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

Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, S/o Late Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan, ( President of Anti Corruption Council ) , Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road,

Pathankot (M: 98143-54649)

Appellant

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation, Division No. 01, Ferozepur, Outside Zira Gate, Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle,

Ferozepur.

Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1800 of 2021
[Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software]

V/s.

Present:

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is present.

Sh. Jagdish Lal, Sub Divisional Engineer is present from the Department.

ORDER:

This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 10.08.2021.

In today's hearing, the Appellant, Yogesh Mahajan states no information has been supplied to him and an empty envelope has been received by him instead of information.

On this, the SDE, Sh. Jagdish Lal states that information has been sent to the Appellant vide letter number 4630 dated 30.07.2021 and vide another letter number 6380 dated 01.10.2021. He further mentions about an email dated 26.10.2021 which has been sent to the Commission and is taken on record.

On further discussing the case, both the parties are called to the Commission's office for next date of hearing along with their documents but the Appellant requests the Court that this case could be heard through Cisco Webex only and request for an adjournment.

In view of above, the request of the Appellant has been accepted and on the other hand, the concerned PIO is directed to supply the point wise reply of **information again to the Appellant** with a copy to the Commission through registered post or through email and if the information is not available with the concerned PIO then the concerned PIO is directed to file a proper reply in writing signed by PIO explaining the reason, why the information could not be supplied to the Appellant, failing which an action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The PIO is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which a strict action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to go through the supplied information and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the concerned Respondent / PIO as well as a copy of same to the Commission within 3 weeks through registered post.

Also, the Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which it would be presumed that he has nothing to say and the case would be decided on merits.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

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Email: psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us - www.infocommpunjab.com Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab.



Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, S/o Late Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan, ( President of Anti Corruption Council ) Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road,

Pathankot (M: 98143-54649)

V/s.

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation, Division No. 01, Ferozepur, Outside Zira Gate, Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle,

Ferozepur.

Respondent

**Appellant** 

**Appeal Case No. 1802 of 2021** {Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software}

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is present. Present:

Sh. Jagdish Lal, Sub Divisional Engineer is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 10.08.2021.

In today's hearing, the Appellant, Yogesh Mahajan states no information has been supplied to him.

On this, the SDE, Sh. Jagdish Lal states that information has been sent to the Appellant. He further mentions about an email dated 26.10.2021 which has been sent to the Commission and is taken on record.

On further discussing the case, both the parties are called to the Commission's office for next date of hearing along with their documents but the Appellant requests the Court that this case could be heard through Cisco Webex only and request for an adjournment.

In view of above, the request of the Appellant has been accepted and on the other hand, the concerned PIO is directed to supply the point wise reply of information again to the Appellant with a copy to the Commission through registered post or through email and if the information is not available with the concerned PIO then the concerned PIO is directed to file a proper reply in writing signed by PIO explaining the reason, why the information could not be supplied to the Appellant, failing which an action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The PIO is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which a strict action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to go through the supplied information and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the concerned Respondent / PIO as well as a copy of same to the Commission within 3 weeks through registered post.

Also, the Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which it would be presumed that he has nothing to say and the case would be decided on merits.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) **State Information Commissioner Puniab** 

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



Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, S/o Late Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan,

(President of Anti Corruption Council),

Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road,

Pathankot (M: 98143-54649)

V/s.

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation,

Division No. 03, Bathinda.

(Regd. Post) First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle,

Bathinda.

Respondent

**Appellant** 

**Appeal Case No. 1805 of 2021** 

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software}

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is present. None is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

Present:

On the previous hearing dated 10.08.2021 a show cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO and the concerned PIO was directed to supply the information to the Appellant by the next date of hearing.

In today's hearing, the Appellant, Yogesh Mahajan states no information has been supplied to him.

None is present from the Department.

Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO and the show cause notice which was issued to the concerned PIO vide order dated 10.08.2021 still stands.

On further discussing the case, both the parties are called to the Commission's office for next date of hearing along with their documents but the Appellant requests the Court that this case could be heard through Cisco Webex only and request for an adjournment.

