

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION  
RED CROSS BUILDING, MADHYA MARG, SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH  
Fax 0172-2864110 Phone No-0172-2864120

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab



Rajinder Kumar S/o Sh. Mehar Chand,  
Ward No. 02, Supreme Enclave,  
Near Vishavkarma Bhawan,  
Link Road, Mansa(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 3782 of 2020**

Present : Sh. Rajinder Kumar, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Munish Garg, Senior Assistant (General Branch), on behalf of the respondent.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.09.2020. First appeal is dated 07.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 01.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Amit Kumar and Sh. Jang Bahadur, both Senior Assistants of General Branch, stated that the requisite information was sent to the appellant through registered post.
- ii) The appellant stated that no information has been received by him from the respondent PIO till date.
- iii) An opportunity was given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the supplied information to the appellant again through an e-mail with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Munish Garg, Senior Assistant (General Branch), who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant.

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Kumar, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has received twenty nine pages of information from the respondent PIO but information given to him is not complete as he has received information at point no. 01 and 02 of the RTI request and information at point no. 03 has not been given and information given at point no. 04 is not legible.

An opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring certified copies of the remaining information at point no. 03 of RTI request and also legible copies of the information at point no. 04 of the RTI request in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that the same could be handed over to the appellant

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Rajinder Kumar  
S/o Sh. Mehar Chand,  
Ward No. 02, Supreme Enclave,  
Near Vishavkarma Bhawan,  
Link Road, Mansa(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 3783 of 2020

Present : Sh. Rajinder Kumar, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Munish Garg, Senior Assistant (General Branch), on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 03.09.2020. First appeal is dated 05.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 01.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Amit Kumar and Sh. Jang Bahadur, both Senior Assistants of General Branch, stated that the requisite information was sent to the appellant through registered post.
- ii) The appellant stated that no information has been received by him from the respondent PIO till date.
- iii) An opportunity was given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the supplied information to the appellant again through an e-mail with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Munish Garg, Senior Assistant (General Branch) , who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant.

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Kumar, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has received information at point no. 02 and 03 of the RTI request and information at point no. 01 has not been given to him till date.

An opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring certified copies of the remaining information at point no. 01 of RTI request in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that the same could be handed over to the appellant

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

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Parveen Kumar Sayal,  
"Sayal & Company",  
Octroi Contractor,  
Sirhind, Distt. – Fatehgarh Sahib - 140406(Punjab)  
V/s

....Appellant

- i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
- ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Superintendent,  
Establishment Branch,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 3780 of 2020**

Present : Sh. N. K. Sayal on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), in person.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 06.09.2020. First appeal is dated 06.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 01.09.2021 ;

- i) Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch), stated that the available information was supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 31967 dated 10.08.2021 through registered post and a reply dated 27.08.2021 in the shape of an affidavit, was also sent to the Commission vide letter no. 34887 dated 27.08.2021.
- ii) Sh. N. K. Sayal (representative of the appellant), stated that irrelevant information was given to him by the respondent PIO and he pointed certain deficiencies through a letter dated 24.08.2021.
- iii) The appellant was advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 noon to identify and collect the required information.
- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 and supply the required information to the appellant, identified by him after inspection.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information or not.

Sh. N. K. Sayal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant., Sh. Parveen Kumar , in today's hearing, states that irrelevant information has been given to him by the respondent PIO and deficiencies, pointed out by him through a letter dated 25.08.2021, have not been removed till date.

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the RTI request of the appellant has been transferred by Superintendent of Establishment Branch of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh to Superintendent, LG – III Branch vide letter no. 39947 dated 24.09.2021, whereas, the information demanded through RTI request relates with Establishment Branch of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

After examining the documents placed in the case-file, it is found that the RTI request of the appellant is dated 06.09.2020 and the RTI request of the appellant has been transferred by Superintendent of Establishment Branch of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh to Superintendent, LG – III Branch vide letter no. 39946 dated 24.09.2021, which is after a period of one year.

