

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Shri Jaswinder Singh,
S/o Shri Jagar Singh,
VPO Balahri Kalan,
Tehsil & Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.

. . . Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer, Khera,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Fatehgarh Sahib.

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4022 of 2021

Present:- (i) Appellant- absent.
(ii) Shri Pushpinder Singh, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Balahri Kalan,
District Fatehgarh Sahib, in person, on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER

(Heard in person/on mobile phone)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Jaswinder Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through Cisco Webex.
3. Shri Pushpinder Singh, Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Balahri Kalan, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing. He states that Shri Labh Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Balahri Kalan has gone to attend an urgent meeting in the office of BDPO, Block Khera, District Fatehgarh Sahib and he has been deputed to attend the hearing on his behalf. He states that the information has been supplied to the appellant and also produces receipt duly signed by the appellant for having received the information.
4. Shri Jaswinder Singh, appellant is contacted on mobile phone. In spite of making repeated attempts to contact him on his mobile phone to ascertain the receipt of information, he does not respond. The Bench observes that this is the third consecutive hearing for which the appellant has absented himself and in addition, is also not responding to the phone calls made by the Bench. As per acknowledgement produced before the Bench, the Bench is convinced that the requisite information stands supplied to the appellant.
5. In view of the above, the Bench does not feel need for further intervention in the matter. **The instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the Order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

**Shri Labh Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Balahri Kalan,
Tehsil & Distt. Fatehgarh Sahib.**

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Shri Balwant Singh,
S/o Shri Narain Singh,
R/o VPO Karni Khera,
Tehsil & Distt. Fazilka.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Dev.),
Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Fazilka.

..... Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4113 of 2021

Present:- (i) **Shri Balwant Singh, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Kamaljit Singh, BDPO, Fazilka and Shri Akshay Dhingra, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Karni Khera, Block Fazilka, on behalf of PIO/Respondent, in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Balwant Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through Cisco Webex. He states that he has not been provided any information by the PIO so far.
3. Shri Kamaljit Singh, BDPO/PIO, Fazilka and Shri Akshay Dhingra, Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Karni Khera, Block Fazilka come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on behalf of PIO. Shri Kamaljit Singh, BDPO, Fazilka states that the information has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 23.08.2022, sent by registered post today i.e. 24.08.2022 and further states that the penalty imposed on the PIO has also been deposited and produces a copy of the challan before the Bench which is taken on record. He also makes submissions before the Bench that he has joined recently and he assures the Bench that he will ensure timely supply of information in all cases henceforth. The Panchayat Secretary, Shri Akshay Dhingra states that he has received record from the previous Panchayat Secretary only yesterday and he has sent the information today by registered post. In view of the submissions made by the BDPO Fazilka and the Panchayat Secretary Shri Akshay Dhingra, the show cause notice issued to the PIO is dropped.

4. The Bench contacts the appellant on mobile phone. He is made to talk to the representative of PIO Shri Akshay Dhingra, Panchayat Secretary, who explains to him that the information has been sent by registered post today and he will receive the same within two-three days. He assures complete information has been provided addressing all the issues.

5. The Bench, on hearing the version of the representatives of PIO and examining the records is convinced that the information stands supplied to the appellant. Shri Kamaljit Singh, BDPO also assures the Bench that in case the appellant has still any grievance, he will ensure that the same is addressed.

6. In view of the above, the Bench does not feel need for further intervention in the matter. **The instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post):

PIO,O/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Development), Fazilka.

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Shri Gurbachan Singh,
S/o Shri Teja Singh,
10, Street No.2, Guru Gobind Avenue,
Near Radha Swami Satsang Ghar,
Sher Shah Suri Road, Bye Pass, Attari,
Chehratta, Distt. Amritsar.

..... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Asst. XEN (West),
Technical Sub Division, PSPCL,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Superintending Engineer,
Operational PSPCL, Amritsar.

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 4103 of 2021

Present:- (i) **Shri Gurbachan Singh, Appellant – cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Ajay Kumar, Sub Divisional Clerk, on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous date of hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Gurbachan Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through Cisco Webex. He states that he was called to office by the PIO vide letter dated 10.08.2022 and on receipt of the same on 22.08.2022, he visited the office of PIO. He alleges that he was being forced by the officials of PSPCL to give in writing for getting the case closed and also alleges harassment.
3. Shri Ajay Kumar, Sub Divisional Clerk, O/o Assistant Executive Engineer (West), Technical Sub Division, PSPCL, Amritsar comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and produces before the Bench the authority letter to attend the hearing. He states that efforts were made to contact the appellant personally but his residential address could not be known. At the address which is available in his Account No.30018008886, his tenant is residing who also does not know residential address of the appellant. He further states that the appellant appeared in their office on 22.08.2022 at about 3.00 PM and informed that information sought by him on point No.1 & 2 stated to have been sent vide letter dated 25.05.2021 has not been received by him. Since the appellant refused to receive the information by hand, as such, the same has been sent to the

appellant again vide letter dated 23.08.2022 by registered post. The representative of PIO also explains to the Bench that the appellant is aggrieved as on account of power theft by him, the electricity connection provided at his residence was disconnected, however, the said electricity connection has been restored and is operational now.