In view of above, the request of the Appellant has been accepted and on the other hand, the concerned PIO is directed to supply the point wise reply of **information to the Appellant** with a copy to the Commission through registered post or through email and if the information is not available with the concerned PIO then the concerned PIO is directed to file a proper reply in writing signed by PIO explaining the reason, why the information could not be supplied to the Appellant, failing which an action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The PIO is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which a strict action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

The Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to go through the supplied information and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the concerned Respondent / PIO as well as a copy of same to the Commission within 3 weeks through registered post.

Also, the Appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software failing which it would be presumed that he has nothing to say and the case would be decided on merits.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26.10.2021

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

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Email: <u>psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in</u> Visit us - <u>www.infocommpunjab.com</u> Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab.



Sh. Harjit Singh, S/o Sh. Dalbir Singh,

Village Harkhowal, P.O. Dhakhowal, District Hoshiarpur (146111)

M: 88721-07599

V/s.

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Block Primary Education Officer, Block Hoshiarpur 2-A, District Hoshiarpur.

Respondent

**Complainant** 

Complaint Case No. 439 of 2021

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

**Present**: The Complainant, Sh. Harjit Singh is present.

Sh. Tirath Ram, Block Primary Education Officer is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

Dated: 26.10.2021

This case was last heard on 10.08.2021 vide which show cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO and the concerned PIO was directed to supply the information to the Complainant accordingly.

In today's hearing, the Complainant, Sh. Harjit Singh states that the uncertified copy of information has been supplied to him.

On the other hand, the BPEO, Sh. Tirath Ram states that the information has been supplied to the Complainant and further states that if the supplied documents are not certified then he could bring the supplied copies of information to their office and get it attested.

In view of above, the Complainant, Sh. Harjit Singh is directed to visit the concerned office on 27.10.2021 i.e. tomorrow at 11.00 A.M. along with the unattested documents which were supplied to him and get it attested by the concerned PIO. If the Complainant would not visit the concerned office on the said date and time then it would be presumed that he does not require the information anymore and the case would be decided on merits.

Sh. Tirath Ram, BPEO is directed to look into this matter thoroughly and make assure that if any information relating to RTI is pending be supplied to the Complainant and attest the unattested copies of supplied information on the time of Complainant's visit.

If the concerned documents would not be got attested then a strict action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

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Email: psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us - www.infocommpunjab.com Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab.



Sh. Bharat Bhushan Mattu,

H. No. 153, Akash Nagar,

Near Greenland School, Central Post Office,

Ludhiana M: 97799-28472

**Appellant** 

**Public Information Officer**,

 $\mathbf{0/o}$  The District Education Officer, (Elementary Education),

Mini Secretariat, Ludhiana (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Director, Public Instruction (Elementary), Punjab, P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 68, S.A.S Nagar (Mohali) (Punjab)

Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 1264 of 2021** 

V/s.

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

**Present**: The Appellant, Sh. Bharat Bhushan is present.

Sh. Rajpal Jain, Senior Assistant is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

Dated: 26.10.2021

This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 10.08.2021.

In today's hearing, the Appellant, Sh. Bharat Bhushan states that same information has been supplied to him again by changing the dispatch number on it. He further mentions about his letter number 15.10.2021 along with email dated 24.10.2021 which has been sent to the Commission and is taken on record.

On the other hand, Sh. Rajpal Jain states that requisite information has been supplied to the Appellant.

In view of above, both the parties are directed to appear in the Commission along with related documents on the next date of hearing for clarifying the facts of this case.

The concerned PIO along with the concerned officials are directed to appear in the Commission with all the requisite documents relating to this present case RTI on the next date of hearing, failing which a strict action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

A copy of this order be sent to the FAA Office of The Conservator Director, Public Instruction (Elementary), Punjab, P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 68, S.A.S Nagar (Mohali)(Punjab) and he would make assure that the PIO should comply the above said order.

The Appellant is directed to appear in the Commission with all the requisite documents relating to this RTI on the next date of hearing, failing which it would be presumed that the Appellant does not require the information anymore and the case will be decided on merits.