As the RTI request of the appellant should have been transferred to the concerned office within stipulated time under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act but the proper procedure was not followed by the respondent party, accordingly, the Public Information Officer office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab is directed concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

As the respondent PIO of office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch was not exempted from the further hearings of this case, moreover, the respondent PIO or any of representative of office of Superintendent of Establishment Branch is not present in today's hearing. He/She has also not sent any intimation regarding his/her non-availability. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

In view of the above, a show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act is issued to Public Information Officer concerned of office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him/her for willful delay/denial in supplying the information to the RTI applicant under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

He/She may note that in case he does not file his/her submission and does not avail himself/herself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings', it will be presumed that he/she has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him/her ex-parte. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO after inspection well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO (Superintendent, Establishment Branch) to bring a copy of the information (which would be supplied to the appellant) with the relevant official record in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Parveen Kumar Sayal,  
"Sayal & Company",  
Octroi Contractor,  
Sirhind,  
Distt. – Fatehgarh Sahib - 140406(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 3779 of 2020**

Present : Sh. N. K. Sayal on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), in person.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 13.01.2020. First appeal is dated 14.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 01.09.2021 ;

- i) Ms. Sunita Sharma, Superintendent(Establishment Branch), stated that the available information was supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 31973 dated 10.08.2021 through registered post and a reply dated 27.08.2021 in the shape of an affidavit, was also sent to the Commission.
- ii) Sh. N. K. Sayal (representative of the appellant), stated that irrelevant information was given to him by the respondent PIO and he pointed certain deficiencies through a letter dated 24.08.2021.
- iii) The appellant was advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 noon to identify and collect the required information.
- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office on 23.09.2021 at 12:00 and supply the required information to the appellant, identified by him after inspection.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information or not.



Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant.

Sh. N. K. Sayal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant., Sh. Parveen Kumar , in today's hearing, states that irrelevant information has been given to him by the respondent PIO.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring a copy of the information (which was already supplied to the appellant) with the relevant official record in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia,  
Ward No.18, Street No.2,  
Kartar Nagar, Amloh Road,  
Khanna, District Ludhiana(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

- i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Chief Vigilance Officer,  
Deptt. of Director, Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
- ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Superintendent,  
LG – III Branch,  
Deptt. of Director, Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director, Local Government, Punjab,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 2351 of 2021

Present : Sh. Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, the appellant in person.  
i) Sh. Rajeev Saggar, Superintendent-cum-APIO of Vigilance Cell ;  
ii) Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), in person.

### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 17.12.2020. First appeal is dated 25.01.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 17.05.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) The appellant intimated that he had not received any information at point no. 02 and 03 of the RTI request and information given by respondent at point no. 01 is also incomplete.
- ii) Sh. Navdeep Sharma, Chief Sanitary Inspector of Vigilance Cell, stated a reply was given to the appellant vide letter no. 103 Dated 12.01.2021, intimating him that the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of Superintendent, LG – III Branch and RTI request was transferred to Superintendent, LG – III vide letter no. 102 Dated 12.01.2021 .
- iii) As the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of LG – III Branch, hence, Public Information Officer of LG – III Branch was impleaded as necessary party in this case and was directed to send the required information (whatever query/queries relates to his office) to the appellant with a copy to the Commission.

The appellant, Sh. Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, who appeared in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Sh. Rajeev Saggar, Superintendent-cum-APIO of Vigilance Cell, who appeared in today's hearing, states that a reply was already given to the appellant vide letter no. 103 Dated 12.01.2021, intimating him that the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of Superintendent, LG – III Branch and RTI request was transferred to Superintendent, LG – III vide letter no. 102 Dated 12.01.2021 and intimation was also sent to the Commission vide letter no. 3272 Dated 01.09.2021 and again a reply has been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 4468 dated 16.11.2021, which is placed in the case-file.

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that required fee of Rs. 2690/- was not deposited by the appellant, which was demanded from him vide letter no. 2144 dated 19.10.2021 to get the required information. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 2145 dated 19.10.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 25500 dated 11.11.2021. It is taken on record.

