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Sh. Bhupinder Singh, S/o Sh Sh Dhian Singh, 1-2 Fateh Singh Colony, Main Bharariwal Road, Amritsar.

... Appellant

Public Information Officer,

O/o SE, HQ/Admin Border Zone, PSPCL. Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Chief Engineer, Border Zone, PSPCL, Amritsar.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 680 of 2019

Versus

PRESENT: Sh.Bhupinder Singh as the Appellant

Sh.Anant Goyal, Nodel Officer, RTI Cell, PSPCL Patiala and Sh.Sandeep Kumar, Asstt.Accounts Officer, PSPCL Amritsar for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was last heard on **13.05.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that the information concerning them has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 28.11.2018 and for remaining information which relates to the Nodel Officer, RTI Cell, Head Office, Patiala, they have asked the Nodel Officer PSPCL Patiala to provide the information concerning them to the appellant.

The PIO-cum-Nodel Officer, RTI Cell, PSPCL Patiala was directed to look at the RTI application and provide the remaining information to the appellant within 15 days. The PIO was also directed to reply why the information was not provided after the First Appellate Authority ordered to provide the information.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar. The PIO-Nodel Officer present from the RTI Cell PSPCL Patiala is present at Chandigarh and informed that since the matter regarding application dated 25.06.2018 of the appellant was related to the SE-HQ/Border Zone, PSPCL Amritsar, they sent the same to the Director-DG vide letter dated 02.07.2019 and the Director-DG further sent the application to the SE-HQ/Border Zone, PSPCL Amritsar vide letter No.3618 dated 05.07.2018 for necessary action and that the concerned PIO has provided the information to the appellant vide letter dated 28.11.2018.

Hearing both the parties, the Commission finds that the information has been provided to the best possible extent and no further course of action is required.

The case is **disposed off and closed**.

Chandigarh Dated 23.07.2019

(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

CC to PIO-cum-Nodel Officer,RTI Cell PSPCL Patiala.

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Ph: 0172-2864114, Email: - psicsic30@punjabmail.gov.in





Sh Jai Chand, H No-3/130, Street No-1, Ram Sharnam Colony, Fazilka.

...Appellant.

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o MC, Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Regional Deputy Director, Local Govt, Ferozepur.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3217 of 2018

Present: Sh.Jai Chand as the Appellant

Sh.Prem Kumar for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard on **05.12.2018**. The respondent was absent. The Commission received a letter on 20.11.2018 from the PIO stating therein that the information has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 30.06.2018 and a copy of the same is submitted to the Commission. The appellant was not satisfied with the information provided except information regarding point 2(a) & 2(b) The appellant further stated that he has received the information only on 17.11.2018 after the submission of second appeal with the Commission.

Having gone through the RTI application and the reply of the PIO, the Commission directed the PIO to relook at point 2 (c) & 2(d) and provide the complete information within a week. The PIO was also directed to submit proof of sending information on 30.06.2018 and produce dispatch register.

The case was again heard on **11.02.2019** through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Fazilka. Since both the parties were absent, the case was adjourned.

The case was last heard o **20.05.2019** through video conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Fazilka. The appellant pleaded that the PIO has provided information regarding point-2(c) from 01.04.2018 onwards whereas he had sought information from 01.04.2014. The PIO has also not supplied the information on point-2(d).

The respondent was absent and vide email has sought exemption stating that the PIO alongwith other staff is on election duty. The Commission observed this as a delaying tactic by the PIO and directed the PIO to explain the reasons for late reply as well as not providing the complete information. The PIO was also directed to provide complete information to the appellant as per earlier order within a week and send a compliance report to the Commission.

Appeal Case No. 3217 of 2018

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Fazilka. The appellant informed that he has received the information but with a delay of one year.

The respondent present pleaded that they received the RTI application on 28.05.2018 and sent the information to the appellant vide letter dated 30.06.2018. The respondent further pleaded that there was some discrepancy which has now been sorted out and complete information has been provided to the appellant.

Since the information has been provided, no further course of action is required. The case is **disposed off and closed.**

Chandigarh Dated: 23.07.2019

(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

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Sh.Manjit Singh, S/o Sh.Sohan Singh, H no-388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

Appellant.

Versus

Public Information Officer O/oFinance Minister, Pb, Chandigarh..