4. The Bench contacts the appellant on mobile phone and makes him to talk to Shri Ajay Kumar, S.D.C. who explains to him the information supplied as also the position regarding point No.2 of his RTI application. The appellant, however, still seems to be dis-satisfied with the reply of the representative of PIO. The Bench also makes efforts to make him understand what the representative of PIO has stated before the Bench, but he does not listen to the Bench.

5. The Bench, on perusing the reply given to the appellant by the PIO as also hearing the version of representative of PIO, is convinced that adequate information stands supplied to the appellant and also observes that the appellant is actually not seeking any information in point No.2, but it is a grievance of the appellant, which as per version put forth before the Bench, also stands redressed.

6. In view of the above, the Bench does not feel need for further intervention in the matter. **The instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the Order be sent to the concerned parties. A copy of the letter dated 07.06.2022 along with the order.

Chandigarh
24.08.2022

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

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SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

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Shri Harjinder Singh Brar,
#3132, Sector-27D,
Chandigarh-160019.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Dy.Chief Engineer, HRD,
Punjab State Power Corporation
Limited (PSCPL), Patiala.

First Appellate Authority-cum-
O/o Chief Engineer, HRD,
Punjab State Power Corporation
Limited (PSCPL), Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.125 of 2022

Present: (i) **Shri Harjinder Singh Brar along with Shri Rajpal Singla, in person.**
(ii) **Shri Rakesh Kokria, Dy.C.E., HRD-1/PIO, Shri Kamlajot Singh, Addl.SE/APIO and Smt. Paramjit Kaur, Senior Assistant, Services-2 Gazetted-5 Section, PSPCL, Patiala, in person.**

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Harjinder Singh Brar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing along with Shri Raj Pal Singla in person before the Bench. He states that appellant has been supplied information on points (a) (c) & (d) but the information on point (b) of his RTI application has not been supplied.
3. Shri Rakesh Kokria, Dy.C.E., HRD-1/PIO, Shri Kamlajot Singh, Addl.SE/APIO and Smt. Paramjit Kaur, Senior Assistant, Services-2 Gazetted-5 Section, PSPCL, Patiala, come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Rakesh Kokria, Dy.Chief Engineer,HRD-1 states that information on all points has been provided to the appellant.
4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that information on point no.(b) is still pending. Then the Dy.Chief Engineer, HRD-1 hands over a copy of information on point No.(b). The Bench directs the PIO to sit in the adjacent court room along with the appellant to convince him regarding the information supplied on each point of RTI application and then to report back to the Bench.



-2-

AC No.125/2022

5. Post meeting in the court room, the PIO Shri Rakesh Kokria and the appellant appear before the Bench and produce before the Bench a letter showing that complete information has been supplied to the appellant which is signed by the APIO and PIO as well as the appellant showing his satisfaction over the information supplied and his request for closing the appeal case. In view of the submissions made by the PIO before the Bench, the show cause notice issued to PIO is dropped.

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

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

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Shri Brichh Bhan
S/o Shri Saroop Chand
R/o H.No.33, Kahangarh Road,
Patran, District Patiala.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Patran, District Patiala.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Block Development and
Panchayat Officer (BDPO),
Patran, District Patiala.

...Respondents

AC No.5374/2021

PRESENT : (i) Appellant- absent.
(ii) None on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Brichh Bhan, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex. He has, however, sent an e.mail dated 24.08.2022.
3. The PIO O/o BDPO, Patran, District Patiala has also not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO.
4. The Bench observes that this is the third consecutive hearing for which the appellant has absented himself without any intimation. The perusal of the contents of e.mail received from him further show that he is not fully aware of the contents of his RTI application also.
5. In view of the position discussed as above, the Bench is not inclined to proceed further in the matter. **The instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

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RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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Smt.Gurmeet Kaur
W/o Shri Mohinder Pal Mehmi
Ward No.B-2, House No.385,
Opp. Govt. Girls Sr. Sec. School,
Mahilpur, District Hoshiarpur-146105.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Jalandhar Development Authority
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Jalandhar Development Authority
Jalandhar.