After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the RTI request is dated 17.12.2020 and the respondent PIO has demanded the required fee from the appellant vide letter no. 2144 dated 19.10.2021, which is not within the stipulated time as per rules of the Right to Information Act and at this stage, the respondent PIO is bound to supply the requisite information to the appellant 'free of cost'.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

The case is adjourned to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (Tuesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Janak Raj  
S/o Sh. Jangir Singh,  
Tiwana Street, Ward – 12,  
Near Gandhi School,  
MANSA(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Executive Officer,  
Nagar Panchayat,  
Handiaya,  
District - Barnala (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Additional Deputy Commissioner  
(Urban Development),  
PATIALA (Punjab)

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 2366 of 2021

Present : Sh. Janak Raj, the appellant in person.  
None on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 10.11.2020. First appeal is dated 10.01.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 18.05.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Manpreet Singh, Executive officer, stated that a point-wise reply was given to the appellant vide letter no. 753 dated 16.12.2020.
- ii) The appellant, Sh. Janak Raj, was not present in today's hearing.
- iii) An opportunity was given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the information again to the appellant through registered post with a copy of above-mentioned reply and copy of postal receipt to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the respondent PIO through a reply vide letter no. 620 dated 07.09.2021, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail, has intimated the Commission that in compliance to the order dated 06.09.2021 the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant through registered post . It, alongwith a copy of postal receipt, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Janak Raj, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has received the above-said reply but through that reply the respondent PIO has intimated that information demanded through RTI request can not be given under the provisions of the RTI Act..

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring a copy of the information/reply (which was already given to the appellant) with the relevant official record in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

As First Appellate Authority in the instant appeal-case is Regional Deputy Director, Urban Local Bodies, Pb., Mini Secretariat, Patiala and six posts of Deputy Director, Urban Local Bodies in State of Punjab has been abolished and in every District, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development) are appointed, accordingly, a copy of this order be sent through registered post in the name of First Appellate Authority office of Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Patiala instead of Regional Deputy Director, Local Bodies, Patiala for further hearing/hearings of this case.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Bittu  
S/o Sh. Om Kumar,  
Village – Bholapur Jhabewal,  
P.O. Ramgarh,  
District – Ludhiana (Punjab)

.... Complainant

V/s

i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Addl. Chief Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Addl. Deputy Commissioner,  
(Urban Development),  
Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

### **Complaint Case No. 602 of 2021**

Present : None on behalf of the complainant.  
Sh. Rajesh Kalra, Joint Deputy Director O/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana,  
on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 20.03.2021. The complaint has been received in the  
Commission on 19.05.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) The complainant was not present.
- ii) Sh. Rajeev Kumar Building Inspector of office of Chief Town Planner of office of Local Government, Punjab, stated that a reply was sent to the complainant vide letter no. 1572 dated 30.04.2021 and again vide letter no. 2575 dated 28.07.2021, intimating him that the information demanded through the RTI request relates with office of Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana (presently Addl. Deputy Commissioner(Urban Development), Ludhiana), hence the same(RTI request) was transferred under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act to office of Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana (presently Addl. Deputy Commissioner(Urban Development), Ludhiana) vide letter no. 1571 dated 30.04.2021.
- iii) As the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana (presently Addl. Deputy Commissioner(Urban Development), Ludhiana, hence, Public Information Officer of above-said office was impleaded as necessary party in this case.

The complainant, Sh. Bittu, through a letter dated 20.09.2021, which was received in the Commission through an e-mail, has intimated the Commission that complete information has not been given to him by the respondent PIO/ has intimated the Commission that he is unable to attend today's hearing and requested for an adjournment in this case. It is taken on record.