First Appellate Authority, O/oChief Minister, Pb, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3316 of 2018

Present: Sh.Manjit Singh as the Appellant

Sh.Dharmender Singh, Steno O/o RTA Mohai for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard **on 18.12.2018.**The respondent present pleaded that the appellant had filed RTI application with the office of Finance Minister, Punjab and they received the application from the office of Finance Minister on 25.07.2018. The respondent further pleaded that the appellant was asked vide letter dated 03.08.2018 to deposit requisite fee for getting information but the appellant has not deposited the fee. The appellant had denied having received the reply of the PIO.

Having gone through the file, it was observed that the RTI application was attended by the PIO well within the time but the appellant had not filed first appeal with the appropriate authority. The appellant was directed to deposit the requisite fee and get the information.

During further scrutiny of the case, it was observed that the appellant had filed two similar applications seeking exactly the same information vide appeal case No.3317/2018 & appeal case No.3318/2018 from the office of Chief Secretary, Punjab, Chandigarh The Commission found it clearly a violation of the spirit of the RTI Act as it diverts the resources of the department/public authority unnecessarily. Keeping this fact in mind, all these three cases were clubbed together. The Commission made Ms.Simranpreet Kaur O/o of Principal Secretary, Govt of Punjab, Department of Transport as deemed PIO and directed the PIO to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days after receipt of requisite fee. The PIO was also directed to submit proof of dispatch of letter dated 03.08.2018.

The case was again heard on **12.02.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that the appellant has not deposited the requisite fee. The respondent also submitted proof of dispatch of letter dated 03.08.2018.

The respondent further pleaded that since part of the information sought pertains to the office of STC Punjab, they have already sent a request letter to the STC asking them to provide the information but the same is still awaited.

The PIO-STC, Punjab, Chandigarh was made a party and was directed to handover the information to Ms.Simranpreet Kaur immediately enabling her to send the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing. The PIO was directed to provide the information after taking requisite applicable fee from the appellant.

Appeal Case No. 3316 of 2018

The case again came up for hearing on **02.04.2019**. The respondents present from CM Office and Finance Department pleaded that since the information relates to the office of State Transport Commissioner, they should be exempted. The respondent present from the office of Principal Secretary, Transport, Punjab pleaded that the information concerning them relating to points 1 & 2 has been provided to the appellant and since the remaining information relates to STC Punjab, Chandigarh, they have corresponded many times with the office of State Transport Commissioner but they have not provided the information.

The PIO-STC was absent. The PIO-STC was directed to provide the information in all three appeal cases No.3316/2018, 3317/2018 & 3318/2018 which were clubbed together in the last hearing. The PIO-STC was also directed to appear personally on the next date of hearing. Ms.Simranpreet Kaur was exempted from deemed PIO. The respondent from Finance Department and CM office are also exempted.

The case was last heard on **21.05.2019.** The appellant was absent. The respondent present from the office of STC pleaded that the enquiry has been marked to RTA Mohali and whatever the investigation, is being done by them. They have sent reply to the appellant vide letter dated 20.05.2019. The PIO-Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar, Mohali was directed to look at the RTI application and send reply to the appellant as applicable under the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The respondent present from the office of RTA Mohali has sought adjournment stting that the enquiry is still pending and will take some more time to complete.

Adjournment is granted and the PIO-RTA Mohali is directed to complete the enquiry and provide the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing.

To come up on **05.11.2019** at **11.00** AM for further hearing.

Sd/Chandigarh (Khushwant Singh)
Dated: 23.07.2019 State Information Commissioner

CC to: 1. The PIO, State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

2. PIO-Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar, Mohali

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Sh.Manjit Singh, S/o Sh.Sohan Singh, H no-388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

Appellant.

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Chief Secretary, Pb, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Chief Secretary, Pb, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3317 of 2018

Present: Sh.Manjit Singh as the Appellant

Sh.Arvind Kumar, RTA Patiala for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard **on 18.12.2018.**The respondent present pleaded that the appellant had filed RTI application with the office of Chief Secretary, Punjab and they received the application from the office of Chief Secretary on06.07.2018. The respondent further pleaded that the appellant was asked vide letter dated 18.07.2018 to deposit requisite fee for getting the information but the appellant had not deposited the fee. The appellant had denied having received the reply of the PIO.

Having gone through the file, it was observed that the RTI application was attended by the PIO well within the time. The appellant was directed to deposit the requisite fee and get the information.

