswinder Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Director, Local Govt. Pb. Chd.**
On behalf of the PIO, in person in Commission's Office, Chandigarh.

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 16.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was scheduled to be heard today through V.C. at DC Office, Ludhiana. However, on contacting the official concerned with the V.C. facility, it is reported that as per orders of D.C.Office, Ludhiana, the public dealing has been prohibited in the D.C. Office due to pandemic of COVID-19, hence, the Video Conferencing cannot be held..
3. In view of the position explained above, the appellant is contacted through telephone in this regard. He states that no information has been supplied to him.
4. Sh. Jaswinder Singh, Senior Assistant, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab comes present in person before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh, on behalf of the PIO. He refers to the letter dated 12.12.2019 whereby report has been sent by the PIO to D.C. Ludhiana and the letter dated 17.03.2020, wherein the reply has been given by the Municipal Town Planner, M.C. Ludhiana to the Commission with a copy to the appellant. The representative of the PIO also reads out the contents of letter dated 12.12.2019 i.e. the report sent to D.C. Ludhiana.



5. The appellant is again contacted through telephone. He is apprised of the contents of the letter dated 12.12.2019 read out by the representative of the PIO. The appellant denies to have received any such letter.

6. After discussion with the representative of the PIO of Directorate of Local Govt. Punjab as well as the appellant, the Bench directs the PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab to again send copies of the letters dated 12.12.2019 and letter dated 17.03.2020 to the appellant.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Ludhiana.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties concerned.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

Copy to:

1. Public Information Officer O/o Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, to attend the hearing through V.C. in DC Office Ludhiana on the above said date and time.
2. Ms. Monika, Municipal Town Planner/PIO, O/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana to attend the hearing through V.C. on the above said date & time.
3. PIO O/o Senior Town Planner, O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Sector-35, Chandigarh to attend the hearing in person in Commission's office at Chandigarh.

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Shri Manjinder Singh
R/o #2469, Sunny Enclave
Sector-125, Kharar,
District SAS Nagar (Mohali).

.....Appellant

Versus

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

First Appellate Authority-cum-
State Transport Commissioner,
Punjab, Sector-17C, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.945 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Manjinder Singh, Appellant in person before the Bench.**
(ii) **None is present on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 17.06.2020 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case was fixed for hearing today through V.C. in D.C. Office, Jalandhar. Nobody has come present and a letter dated 18.07.2020 has been received from the O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Jalandhar stating that seven employees of their office are Corona positive who have been quarantined for 14 days and as such, it is not possible for any official of their office to attend the hearing through V.C. The same is accepted.
3. The appellant comes present in person before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. He states that no information has been supplied to him so far.
4. The Bench observes that on the previous date of hearing, the PIO was issued show cause notice but no reply to the show cause notice has come forth nor any information has been supplied to the appellant.
5. The Bench directs the PIO to provide complete information to the appellant as also to file reply to the show cause notice before the next hearing, failing which the penal consequences shall follow.
6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in the office of D.C. Jalandhar.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

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Mr. Mohd. Feroz Alam
S/o Mr. Mo. Hifajur Rahaman
C/o Dr. Shalligram Singh
Thana Road, Shivhar
Nagar Panchayat
Police Stn. & Distt. Shivhar(Bihar)

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o I.K. Gujral Punjab Technical
University, Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

Registrar, I.K. Gujral Technical
University, Jalandhar.

....Respondents

AC No.1470 of 2020

Present: (i) **Mr. Mohd. Feroz Alam, Appellant - Contacted through telephone.**
(ii) **Shri Hardeep Singh, Assistant Registrar, Punjab Technical University, Jalandhar/PIO.**

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 30.12.2019 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 30.01.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 11.06.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.07.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Jalandhar.
- 3.. Shri Hardeep Singh, Assistant Registrar, P.T.U. Jalandhar/ PIO attends the hearing through Video Conferencing. He states that the appellant has been informed vide letter dated 17.07.2020 that transcript is system generated through the software from the database whenever applied for by the concerned student on the basis of student's declared result whereas the appellant has asked for attested copy of the office copy of issued transcript to one Mr. Ganesh Kumar which is not available with the university and that the University can only attest already issued copy of transcripts. PIO has also contacted the appellant on telephone and briefed him in detail about the answer to his RTI application.
4. After hearing the version of the PIO, the appellant is contacted through telephone who belongs to Bihar. The Bench explained the position to the appellant as stated by the PIO in regard to the information asked for by him and is also made clear that the PIO can only supply the information as

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AC No.1470 of 2020

permissible under the rules and regulations of Punjab Technical University and beyond that no other information can be supplied by him. The appellant is convinced with the same and expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied to him.

5. In view of the above, no further cause of action is left in the matter. **The appeal is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

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

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

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Shri Manpreet Singh,
S/o Sh.Joginder Singh
R/o Pakho, Basti Sahina,
Tehsil Tapa, Distt. Barnala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Regional Transport Authority,
Moga.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Regional Transport Authority,
Moga.

....Respondents

AC No.1172 of 2020

Present: (i) **Shri Manpreet Singh, Appellant**
(ii) **Shri Davinder Singh, Clerk, O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Moga**
(Contacted through Telephone).

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 12.10.2019 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 06.12.2020 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 18.03.2020 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.07.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Barnala.
3. Shri Manpreet Singh, appellant attends the hearing through V.C. He states that he has not been given any reply to his RTI application by the PIO nor by the First Appellate Authority and nothing has been heard from the PIO even after filing the Second appeal before the Commission.
4. Since neither the PIO himself nor anybody on his behalf has come present to attend the hearing through VC, Shri Davinder Singh, Clerk of the office of Secretary, R.T.A. Moga is contacted through telephone. On enquiring regarding the instant appeal case, he shows his ignorance about the case.
5. In view of this, the Bench directs the PIO who is reported by Shri Davinder Singh, to be Superintendent in the office of Secretary, R.T.A. Moga, to call the appellant to his office on any working day by tying up with him and allow him access to the relevant official records to enable the appellant to identify the information required by him. The PIO is directed to provide him all the information so identified before the next date of hearing.



6. PIO is also directed to file an affidavit duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public, to the effect that the entire information in AC No.1172 of 2020 as available in the official records, has been provided and nothing has been concealed therein. The information supplied is correct and authentic. The original copy of the affidavit be sent to the appellant and photocopy thereof be sent to the Commission for record.

7. The Bench observes that in spite of registered notice sent to the PIO, neither the PIO himself has come present nor he has deputed anybody to attend the hearing which is viewed adversely. The PIO O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Moga is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and to explain as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for the delay caused in supply of information to the appellant. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

8. In addition to the written reply, PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for a personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceeding against him ex-parte.

9. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 08.09.2020 through V.C. in the office of D.C. Barnala.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
21.07.2020**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab9**