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Rajni Bala,

W/o Ritin Shahi, Advocate, # 104, Golden City, Khanna, Ludhiana.

Versus

Public Information officer,

o/o Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Fatehgarh Sahib.

Complaint Case No. 1308 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

Rakesh Kumar Shahi, Advocate (for the Complainant) 97803-00415 Balram Singh, Junior Assistant (for the Respondent) 99729-90651

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 17.3.2022)

1. The complainant, **Rajni Bala**, filed this RTI application dated **7.10.2021** and sought information <u>regarding Surprise checking of One Stop Centre Fatehgarh Sahib</u>, from the PIO o/o Secretary, District Legal Service Authority, Fatehgarh Sahib. When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **3.12.2021**. The case was last heard on **17.3.2022**.

2. Both parties are present. The Complainant is represented by her lawyer Rakesh Kumar Shahi, Advocate. As per an email received from the respondent PIO vide Letter No.3215-16 Dated 20.5.2022, this Complaint Case is also presently being heard as a First Appeal before the FAA-cum-Additional Member Secretary, Punjab state Legal Services Authority. The complainant denies the PIO's contention stating that the First Appeal is under way with regard to a separate / different RTI filed by the same complainant. The complainant is requested to submit all documents pertaining to the other RTI as contended by him, to this Commission.

3. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office, Sri</u> <u>Fatehgarh Sahib.</u>

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Maninder Kaur,

w/o Manpreet Singh, c/o Bhavish Rauni (Advocate), Chamber No. 509, Yadvindra Court Complex, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer,

o/o Director, Technical Education & Industrial Training, Branch-1, Room No. 201, 2nd Floor, Mini Secretariat, Sector-9, Punjab, Chandigarh

Complaint Case No. 677 of 2019 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: (Complainant) Absent (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier order on 4.10.19, 21.11.19, 24.1.2020, 31.7.2020, 25.9.2020, 13.11.2020, 13.1.2021, and 17.3.2021, 8.7.2021, 15.12.2021, and 17.5.2022)

1. The complainant, Maninder Kaur, filed this RTI application dated **20.5.19**, and sought **information by way of official letters, copies of receipt registers, noting pages of files etc..** When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **6.8.19**. The case was last heard on **17.5.2022**.

2. Both parties are absent. This case is adjourned to its next hearing.

3. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

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Gurdarshan Singh,

S/o Roop Singh, R/o Village Kalwanoo, Tehsil Patran, District Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Tehsildar Patran, District Patiala. Public Information Officer, o/o Sub Divisional Magistrate, Patran, District Patiala.

Complaint Case No. 1124 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

(Complainant) Absent Harish Kumar, PIO-cum-Senior Assistant (Respondent) 62803-54549

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 24.3.2022)

1. The complainant, **Gurdarshan Singh**, filed this RTI application dated **5.2.2020** and sought information <u>regarding an application to the office of SDM Patran dated 29.11.2018</u>, from the PIO o/o **Sub Divisional Magistrate**, **Patran**, **Patiala**. When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **3.9.2021**. The case was last heard on **24.3.2022**.

2. The Complainant is absent but has informed the Commission of his inability to attend this Hearing. The respondent PIO in a reply to the Show Cause Notice issued to him on 24.3.2022, has given a detailed account about the action taken on the complaint cited in the RTI application. He has also submitted a copy of a letter vide which this RTI application was transferred to the PIO, office of Tehsildar Patran on 10.2.2020.

3. Tehsildar Patran is hereby impleaded as the deemed PIO in this Complaint Case is directed to submit a reply giving reasons why this RTI application has not been addressed since it was received in his office vide Letter No. 07 Dated 7.2.2020. This must be done before the next hearing.

4. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

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Gurdarshan Singh,

S/o Roop Singh, R/o Village Kalwanoo, Tehsil Patran, District Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Tehsildar, Patran, District Patiala. Public Information Officer, o/o Sub Divisional Magistrate, Patran, District Patiala.

Complaint Case No. 1125 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

(Complainant) Absent Harish Kumar, PIO-cum-Senior Assistant (Respondent) 62803-54549

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 24.3.2022)

1. The complainant, **Gurdarshan Singh**, filed this RTI application dated **5.2.2020** and sought information <u>regarding application given to SDM Patran on 10.4.2017</u>, from the PIO o/o **Sub Divisional Magistrate**, **Patran**, **Patiala**. When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **3.9.2021**. The case was last heard on **24.3.2022**.

2. The complainant is absent but has informed the Commission of his inability to attend this hearing. The respondent PIO in a reply to the Show Cause Notice issued to him on 24.3.2022, has given a detailed account about the action taken on the complaint cited in the RTI application. He has also submitted a copy of letter vide which this RTI application was transferred to the PIO, office of Tehsildar Patran on 10.2.2020.

3. Tehsildar Patran is hereby impleaded as the deemed PIO in this Complaint Case and is directed to submit a reply giving reasons why this RTI application has not been addressed since it is received in his office vide Letter No.07 Dated 7.2.2020. This must be done before the next hearing.

4. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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Rajesh Dhiman,

S/o Sh. Chaman Lal, # 30, Street No. 1, Jujhar Nagar, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information officer,
o/o Municipal Corporation,
Patiala.
First Appellate Authority,
o/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation,
Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1513 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: (Appellant) Absent Navdeep Sharma, Inspector (for the Respondent) 98880-78621

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 10.9.2021, 7.12.2021, and 3.3.2022)

1. The RTI application is dated **1.12.2020** vide which the appellant has sought <u>information</u> <u>regarding House No. 4189/1 Sarhindi Gate Patiala</u>, as enumerated in his RTI application. First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **5.2.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **22.3.2021** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on **3.3.2022**.

2. The appellant is absent but has emailed the Commission and requested another date. This case is adjourned on the request of the appellant, who claims that he has not received the information regarding point No. 1 and no documents pertaining to points 3 and 4.

3. The respondent PIO is directed to file a pointwise reply to point No. 1, 3, and 4 of the RTI application afresh.

4. <u>Next hearing on 23.9.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

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REGISTERED SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Shamsher Singh Lottey,

S/o Late Sh. Lachman Singh Lottey, VPO Bhurthala Mander, Tehsil & District Malerkotla.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Executive Officer, Panchayat Samiti Patran, District Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 4904 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Shamsher Singh Lottey (Appellant) 99151-25626 (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 4.3.2022)

1. The RTI application is dated **5.7.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding service record of Shamsher Singh**, as enumerated in his RTI application. First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **7.8.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **27.10.2021** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on **4.3.2022**.

2. The respondent PIO is absent without information. In a reply to the appellant vide Letter No. 375 Dated 4.3.2022, the respondent has provided partial information by way of 10 pages to the appellant. A copy of the reply has also been received in the Commission. The appellant states that the information sought at points 1, 2, 3, and 4 has not been provided to him. The Commission deems it fit to issue the respondent PIO with this Show Cause Notice.

3. The respondent <u>PIO-cum-Executive Officer, Panchayat Samiti, Patran, Gurtej Singh</u>, is herewith ordered to **SHOW CAUSE** as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on **5.7.2021**.

Contd....2

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Appeal Case No. 4904 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

"In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him *ex parte*." Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

4. IMPORTANT! All documents / information supplied to appellants / complainants must mandatorily be attested as under:

Information supplied under the RTI Act, 2005 Signature of the PIO Name of the PIO Name of the Public Authority Date

5. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh 24.6.2022

Cc: District Development and Panchayat Officer, Patiala, for information and further necessary action.

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Navdeep Dhingra,

District In-charge, Punjabi Jagran, 1st Floor, Gagandeep Complex, Near Sheranwala Gate, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Divisional Forest Officer, Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Conservator of Forests,

South Circle, Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1061 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Navdeep Dhingra (Appellant) 98880-58159 Ramanpreet Singh, Clerk (for the Respondent) 99771-35027

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated **9.10.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information regarding the dimensions of Forest Department land along specific roads, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **14.12.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **2.3.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **24.6.2022**.

2. Both parties are present. As per a reply from the respondent PIO vide Letter No. 12 Dated 6.4.2022, the information was supplied to the appellant within the stipulated 30 days, vide Letter No. 118 Dated 2.11.2021. A copy of said reply and the appended information along with copy of dispatch register, has been submitted to the Commission. The appellant, also present at this hearing, stated that he has not received the PIO's reply, whereupon the respondent PIO was directed to hand over another copy to him. The appellant is given an opportunity to examine the same for deficiencies, if any.

3. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

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Jarnail Singh, S/o Sh. Thakur Singh, # 23/14, Anand Nagar-B, Tripari, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Improvement Trust, Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Improvement Trust, Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1211 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Jarnail Singh (Appellant) 93560-41329 Sanjeev Kumar, Draftsman (for the Respondent) 97806-03783

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated **11.11.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding the action to remove private gates on public roads etc.**, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **28.12.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **8.3.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **24.6.2022**.

2. Both parties are present. The respondent PIO, represented by Sanjeev Kumar, states that a reply was sent to the appellant vide Letter No. 825 Dated 18.4.2022. The respondent PIO read out said reply during the hearing. The Commission is of the view that the reply submitted by the respondent is not adequate.

3. The respondent PIO is herewith directed to file a fresh, written reply clearly stating whether the information sought in the RTI application is available in the form prescribed as per Section 2 of the RTI Act in his office or not. This must be done within 15 days of receipt of this Order. A copy of said reply must be submitted to the Commission as well as the appellant.

4. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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Jarnail Singh, S/o Sh. Thakur Singh, # 23/14, Anand Nagar-B, Tripari, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Municipal Corporation, Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1213 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: (Appellant) Absent (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated **26.8.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding illegal private gates**, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **21.10.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **8.3.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **24.6.2022**.

2. Both parties are absent. As per a reply submitted by the respondent PIO vide Letter No.515/BLD. Dated 21.4.2022, a pointwise reply to the RTI application was sent to the appellant vide Letter No.150/BLD Dated 4.3.2022. A copy of the same has also been submitted to the Commission. The appellant is given an opportunity to examine the reply.