During further scrutiny of the case, it was observed that the appellant had filed two similar applications seeking exactly the same information vide appeal case No.3316/2018 & appeal case No.3318/2018 from the office of Finance Minister, Punjab and the office of Chief Secretary, Punjab, Chandigarh. The Commission found it clearly a violation of the spirit of the RTI Act as it diverts the resources of the department/public authority unnecessarily. Keeping this fact in mind, all these three cases were clubbed together. The Commission madeMs.SimranpreetKaur O/o of Principal Secretary, Govt of Punjab, Department of Transport as deemed PIO and directed the PIO to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days after receipt of requisite fee. The PIO was also directed to submit proof of dispatch of letter dated 18.07.2018.

The case was again heard on **12.02.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that the appellant has not deposited the requisite fee. The respondent also submitted proof of dispatch of letter dated 18.07.2018. The respondent further pleaded that since part of the information sought pertains to the office of STC Punjab, they have already sent a request letter to the STC asking them to provide the information but the same is still awaited.

The PIO-STC, Punjab, Chandigarh was made a party and directed to handover the information to Ms.Simranpreet Kaur immediately enabling her to send the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing. The PIO was directed to provide the information after taking requisite applicable fee from the appellant.

Appeal Case No. 3317 of 2018

The case came up for hearing again on **02.04.2019.** The respondents present from CM Office and Finance Department pleaded that since the information relates to the office of State Transport Commissioner, they should be exempted. The respondent present from the office of Principal Secretary, Transport, Punjab pleaded that the information concerning them relating to points 1 & 2 has been provided to the appellant and since the remaining information relates to STC Punjab, Chandigarh, they have corresponded many times with the office of State Transport Commissioner but they have not provided the information.

The PIO-STC was absent. The PIO-STC was directed to provide the information in all three appeal cases No.3316/2018, 3317/2018 & 3318/2018 which were clubbed together in the last hearing. The PIO-STC was also directed to appear personally on the next date of hearing. Ms.Simranpreet Kaur was exempted from the deemed PIO. The respondent from Finance Department and CM office were also exempted.

The case was last heard on **21.05.2019.** The appellant was absent. The respondent present from the office of STC pleaded that the enquiry has been marked to RTA Patiala and whatever the investigation, is being done by them. They have sent following reply to the appellant vide letter dated 20.05.2019. The PIO-Regional Transport Authority, Patiala was directed to look at the RTI application and send reply to the appellant as applicable under the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The respondent present has brought the enquiry report and handed over to the appellant. The appellant pleaded that the PIO has not provided the communication letters and statement of both the parties regarding points 3 & 4.

The PIO-RTA Patiala is directed to relook at the RTI application and address the same.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **05.11.2019 at 11.00 AM**.

Sd/Chandigarh (Khushwant Singh)
Dated: 23.07.2019 State Information Commissioner

CC to: 1. The PIO, State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

2. PIO-Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Patiala.

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Sh.Manjit Singh, S/o Sh.Sohan Singh, H no-388/3, Bahera Road, Patiala.

Appellant.

Versus

Public Information Officer O/o Chief Secretary, Pb, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Chief Secretary, Pb, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3318 of 2018

Present: Sh.Manjit Singh as the Appellant

Sh.Dharmender Singh, Steno O/o RTA Mohai for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard **on 18.12.2018.** The respondent present pleaded that the appellant had filed RTI application with the office of Chief Secretary, Punjab and they received the application from the office of Chief Secretary on 12.07.2018. The respondent further pleaded that the appellant was asked vide letter dated 18.07.2018 to deposit requisite fee for getting the information but the appellant had not deposited the fee. The appellant had denied having received the reply of the PIO.

Having gone through the file, it was observed that the RTI application was attended by the PIO well within the time. The appellant was directed to deposit the requisite fee and get the information.

During further scrutiny of the case, it was observed that the appellant had filed two similar applications seeking exactly the same information vide appeal case No.3316/2018 & appeal case No.3317/2018 from the office of Finance Minister, Punjab and the office of Chief Secretary, Punjab, Chandigarh The Commission found it clearly a violation of the spirit of the RTI Act as it diverts the resources of the department/public authority unnecessarily. Keeping this fact in mind, all these three cases were clubbed together. The Commission made Ms.Simranpreet Kaur O/o of Principal Secretary, Govt of Punjab, Department of Transport as deemed PIO and directed the PIO to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days after receipt of requisite fee. The PIO was also directed to submit proof of dispatch of letter dated 18.07.2018.