Sh. Rajesh Kalra, Joint Deputy Director O/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the certified copy of report sent by office of Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Sahnewal has already been given to the complainant vide letter no. 4656 dated 02.09.2021 and again vide letter no. 5111 dated 21.09.2021, intimating him that the colony, regarding which the information has been demanded by the appellant, does not come under jurisdiction of Nagar Council, Sahnewal, moreover, the information regarding un-authorized colonies, can be collected from office of Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority, Ludhiana. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 5433 dated 06.10.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 24066 dated 25.10.2021. It, alongwith annexure, is taken on record.

Accordingly, a copy of this order alongwith a copy of RTI request be sent through registered post to office of Administrator, Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority, Ludhiana with the advice to ensure presence of any of official of his office as a representative to represent this case on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings so that facts of this case could be cleared.

The case is adjourned to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (Tuesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>nd</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

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(Regd. Post)

The Administrator,  
Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority  
G. L. A. D. A.,  
Ludhiana (Punjab)

Encl: RTI request

Ashok Kumar Watts  
S/o Sh. Des Raj,  
H. No. B-V-1534, Street – 01,  
Lajpat Nagar, Abohar, Distt. – Fazilka-152116(Punjab)

V/s

....Appellant

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Secretary to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
(L G – 3 Branch), Municipal Bhawan,  
Sector 35 - A, Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 4032 of 2020**

Present : Sh. Ashok Kumar Watts, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), in person.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.09.2020. First appeal is dated 08.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 14.12.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) The appellant through a letter dated 16.08.2021, had intimated the Commission that irrelevant information was given to him as he has received a reply vide letter no. 1408 dated 19.07.2021 from the respondent PIO, intimating him that information demanded at point no. 01 to 03 of the RTI request has been transferred to office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, (Town Planning Wing) under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act.
- ii) Further, Assistant Town Planner of office of Local Government, Punjab given reply vide letter no. 2734 dated 09.08.2021, intimating that the information demanded by does not relate with Chief Town Planning Wing.
- iii) After examining the case-file, it emerged that the RTI request dated 07.09.2020 of the appellant was addressed to Public Information Officer office of Secretary to Government. of Punjab, Deptt. of Local Government and the required fee was also deposited with the same office.
- iv) As the RTI request of the appellant should have been transferred to the concerned office/branch within stipulated time under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act but proper procedure was not followed by the respondent party, accordingly, the Public Information Officer office of Secretary to Government. of Punjab, Deptt. of Local Government – III Branch was directed to supply the required information to the appellant after collecting the same from the concerned Branch/office.

The appellant, Sh. Ashok Kumar Watts, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Contd...2/-



Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO (LG – III Branch), who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the information demanded at point no. 01, 02, 03 and 04 of the RTI request would be supplied to the appellant and seeks ten day's time to supply the required information . He also states that information at point no. 05 of the RTI request, the appellant has demanded action taken report on complaints dated 314/10.08.2020 and 311/21.07.2020 and requested that if the appellant would provide copy of above-said complaints, information could be supplied to him.

The appellant is advised to send copy of above-said complaints (314/10.08.2020 and 311/21.07.2020) to the respondent PIO so that information could be supplied.

Another opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant, as per queries raised by him through his RTI request by registered post or through an e-mail with a copy to the Commission before the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information (which would be supplied by respondent PIO) or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned by the next date of hearing.

The case is adjourned to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (Tuesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Ajit Singh Talwandi,  
Village – Nikku Chakk,  
P. O. – Hajipur, Tehsil – Mukerian,  
Distt. – Hoshiarpur – 144221 (Punjab)

V/s

....Appellant

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Public Instructions (Elem.) Pb.,  
P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 68,  
S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) (Punjab)

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The District Edu. Officer (Elem.) Pb.,  
Hoshiarpur (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Public Instructions (Elem.) Pb.,  
P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 68,  
S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) (Punjab)

...Respondents

- i) Appeal Case No. 4037 of 2020
- ii) Appeal Case No. 4038 of 2020
- iii) Appeal Case No. 4069 of 2020

Present : None on behalf the appellant.  
Sh. Satish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO O/o D. E. O.(Elem.), Hoshiarpur, in person.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.07.2020. First appeal is dated 17.08.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 15.12.2020