This case is adjourned to **05.01.2022** at **12.00** Noon and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. **05.01.2022** which is going to be heard in the Court Room at Punjab State Information Commission, Madhya Marg, Sector -16, Chandigarh.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

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Email: psicsic31@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us - www.infocommpunjab.com Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab.



**Appellant** 

Sh. Ajay Kumar, S/o Late Sh. Ram Rakha,

H. No. A-1346, Street No. 01,

Radha Swami Colony, Fazilka (152123)

V/s.

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Block Primary Education Officer, Fazilka – 2 (Punjab)

The Managing Committee,

**O/o** Sri Harparsad Vidya Pracharni Sabha, Sri Jain Elementary Primary School, Shivpuri Road, Fazilka (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Block Primary Education Officer, Fazilka – 2 (Punjab)

Respondent

Appeal Case No. 948 of 2021 {Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

The Appellant, Sh. Ajay Kumar is absent. Present:

Sh. Atul Jain, Manager at Jain Elementary School is present

Sh. Manish Kumar, Senior Assistant is present from O/o BPEO, Fazilka – 2 (Punjab).

**ORDER:** 

This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 10.08.2021.

In today's hearing, the Appellant, Sh. Ajay Kumar is absent without any intimation to the Commission.

On the other hand, Sh. Atul Jain states that the information has already been supplied to the Appellant and further mentions about a letter dated 17.10.2021 which has been sent to the Commission as well and is taken on record.

In view of above, last opportunity is given to the Appellant, Sh. Ajay Kumar and he is directed to go through the supplied information and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the concerned Respondent / PIO as well as a copy of same to the Commission within 3 weeks through registered post, failing which it would be presumed that he has nothing to say and the case would be decided on merits.

The Appellant is directed to appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software.

The Respondent / PIO is directed to supply the copy of postal receipts to the Commission vide which the information has been sent to the Appellant, by the next date of hearing.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and all the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) **State Information Commissioner Punjab** 

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



Sh. Balbir Singh, S/o Sh. Man Singh,

**R/o** Village Ramgarh, Tehsil and Distt. Patiala (Punjab)

Complainant

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,

**O/o** The Land Acquisition Collector,

(Building and Roads),

668- A, Model Town, Jalandhar (Punjab)

Respondent

Complaint Case No. 621 of 2020

V/s.

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

Advocate, Sh. Abhinav Sharma is present on behalf of the Complainant, Sh. Balbir Singh.

None is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

Present:

This order may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 10.08.2021.

In today's hearing the representative of the Complainant, Sh. Abhinav Sharma (Advocate) states that no information has been supplied to them and the status of this case was same as it was on the last date of hearing.

While filing this case before the Commission the Complainant has attached a letter, vide which letter number 183 dated 01.07.2020 signed by Land Acquisition Collector, PWD (B & R), Jalandhar had returned The 'Indian Postal Order' of Rs. 10/- to the complainant, intimating him that information demanded through RTI request relates with revenue and is not available in the official record and he can visit the office to inspect the relevant record in working hours.

After going through the case file, it has been observed that on the hearing dated 22.10.2020 a show cause notice was issued to the concerned department and later on the next date of hearing dated 15.03.2021, 19.05.2021 and 10.08.2021 nobody appeared from the Department to represent this case from the Department's end.

This shows the negligence of the Department as the department has not responded not even a single time to the Commission, neither to the notice of the Commission which was issued to the concerned PIO for first hearing and nor responded even to the show cause notice. Moreover, the concerned PIO has also not complied any of the previous orders of the Commission relating to this present case.

Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO as the show cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO vide order 13.07.2021 but still the concerned PIO is absent and no one appear today from the department.

After seeing the conduct of the concerned respondent PIO and holding him guilty of violation under Section 20 (1) as per provisions of the RTI Act and for making delay in supplying the requisite information to the information-seeker, a penalty of Rs. 5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only) is imposed upon the concerned <u>Public Information Officer office of The Land Acquisition Collector</u>, (Building and Roads), Model Town, Jalandhar (Punjab).