3. <u>Next hearing on 25.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office.</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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Harinder Pal Singh,

S/o Sh. Dalbir Singh, # 278, Near Old Talab, Hira Mahal Colony, Nabha, District Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Nabha, District Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1508 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Harinder Pal Singh (Appellant) 98153-44250 (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated **24.12.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding Eleven tenders dated 15.6.2021**, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **27.1.2022** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **25.3.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **24.6.2022**.

2. The respondent PIO is absent without intimation. The appellant states that he has received a reply vide Letter No. 1188/MD Dated 1.4.2022, along with 412 pages by way of information. As per the appellant, the information was not indexed according to Six points of his RTI application. However, after examining the said information, the appellant states that only information requested at point No. 1, 2, and 4 provided. The information pertaining to points 3, 5 and 6 is still pending.

3. The respondent PIO is herewith directed to file a written pointwise reply with respect to points 3, 5, and 6 of the RTI application along with duly attested copies of the information requested therein. This must be done within 3 weeks on receiving this Order.

4. <u>Next hearing on 26.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office,</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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Harinder Pal Singh,

S/o Sh. Dalbir Singh, # 278, Near Old Talab, Hira Mahal Colony, Nabha, District Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Nabha, District Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Deputy Commissioner, Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 1509 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Harinder Pal Singh (Appellant) 98153-44250 (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated **27.10.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding grants for the installation of five gates**, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **1.12.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **17.1.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **24.6.2022**.

2. The respondent PIO is absent without intimation. As per a reply submitted by the PIO, office of Deputy Commissioner, Patiala vide Letter No. 115-116 Dated 24.3.2022, wherein the appellant was informed that the expenditure on the gates cited in the RTI application, was made by private organizations and has nothing to do with the Municipal Council, Nabha.

3. The respondent PIO is herewith directed to submit his aforesaid reply by way of duly notarized affidavit. Original affidavit is to be given to the appellant and a copy of the same is to be submitted to the Commission.

4. <u>Next hearing on 26.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office.</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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REGISTERED SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Harinder Pal Singh,

S/o Sh. Dalbir Singh, # 278, Near Old Talab, Hira Mahal Colony, Nabha, Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Nabha, District Patiala. First Appellate Authority, o/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 333 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT: Harinder Pal Singh (Appellant) 98153-44250 (Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 20.4.2022)

1. The RTI application dated **12.10.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding MB No. 179-180**, as enumerated in his RTI applications. First Appeals were filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **17.11.2021** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **7.1.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on **20.4.2022**.

2. The respondent PIO is absent for the second successive hearing. He has however, in a reply to the Commission's Notice of Hearing vide Letter No. 120 Dated 20.4.2022, contended that the reply was sent vide Letter No. 579/MD Dated 12.1.2022, wherein the appellant was informed that the MBs cited in the RTI application are missing and that a letter has been written to the concerned Police Station for registration of an FIR. The respondent PIO has appended no document by way of said FIR or copy of the letter sent to the Police Station, Kotwali, Nabha. Furthermore, as pointed out by the appellant, the point No. 3 of the RTI application, which reads as under:

"ਮੈਨੂੰ ਮਿਊਂਸੀਪਲ ਇੰਜੀਨੀਰਿੰਗ ਬਰਾਂਚ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਬੰਧਤ ਮਈਅਰਮੈਂਟ ਬੁੱਕ 179-180 ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਜ ਕੀਤੇ ਗਏ ਵਿਕਾਸ ਕਾਰਜਾਂ ਦੇ ਬਿੱਲ ਵਗਊਚਰ, ਕੈਸ਼ ਬੁੱਕ ਆਦਿ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜਾਂ ਦੀਆਂ ਤਸਦੀਕਸ਼ੁਦਾ ਫੋਟੋਕਾਪੀਆਂ

ਮੁਹੱਈਆ ਕਰਵਾਈਆਂ ਜਾਣ ਜੀ।"

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Appeal Case No. 333 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

has been withheld in violation of the RTI Act, 2005. The Commission concurs with the appellant and deems it fit to issue this Show Cause Notice to the respondent PIO.

3. The respondent <u>PIO-cum-Executive Officer, Executive Officer, Municipal Council,</u> <u>Nabha, Patiala, Sukhdeep Singh</u>, is herewith ordered to SHOW CAUSE as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on **12.10.2021**.

"In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him *ex parte*." Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

4. Furthermore, the respondent PIO is directed to supply duly attested copies of Bills, Vouchers etc. Sought at point No. 3 of the RTI application in addition to a copy of the FIR registered at Police Station, Kotwali, Nabha regarding the loss of the MBs cited in the RTI application.

5. IMPORTANT! All documents / information supplied to appellants / complainants must mandatorily be attested as under:

Information supplied under the RTI Act, 2005 Signature of the PIO Name of the PIO Name of the Public Authority Date

6. <u>Next hearing on 26.8.2022 at 11.30 am via Video Conference Facility at DC Office.</u> <u>Patiala.</u>

Sd/-(ASIT JOLLY) State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh 24.6.2022

Cc: Additional Deputy Commissioner, Urban Development, Patiala, for information and further necessary action.