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Satish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO office of District Education Officer(Elem.), Hoshiarpur, stated that information was sent to the appellant time and again through letters dated 14.06.2020, 06.01.2021, 04.03.2021, moreover, a fresh enquiry was also made and report dated 07.06.2021 was sent to the appellant vide letters dated 08.06.2021, 21.06.2021 and 01.09.2021.
- ii) The appellant stated that irrelevant information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO, moreover, whatever information was given to him is unattested.
- iii) Last and final opportunity was given to the respondent PIO to supply the certified copies of the required information as per queries raised by the appellant through RTI request, to the appellant through registered post with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information/reply or not.
- v) As contents of RTI applications filed in A. C. No. 4037 of 2020' and other two other cases i. e. A. C. No. 4038 of 2020 and A. C. No. 4069 of 2020 were found the same . Hence, the above-said appeal cases i. e. 'A. C. No. 4037 of 2020, A. C. No. 4038 of 2020 and A. C. No. 4069 of 2020' were clubbed so that a common order could be passed in future hearings of the cases.

Sh. Satish Kumar, Superintendent-cum-PIO O/o District Education Officer(Elem.), Hoshiarpur, who appeared in person in today's hearing , states that information has already been sent to the appellant time and again through letters dated 14.06.2020, 06.01.2021, 04.03.2021, moreover, a fresh enquiry was also made and report dated 07.06.2021 was sent to the appellant vide letters dated 08.06.2021, 21.06.2021 and 01.09.2021. He also intimates the Commission that information of eleven pages has again been sent to the appellant vide letter no. 309017-18 dated 07.09.2021 and a copy of the reply dated 07.09.2021 has also been sent to the Commission, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It, alongwith annexure, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Ajit Singh Talwandi, is not present in today's hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information (which has been sent by respondent PIO vide letter dated 07.09.2021) or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned by the next date of hearing. He is also advised represent this case in person or through his representative on the next date fixed for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' or it would be assumed that the appellant has received the required information and is satisfied with the same and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (Tuesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**

Amarjit Singh Dhamotia,  
H. No. 60-35-P-376-1,  
Street No. 08, Maha Singh Nagar,  
P. O. - Dhandari Kalan, Ludhiana(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 3710 of 2020**

Present : Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, the appellant in person with Sh. Gurmej Lal.  
Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell), on behalf of the  
respondent.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 28.08.2020. First appeal is dated 28.09.2020. Second  
appeal has been received in the Commission on 24.11.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell) , stated that present status report on a complaint dated 10.08.2020, was given to the appellant vide letter no. 35332 dated 11.09.2020 and again letter no. 35264 dated 31.08.2021 intimating that the case-file was down-marked to LG - I Branch as demanded through RTI request.
- ii) The appellant who appeared with Sh. Gurmej Lal stated that no such above-said reply was received by him from the respondent PIO.
- iii) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to send the above-mentioned reply again to the appellant through e-mail address i. e. [gurmejalsharma12@gmail.com](mailto:gurmejalsharma12@gmail.com) as well as through registered post with a copy of postal receipt to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the reply or not.

Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell) , who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing , states that the RTI request is regarding present status report (on a complaint dated 10.08.2020 and report was given to the appellant vide letter no. 35332 dated 11.09.2020 and again letter no. 35264 dated 31.08.2021 intimating that the case-file was down-marked to LG-I Branch as demanded through RTI request. He also intimates the Commission that in compliance to order dated 06.09.2021, a reply has again been sent to the appellant vide letter no. 35332 dated 11.09.2021 with a copy to the Commission. It is taken on record

The appellant, Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, who appeared in person with Sh. Gurmej Lal in today's hearing, states that the reply given by the respondent is not satisfactory.