A copy of this order be sent to the concerned PIO through registered post.

The amount of penalty will be deposited in the treasury of Punjab Government under the head.....

Major Head .. 0070 -Other Administrative Services

Sub-Major Head .. 60 - Other Services

### <u>Complaint Case No. 621 of 2020</u> {Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }



2/2

Minor Head .. 800 - Other Receipts

Sub-Head .. 86 - Fee under the Right to Information Act, 2005

Detailed Head .. 0070 Other Administrative Services

60 Other Services- 800- Other Receipts-

86- Fees under the Right to Information Act, 2005

And a copy of challan receipt be sent to the Commission by the next date of hearing.

Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO as neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has also not sent any intimation regarding his non-availability. The respondent PIO has neither supplied the requisite information to the information seeker nor sent any reply in an affidavit, to each and every query, raised by the Complainant through RTI request even after the directions were given by the Commission. In the previous orders, the concerned PIO was directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing for clarifying the facts of this case but still nobody appeared from the office of Public Information Officer, O/o The Land Acquisition Collector, (Building and Roads), Jalandhar (Punjab).

Final opportunity is given to the Respondent/ PIO concerned either to supply the certified copies of the requisite information through registered post or e-mail to the Appellant or file a point wise reply, in an affidavit, to each and every query, raised by the Complainant through his RTI request as per official record by the next date of hearing with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing, failing which disciplinary action would be recommended against him for willful delay in supplying the information to the RTI Applicant.

The Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar is directed to look into this matter and make assure that the orders of the Commission should be complied by the PIO concerned well in time and the PIO should appear on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software. A copy of this order be sent to the O/o The Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar through registered post.

The Complainant is directed to confirm whether he has received the information/reply or not. Also, the Complainant is directed to go through the supplied information, once he receives the same from the Respondent/PIO and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the Respondent/PIO through registered post or through email, with a copy to the Commission.

This case is adjourned to 03.01.2022 at 11:00 A.M. and all the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 03.01.2022 which is going to be heard through Software/ Application Cisco Webex Meetings. Joining Meeting Number of Cisco Webex is 1589136034.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

CC (Regd. Post) The Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar.

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



Sh. Jagdish Kumar,

Ward Number 03 Street No.09,

Back Side - Raman Cinema, Mansa. (M: 99885-32307)

**Appellant** 

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer,

Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana.

Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2938 of 2021** 

V/s.

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

Advocate, Sh. Jagdeep Singh Rana is present on behalf of the Appellant, Sh. Jagdish Kumar.

None is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

Present:

This case was last heard on 05.10.2021 vide which the SDO, Sh. Lavesh Jain stated that the information was ready with them and would be sent to the Appellant tomorrow i.e. 06.10.2021.

In today's hearing, the representative of the Appellant, Sh. Jagdeep Kumar (Advocate) states that they have received the information yesterday relating to point number 03 of the RTI Application and they are satisfied with the same. The Advocate, Sh. Jagdeep Kumar further requests for the remaining information.

On the other hand, the Respondent / PIO is absent today without any intimation to the Commission.

After going through the case file it has been observed that an email dated 08.10.2021 has been sent to the Commission and is taken on record.

Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO as requisite information is still not supplied to the Appellant and today the concerned Respondent / PIO is absent without any intimation to the Commission.

In view of the above, a show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act is issued to the 'concerned' Public Information Officer O/o The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay in supplying the information to the RTI Appellant and as to why the compensation be not awarded to the information-seeker under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

In addition, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) provision thereto, for a personal hearing with the sought for information, before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. A copy of the RTI Application be sent to the concerned PIO along with this order through registered post.

The concerned PIO is directed to supply the requisite information to the Appellant by registered post or email within 3 weeks positively (along with a copy to the Commission) and if the information is not available with them then the PIO is directed to file a proper reply in the form of an affidavit explaining the reason, why the information could not be supplied to the Appellant till date, failing which an action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

# **Appeal Case No. 2938 of 2021**

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software}





The PIO is also directed to submit the copy of the postal receipts to the Commission vide which information would have been supplied to the Appellant, by the next date of hearing.