....Respondents

AC No.2103 of 2022

Present:

- (i) **Shri Mohinder Pal Mehmi along with Shri Amandeep Singh Mal, Advocate on behalf of the Appellant, in person.**
- (ii) **Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO Public Health/PIO, and Shri Swarn, Superintendent, J.D.A. Jalandhar, in person.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 23.06.2022 passed by this Bench during the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Mohinder Pal Mehmi and Shri Amandeep Singh Mal, Advocate come present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant. He states that the information has not been received by the appellant.
3. Shri Pawan Kumar, PIO and Shri Swarn, Supdt. J.D.A. Jalandhar come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. The PIO states that the information has been brought along for handing over to the appellant. The Bench directs the PIO to sit in the adjacent court room along with the representatives of appellant and show them the information and the related records and then report back to the Bench.
4. Post meeting in the court room, the representative of appellant Shri Mohinder Pal Mehmi states that he has received the information. However, he states that at the time of inspection of records, certain information was pointed out by him to the PIO which has not been supplied. On the asking of the Bench, the PIO states that the information as available in the records has been supplied to the appellant.
5. The Bench observes that the representatives of appellant have been provided opportunity of inspection of records and has been supplied information as existing in the official records.

Cont..P-2

6. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO, O/o J.D.A. Jalandhar to file an affidavit on non judicial stamp paper, within 21 (Twenty one) days, duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public to the effect that the information as available in AC No.2103/2022 has been supplied to the appellant. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the statement made is true and correct. Original affidavit be sent to the appellant and copy of the same be sent to the Commission for record.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022
Copy to (By Regd.Post)**

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

**Shri Swaran, Superintendent/APIO O/o Estate Officer,
Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar**

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani,
Addl. Superintending Engineer,
Communication, T&C Cell,
408/409, Shakti Sadan, 3rd Floor,
PSPCL, Jalandhar.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Nodal Officer, RTI Cell,
PSPCL, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Chief Engineer, HRD
PSPCL, Head Office, Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No. 2013 of 2022

Present:

- (i) Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani, Appellant- in person
- (ii) Shri Manvir Saini, Assistant Manager, HR, PSPCL Patiala.
- (iii) Smt. Inderjit Kaur, Superintendent and Smt. Deepika Arora, Deputy Manager, Secret Gazetted Branch, PSPCL Patiala, on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 23.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
3. Shri Manvir Saini, Assistant Manager, HR, PSPCL Patiala comes present in person before the Bench and states that information on points No.2 to 5 relating to his Department has been supplied to the appellant.
4. Smt. Inderjit Kaur, Superintendent and Smt. Deepika Arora, Deputy Manager, Secret Gazetted Branch, PSPCL, Patiala also come present in person before the Bench. Smt. Inderjit Kaur states that the information on point No.1,6, & 7 has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 27.07.2022. Regarding point No.8 relating to copies of ACRs, the appellant was asked to deposit Rs.107/- which has not been deposited and hence, the information on point No.8 been withheld. On the asking of the Bench as to whether the said ACRs have been brought along, she states that the same are with her.
5. The appellant states that he was earlier asked to deposit Rs.206/- and he had asked for the bifurcation of fee in respect of information on each point, which has not been provided and hence, he has not deposited the fees.

Cont..P-2

6. The Bench directs Smt. Inderjit Kaur, Superintendent to provide copies of ACRs to the appellant free of cost. On the directions of Bench, the same are handed over by her to the appellant.

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

Chandigarh
24.08.2022

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

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Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani,
Addl. Superintending Engineer,
Communication, T&C Cell,
408/409, Shakti Sadan, 3rd Floor,
PSPCL, Jalandhar.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Dy.Chief Accounts Officer, A&R,
PSTCL, Patiala.

**First Appellate Authority-cum-
CFO, PSTCL, Patiala.**

....Respondents

AC No. 2014 of 2022

Present: (i) **Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **Shri Sumit Bansal, Deputy Chief Accounts Officer and Shri Jagjiwan Singh, Accounts Officer, PSTCL Patiala, in person..**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 23.06.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench.
3. Shri Sumit Bansal, Deputy Chief Accounts Officer and Shri Jagjiwan Singh, Accounts Officer, PSTCL Patiala, come present in person before the Bench. Shri Sumit Bansal, Deputy C.A.O. PSTCL, Patiala reiterates his version as made during the previous hearing that information as available has been supplied vide letter dated 28.10.2021.
4. Shri Ajitpal Singh Multani, appellant observes that he has not been supplied information with regard to point No.4 of his RTI application, regarding claim of LOTA, he has been told that the R.C. of his vehicle is in the name of his wife and not in his name and hence, he cannot claim LOTA.
5. Upon this, Shri Sumit Bansal explains before the Bench that prior to 2010, it was Punjab State Electricity Board and after that, it has been bifurcated into PSPCL and PSTCL and the instructions of 2010 are also applicable in PSPCL and instructions adopted by the PSPCL have also been adopted by PSTCL. On the asking of the Bench, he hands over a copy of Policy regarding the information relating to point No.4.

6. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIO, O/o Dy.CAO A&R, PSTCL, Patiala to file an affidavit on non judicial stamp paper, within 21 (Twenty one) days, duly signed by the PIO and attested by the Notary Public to the effect that the information as available in AC No.2014/2022 has been supplied to the appellant. It be clarified that the policy as applicable to PSPCL has also been adopted by PSTCL. It be further stated that nothing has been concealed therein and the statement made is true and correct. Original affidavit be sent to the appellant and copy of the same be sent to the Commission for record.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

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Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill,
S/o Shri Jagjit Singh
#329, VPO Doda Baja Patti,
Village Doda, Sri Muktsar Sahib.
Mobile No.8146007472

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Sri Muktsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Sri Muktsar Sahib.

...Respondents

AC No.1953/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent and Shri Vishal Kumar, Junior Assistant, O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib, on behalf of PIO/Respondent-cisco webex.**

ORDER:

(Heard through Cisco Webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 18.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
3. Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent and Shri Vishal Kumar, Junior Assistant, O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib also come present to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO/Respondent through cisco webex. Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent states that the appellant has been sent information by e.mail on 11.07.2022 and that the NIC has also uploaded the related information on the website of the department.
4. The appellant Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill admits receipt of information by e.mail. He, however, still expresses dis-satisfaction over the functioning of the officials of D.C. Office, Sri Muktsar and alleges that they do not follow the provisions of the RTI Act and that the information supplied is at variance from what has been sought.

Cont....P-2

5. Post deliberations with the appellant and the respondent, the Bench directs that the public authority must ensure that digitization of RTI related issues is implemented on priority and information is uploaded on the departmental website for the convenience of public. The officials dealing with the RTI matters, should use the official e.mail Ids. and not their private e.mail Ids. for official correspondence. The PIO is also directed to ensure that the officials in the correspondence relating to RTI matters should put their full names, designations, e.mail Id. etc. wherever they affix their signatures.

6. As per the version put forth by the appellant, the Bench takes serious note of the highhanded behavior of Government officials of D.C. Office, Sri Muktsar Sahib when dealing with the public at large, since the office of D.C. is a public dealing office and as such, it is essential that their dealing with the public should be courteous and prompt.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

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Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill,
S/o Shri Jagjit Singh
#329, VPO Doda Baja Patti,
Village Doda, Sri Muktsar Sahib.
Mobile No.8146007472

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Fazilka..

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Fazilka.

...Respondents

AC No.1954/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Amanpal Singh, D.R.O./PIO O/o D.C. Fazilka, on behalf of PIO/Respondent, in person.**

ORDER:

(Heard in person/through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 18.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
3. Shri Amanpal Singh, D.R.O./PIO O/o Deputy Commissioner, District Fazilka comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant was called to the office to show him the related records, however, the appellant refused to visit their office. He states that point-wise information on seven issues raised by the appellant has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 12.08.2022 and also by e.mail on 22.08.2022 and related information has been uploaded on the departmental website. He further states that regarding the application of appellant with regard to compliance of Govt. orders, web guidelines, publishing of citizen charter and suo moto disclosures, was got enquired into from Superintendent of Police (S)-cum-CAW, C.P. & Special Branch, Fazilka and the report vide letter dated 04.07.2022 has been sent on 05.07.2022 to the appellant.

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4. The appellant admits receipt of information and states that the PIO has not complied with the directions of the Commission in totality and also questions the authority of the PIO to call him to visit his office. He observes that it is the right of a citizen to demand information from Public Authority and the Public Authority is duty bound to respond within the stipulated timeline. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill further observes that the Departmental Website of the Public Authority must be totally updated so that the public at large can access the information without taking the RTI route. The appellant also states that the Government officials are shy of using digitization when dealing with RTI applications. Further some officials are not using their official e.mail Ids and instead, use their private e.mail Ids. for official correspondence which is incorrect.

5. The appellant remarks that he will honour the decision of the Bench on this Appeal Case.

6. The Bench, post deliberations, directs the PIO to ensure that the maximum information is uploaded on the departmental website, the officials dealing with the RTI matters be encouraged to use digitization when dealing with RTI relates issues as also use of official e.mail Ids. be made for official correspondence. The PIO is also directed to ensure that the officials in the correspondence relating to RTI matters should put their full names, designations, e.mail Id. etc. wherever they affix their signatures.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh
24.08.2022

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