Contd...2/-

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring a copy of the information (which was already supplied to the appellant) with the relevant official record in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**

Bharat Bhushan Mattu,  
H. No. 153, Akash Nagar,  
Near Green Land School,  
Distt. – Ludhiana - 141008(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The District Education Officer(Elem.),  
S. A. S. Nagar (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Secretary  
to Government of Punjab,  
Deptt. of School Education,  
Mini Secretariat, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 3583 of 2020

Present : None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Rajpal Jain, Senior Assistant, on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 18.08.2020. First appeal is dated 25.09.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 18.11.2020.

On the last date of hearing, held on 06.09.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Ravinder Singh and Sh. Rajpal Jain, both Senior Assistants, stated that a reply was given to the appellant vide letter no. 292858 dated 31.08.2021.
- ii) The appellant stated that incomplete information was given to him by the respondent PIO.
- iii) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to send a reply to the appellant, mentioning what action was taken on the complainant dated 18.02.2020 (regarding which information was demanded through RTI request) till 18.08.2020, with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the reply or not.

Sh. Rajpal Jain, Senior Assistant, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information of fifty four pages has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 350902 dated 25.10.2021 and a copy of reply has also been sent to the Commission, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 25541 dated 11.11.2021. He also intimates the Commission that the appellant had pointed out deficiencies in the information supplied to him, which have also been removed.

The appellant, Sh. Bharat Bhushan Mattu, through a letter dated 12.11.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 25692 dated 15.11.2021, has intimated the Commission that incomplete information has been given to him by the respondent PIO as information at point no. 03 and 04 has still not been given and he had pointed out deficiencies in the information supplied to him. It is taken on record.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring a copy of the information (which was already supplied to the appellant) with the relevant official record in the office of State Information Commission, Punjab before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 9<sup>th</sup> February, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**

Jiwan Garg  
S/o Sh. Om Parkash Garg,  
H. No. B-1/473-A, Ward No. 23,  
Opp. Old Bombay Palace,  
Jakhal Road, SUNAM,  
Distt. – Sangrur (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Hon'ble District and Session Judge,  
Sangrur (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Hon'ble District and Session Judge,  
Sangrur (Punjab)

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 2899 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Jiwan Garg, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Nardeep Singh Thakur, Superintendent-cum-PIO, in person.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 18.08.2020. First appeal is dated 20.10.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 11.06.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 27.09.2021 ;

- i) The appellant through a letter dated 23.09.2021, intimated the Commission that he is unable to attend hearing and requested for an adjournment.
- ii) The respondent through a reply vide letter no. 6509 dated 20.09.2021 signed by District and Session Judge, Sangrur, intimated the Commission that a detailed reply was given to the appellant vide letter no. 6510 dated 20.09.2021.
- iii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to send a written submission as counter-reply to the concerned PIO by registered post well in time with a copy to the Commission so that a re-joinder could be filed by the respondent PIO concerned.
- iv) Another opportunity was given to both the parties (appellant and the respondent PIO) to represent this case in person or through their representative, on the fixed date so that the facts of this case could be cleared or the case would be decided on merits.

The appellant, Sh. Jiwan Garg, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has filed a counter-reply in response to reply given by the respondent vide letter no. 6510 dated 20.09.2021, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail dated 18.11.2021. It, alongwith annexure is taken on record.



Sh. Nardeep Singh Thakur, Superintendent-cum-PIO, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the reply sent by the appellant has been received alongwith annexure of around 850 pages and requests for an adjournment to go through the reply (sent by the appellant) so that rejoinder can be filed. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission signed by himself vide letter no. 7895 dated 18.11.2021 which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail, intimating that office of Learned District and Session Judge, Sangrur has initiated the process to fill up the posts of Peons, Safai Sewak, Clerks and Stenographers and other administrative work is to be looked by himself. It is taken on record.

The request is granted.

An opportunity is given to the concerned respondent PIO to file a re-joinder to the reply dated 18.11.2021, filed by the appellant to the Commission by the next date of hearing and also send a copy of the same to the appellant.

Both the parties (appellant and the respondent PIO) to represent this case in person or through their representative, on next date fixed for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'

The case is adjourned to 21<sup>st</sup> February, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 22<sup>th</sup> November, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'