PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Sh. Tarsem Singh, Ex-Subedar, President Gram Vikas Society (Regd.), Khanpur, Tehsil Baba Bakala Sahib, Distt. Amritsar. (M: 9915097137).

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer O/o Tehsildar, Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o SDM, Baba Bakala, Distt. Amritsar.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1236 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

Present: Sh. Tarsem Singh, appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents.

Order

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 21.6.2022 vide which the case was adjourned on the request of the appellant and was fixed for hearing today.

- 2. The appellant states that the PIO has not supplied the sought information.
- 3. None is present on behalf of the respondents. Sh. Varinder Singh, Daftar Kanoogo when contacted on telephone by the Commission he stated that none has joined the post of Tehsildar so far and he himself has been transferred to Amritsar.
- 4. In view of the above, the case is adjourned.
- 5. To come up on 24.08.2022 at 12.30 P.M. to be heard through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.

sd

Dated 21.7.2022 (Suresh Arora)

@s Chief information Commissioner, Punjab

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Sh. Inderjit Singh Sandhu (M: 9855622467),

Village Bhaana, Tehsil Zira,

Distt. Ferozepur.Appellant

Vs.

Ms. Lakhwinder Kaur, 9815955414
Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,
Makhu, Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,
Ferozepur.

Sh. Vikrant Puri 6280977143,
Public Information Officer,
Block Development and Panchayats Officer-cumZira.

.....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 4749 of 2021. (Video Conference Proceedings)

Present: Sh. Inderjit Singh Sandhu, appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents.

Order

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 15.6.2022. The case was not heard due to technical glitch in the video conference facility. The case was adjourned and fixed for hearing today i.e. 21.7.2022.

- 2. The appellant states that the respondents have not provided him the information so far.
- 3. None is present on behalf of the respondents.
- 4. That on hearing dated 14.3.2022, Ms. Lakhwinder Kaur, Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Zira cum Public Information Officer was issued a show cause notice for non supply of the information and was directed to submit her response for non supply of the information. She was also given opportunity for personal hearing on next date of hearing. The case was adjourned and fixed for hearing on 26.4.2022.
- 5. On hearing dated 26.4.2022, Ms. Lakhwinder Kaur stated that she has been transferred and Mr. Vikrant Puri has joined as BDPO in her place and she will apprise him regarding the case. She did not file any response to the show cause notice issued to her. One opportunity was granted to her to file the reply in this case failing which the case would be decided ex-parte, on merit. The case was adjourned and fixed for hearing on 15.6.2022. The respondents have not

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Appeal Case No. 4749 of 2021.

complied with the orders of the Commission and information has not been provided to the appellant so far.

- 6. Keeping in view of the above, It seems that Public Authority is not tuned to perform his duties enshrined under the RTI Act, 2005. It is also clear that the appellant has been harassed in getting the information. Therefore, ends of the justice would be met to award compensation in this case to the appellant. Accordingly an amount of Rs.10000/-(Rs Ten Thousand) is awarded as compensation to the appellant in this case. Hence, the respondent Public Information Officer is directed to pay the compensation amount out of the state exchequer before the next date of hearing to the applicant failing which the penalty provision will also be invoked and the case file is being sent to the Financial Commissioner, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt.,Pb. with the recommendation to take disciplinary action against Ms. Lakhwinder Kaur, Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Zira cum Public Information Officer and Sh. Vikrant Puri, BDPO, Zira for the non compliance of the orders of the Commission.
- 7. To come up on 21.8.2022 at 12.30 P.M. to be heard through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

sd

Dated 21.7.2022 @s (Suresh Arora)
Chief information Commissioner, Punjab.

CC

Financial Commissioner, Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt.,Pb Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector 9, Chandigarh.

Director, (By name) Rural Dev. & Panchayats Punjab, Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali.

Ms. Lakhwinder Kaur, (M9501316414), Through Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Zira. Sh. Vikrant Puri, Through BDPO, Zira