The case was again heard on **12.02.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that the appellant has not deposited the requisite fee. The respondent also submitted proof of dispatch of letter dated 18.07.2018. The respondent further pleaded that since part of the information sought pertains to the office of STC Punjab, they have already sent a request letter to the STC asking them to provide the information but the same is still awaited.

The PIO-STC, Punjab, Chandigarh was made a party and was directed to handover the information to Ms.Simranpreet Kaur immediately enabling her to send the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing. The PIO was directed to provide the information after taking requisite applicable fee from the appellant.

The case again came up for hearing on **02.04.2019**. The respondents present from CM Office and Finance Department pleaded that since the information relates to the office of State Transport Commissioner, they should be exempted. The respondent present from the office of Principal Secretary, Transport, Punjab pleaded that the information concerning them relating to points 1 & 2 has been provided to the appellant, and since the remaining information relates to STC Punjab, Chandigarh, they have corresponded many times with the office of State Transport Commissioner but they have not provided the information.

The PIO-STC was absent . The PIO-STC was directed to provide the information in all three appeal cases No.3316/2018, 3317/2018 7 3318/2018 which were clubbed together in the last hearing. The PIO-STC was also directed to appear personally on the next date of hearing Ms.Simranpreet Kaur was exempted from deemed PIO. The respondent from Finance Department and CM office were also exempted.

The case was last heard on **21.05.2019.** The appellant was absent. The respondent present from the office of STC pleaded that the enquiry has been marked to RTA Mohali and whatever the investigation, is being done by them. They have sent reply to the appellant vide letter dated 20.05.2019. The PIO-Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar, Mohali was directed to look at the RTI application and send reply to the appellant as applicable under the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The respondent present from the office of RTA Mohali submitted a letter dated 19.07.2019 whereby the PIO has sought adjournment stating that the enquiry is pending and will take some more time to complete.

Adjournment is granted and the PIO-RTA Mohali is directed to complete the enquiry and provide the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing.

To come up on **05.11.2019** at **11.00** AM for further hearing.

Chandigarh Dated: 23.07.2019 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

CC to: 1. The PIO, State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Chandigarh.

2. PIO-Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, SAS Nagar, Mohali

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Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, S/o Sh Kuldeep Raj Mahajan, Opposite Water Tank Municipal Market, Mission Road. Pathankot.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o SDO, Construction Sub Division No-2, PWD B&R. Bathinda..

First Appellate Authority, O/o SE, PWD B&R, Construction Circle, Bathinda.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 214 of 2019

PRESENT: None for the Appellant

None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard on 23.04.2019. The respondent present pleaded that the information has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 23.10.2018 and submitted a copy to the Commission. However, since the appellant has filed second appeal with the Commission on 03.11.2018 that he has not received the information, the respondent was directed to resend the information to the appellant through registered post within 2 days. The appellant was given one more opportunity to point out the discrepancies, if any and be present on the next date of hearing.

The case was last heard on **11.06.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that in compliance with the order of the Commission, they have resent the information to the appellant on 25.04.2019. The respondent also shown evidence that they have resent the information through registered post. The appellant vide email informed that he has not received the information.

The PIO was directed to contact the appellant and sort out the matter whether the appellant has received the information or not.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of **Deputy Commissioner**, **Bathinda**. Due to some technical problem, the hearing could not take place. The appellant vide email has informed that the PIO has not provided the information.

Sh.Ashok Kumar,SDO-PWD(B&R) Bhatinda has informed telephonically that in compliance with the order of the Commission, they have resent the information to the appellant. The PIO further informed that they have also discussed the discrepancies with the appellant and will sort out the same within 2-3 days. The PIO is directed to sort out the discrepancies with the appellant within ten days and send a compliance report to the Commission.

With the above order, the case is disposed off and closed.

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

Chandigarh
Dated 23.07.2019

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Sh. Harmit Singh, C/o Baba Kala Finance Company, Near Truck Union, Phool Road, Rampura Phul, Bathinda.

... Appellant

Public Information Officer.

O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Bathinda.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Pb, Chandigarh..

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 191 of 2019

Versus

Present: None for the Appellant

Sh.Tejinder Singh, advocate for the Respondent

ORDER:

The case was first heard on 10.04.2019. Since both the parties were absent, the case was adjourned.

The case was last heard on **11.06.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that the information has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 06.06.2019 and a copy submitted to the Commission. The appellant had received the information.