The O/o Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana is directed to look into this matter and make assure that the PIO concerned should comply the above said order and PIO concerned should appear personally on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard in the Punjab State Information Commission, Sector 16, Chandigarh. A copy of this order be sent to the O/o Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana through registered post.

Also, the Appellant, Sh. Jagdish Kumar is directed to go through the supplied information, once he receives the same from the Respondent/PIO and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the Respondent/PIO through registered post or through email, with a copy to the Commission.

This case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12.00 Noon and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 05.01.2022 which is going to be heard in the Court Room at Punjab State Information Commission, Madhya Marg, Sector -16, Chandigarh.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

copy of the order be sent to the parties

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

**Show Cause:** 

Dated: 26.10.2021

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer,

Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana.

{ Encl. RTI Application }

(Regd. Post) First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana.

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



Sh. Jagdish Kumar,

Ward Number 03 Street No.09,

Back Side - Raman Cinema, Mansa. (M: 99885-32307)

**Appellant** 

**Public Information Officer**,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana.

Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2981 of 2021** 

V/s.

{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software }

**Present**: Advocate, Sh. Jagdeep Singh Rana is present on behalf of the Appellant, Sh. Jagdish Kumar. None is present from the Department.

**ORDER:** 

This case was last heard on 05.10.2021 vide which the SDO, Sh. Lavesh Jain stated that the information was ready with them and would be sent to the Appellant tomorrow i.e. 06.10.2021.

In today's hearing, the representative of the Appellant, Sh. Jagdeep Kumar (Advocate) states that no information has been supplied to the Appellant and further requests for the remaining information.

On the other hand, the Respondent / PIO is absent today without any intimation to the Commission.

After going through the case file it has been observed that an email dated 08.10.2021 has been sent to the Commission and is taken on record.

Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO as requisite information is still not supplied to the Appellant and today the concerned Respondent / PIO is absent without any intimation to the Commission.

In view of the above, a show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act is issued to the 'concerned' Public Information Officer O/o The Executive Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay in supplying the information to the RTI Appellant and as to why the compensation be not awarded to the information-seeker under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

In addition, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) provision thereto, for a personal hearing with the sought for information, before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. A copy of the RTI Application be sent to the concerned PIO along with this order through registered post.

The concerned PIO is directed to supply the requisite information to the Appellant by registered post or email within 3 weeks positively (along with a copy to the Commission) and if the information is not available with them then the PIO is directed to file a proper reply in the form of an affidavit explaining the reason, why the information could not be supplied to the Appellant till date, failing which an action would be taken against the concerned PIO.

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{Heard through Cisco Webex Meetings Software}

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The PIO is also directed to submit the copy of the postal receipts to the Commission vide which information would have been supplied to the Appellant, by the next date of hearing.

The O/o Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana is directed to look into this matter and make assure that the PIO concerned should comply the above said order and PIO concerned should appear personally on the next date of hearing which is going to be heard in the Punjab State Information Commission, Sector 16, Chandigarh. A copy of this order be sent to the O/o Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana through registered post.

Also, the Appellant, Sh. Jagdish Kumar is directed to go through the supplied information, once he receives the same from the Respondent/PIO and point out deficiencies in written, if any, to the Respondent/PIO through registered post or through email, with a copy to the Commission.

This case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12.00 Noon and both the parties are directed to be present on the next date of hearing i.e. 05.01.2022 which is going to be heard in the Court Room at Punjab State Information Commission, Madhya Marg, Sector -16, Chandigarh.

Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

copy of the order be sent to the parties

Sd/-(Sanjiv Garg) State Information Commissioner Punjab

**Show Cause:** 

Dated: 26.10.2021

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,

**O/o** The Executive Engineer,

Water Supply and Sanitation, Division Number 02, Metro Road, Near Partap Chawk, Ludhiana.

{ Encl. RTI Application }

(Regd. Post) First Appellate Authority,

**O/o** The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Club Road, Near Old Courts, Ludhiana.