Having gone through the record, the Commission observed that there has been an enormous delay of nine months in providing the information since the appellant had filed RTI application on 30.08.2018 whereas the information was provided on 06.06.2019. The PIO was issued a show cause notice under section 20 of the RTI Act and directed to file reply on an affidavit.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019.

The case has come up for hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of **Deputy Commissioner**, **Bathinda**. A counsel appeared on behalf of the respondent and informed that the information has already been provided to the appellant. The counsel has also submitted reply of the PIO which is taken on the file of the Commission. The PIO in his reply has stated that due to heavy workload and shortage of staff, the information has been delayed and that they shall be careful in future in attending to the RTI applications.

The plea is accepted and the case is **disposed off and closed**.

Chandigarh
Dated 23.07.2019

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

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Sh. Harmit Singh, C/o Baba Kala Finance Company, Near Truck Union, Phool Road, Rampura Phul, Bathinda.

... Appellant

PSIC

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Sangrur.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Pb, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 182 of 2019

Present: None for the Appellant

None for the Respondent

ORDER: The case was first heard on 10.04.2019. Since both the parties were absent, the case was adjourned.

The case was last heard on **11.06.2019.** The appellant claimed that the PIO has not provided the information. The respondent was absent. The PIO was directed to provide the information to the appellant within 15 days and send a compliance report to the Commission; otherwise the Commission will be constrained to take action under the RTI Act. The PIO was also directed to appear personally or through a representative on the next date of hearing alongwith the explanation for not attending to the RTI application within the time prescribed under the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for further hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of **Deputy Commissioner**, **Bathinda**. Due to technical fault, the hearing could not take place.

The case is adjourned. The PIO-RTA Sangrur is directed to comply with the earlier order of the Commission which still stands and appear personally or through a representative on the next date of hearing alongwith the explanation for not attending to the RTI application within the time prescribed under the RTI Act.

A copy of the order is being sent to the STC, Punjab, Chandigarh to get the order served to the concerned PIO and to ensure compliance of this order, as well as ensure that the concerned PIO to provide the information and appears personally or through its representative at the next date of hearing.

To come up for further hearing on 28.08.2019 at 11.00 AM.

Sd/-

Chandigarh Dated 23.07.2019

(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner

CC to :State Transport Commissioner, Pb, Sector 17, Chandigarh.

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Sh Deepak Khurana S/o Sh Girdhari Lal, H No-264, Street No-16, Nai Abadi, Chotti pori, Abohar, Distt Fazilka.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o President, Bar Association, Court Complex, Abohar, Distt Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Secretary, Bar Council, Punjab & Haryana, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3712 of 2018

Present: Sh.Deepak Khurana as the Appellant

None for the Respondent

Order: The case was first heard on **06.02.2019.** The respondent present from the office of Bar Council, Punjab & Haryana Chandigarh claimed that the information did not relate to them as the information has been sought from Bar Association Abohar and the Bar Council has nothing to do with it. The respondent further informed that the Bar Council is also not a First Appellate Authority and they have inadvertently been made a party to this case by the appellant. The respondent is directed to give this in writing.

Neither the appellant nor anyone from the Bar Association was present. The case was adjourned.

The case was again heard on **25.03.2019.** The appellant claimed that no information has been provided. The respondent present from the office of Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana submitted a reply that the information is not related with the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana and that each and every Bar Associations have their own constitution and are fully independent body. The respondent further pleaded that the Bar Council is also not the First Appellate Authority of the Bar Association. The reply was accepted and the Bar Council was exempted.

The respondent from Bar Association Abohar was absent on 2nd consecutive hearing and nor provided the information. The PIO, Bar Association Abohar was issued a **show cause notice u/s 20 of the RTI Act and** directed to file reply on an affidavit and If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO was directed to inform such persons of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

The PIO-Bar Association Aboha r was again directed to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days. The PIO of the Bar Association was also directed to clarify that which is the appropriate First Appellate Authority in this case.

Appeal Case No. 3712 of 2018

The case was last heard on **21.05.2019**. The appellant claims that no information has been provided by the PIO. The respondent from Bar Association Abohar was absent nor sent any reply to the show cause notice. The PIO-Bar Association, Abohar was given one last opportunity to provide the information to the appellant and appear before the Commission on the next date of hearing alongwith the reply to the show cause on an affidavit, otherwise the Commission will be constrained to take a view that the respondent has nothing to say on the matter and adjudicate the matter as per provisions of the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for further today through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, **Fazilka**. The appellant informed that the PIO has not provided the information. The respondent is absent.

The President, Bar Association Abohar is impleaded in the case and directed to file a reply in the ongoing case.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on 03.09.2019 at 11.00 AM.

Sd/-

Chandigarh (Khushwant Singh)
Dated: 23.07.2019 State Information Commissioner

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Sh Deepak Khurana, S/o Sh Girdhari Lalm # 264, Street No-16, Nai Abadi, Abohar, Distt Fazilka..

... Appellant

Public Information Officer,

O/o President, Bar Association, court Complex, Abohar, Distt Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Secretary, Bar Council, Punjab & Haryana, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3738 of 2018

Versus

Present: Sh.Deepak Khurana as the Appellant

None for the Respondent

Order:

The case was first heard on **06.02.2019**. The respondent present from the office of Bar Council, Punjab & Haryana Chandigarh claimed that the information did not relate to them as the information has been sought from Bar Association Abohar and the Bar Council has nothing to do with it. The respondent further informed that the Bar Council is also not a First Appellate Authority and they have inadvertently been made a party to this case by the appellant. The respondent was directed to give this in writing.

Neither the appellant nor anyone from the Bar Association was present. The case was adjourned.

The case was last heard on **25.03.2019.** The appellant claimed that no information has been provided. The respondent present from the office of Bar Council of Punjab & Haryana submitted a reply that the information is not related with the Bar Council of Punjab and Haryana and that each and every Bar Associations have their own constitution and are fully independent body. The respondent further pleaded that the Bar Council is also not the First Appellate Authority of the Bar Association. The reply was accepted and the Bar Council was exempted.

The respondent from Bar Association Abohar was absent on 2nd consecutive hearing and nor had provided the information. The PIO Bar Association, Abohar was issued a show cause notice **under Section 20 of the RTI Act and** directed to file reply on an affidavit. If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such persons of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

The PIO-Bar Association Abohar was again directed to provide the information to the appellant within 10 days. The PIO of the Bar Association was also directed to clarify that which is the appropriate First Appellate Authority in this case.

Appeal Case No. 3738 of 2018

The case was last heard on **21.05.2019.** The appellant claimed that no information has been provided by the PIO. The respondent from Bar Association Abohar was absent nor had sent any reply to the show cause notice. The PIO-Bar Association, Abohar was given one last opportunity to provide the information to the appellant and appear before the Commission on the next date of hearing alongwith the reply to the show cause on an affidavit, otherwise the Commission will be constrained to take a view that the respondent has nothing to say on the matter and adjudicate the matter as per provisions of the RTI Act.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for further today through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, **Fazilka**. The appellant informed that the PIO has not provided the information. The respondent is absent.

The President, Bar Association Abohar is impleaded in the case and directed to file a reply in the ongoing case.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on 03.09.2019 at 11.00 AM.

Chandigarh Dated: 23.07.2019 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

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Sh.Ritu Raj, S/o Sh Harish Kumar, H No-21-22, Street No-8, FerozepurCantt.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/oSSP, Shri Mukatsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority, O/oIG, Bathinda Zone, Bathinda.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4231 of 2018

Present: None for the Appellant

Ms. Heena Gupta, DSP O/o SSP Sri Mukatsar Sahib for the Respondent

ORDER: The case was first heard on **18.03.2019**. The respondent present pleaded that since the appellant is one of the accused in the case, the disclosure of information will hamper the process of enquiry.

Having gone through the case, the Commission found that since the matter is already in the court, there is no reason to hold back the information that has been sought. The Commission directed the PIO to provide a legible certified copy of the list of dowry articles and verification report of documents as per RTI application within 10 days and send a compliance report to the Commission.

The case was last heard on **15.05.2019.** The respondent present pleaded that in compliance with the order of the Commission, they have sent the information to the appellant vide letter dated 20.04.2019 and a copy submitted to the Commission.

The appellant was absent to point out the discrepancies, if any. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 23.07.2019:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conference facility available in the office of **Deputy Commissioner**, **Sri Mukatsar Sahib**. The respondent present pleaded that they have already provided the information to the appellant. The respondent further informed they have contacted the appellant telephonically and the appellant is satisfied with the information provided.

The appellant is absent on 2nd hearing nor has pointed out any discrepancies. It is presumed that the appellant has received the information and is satisfied.

No further course of action is required. The case is **disposed off and closed.**

Chandigarh Dated: 23.07.2019.

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner