

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Ph: 0172-2864101, Fax 0172-2864110 Helpline 0172-2864100

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Whatsapp No. 62848-20189 Cisco Webex: 158 708 3455



Sh. Narinderpal,  
H No 10130, Street No 9,  
New Subhash Nagar,  
Rahon Road, Basti Jodhewal,  
Ludhiana-141007. M : 9988500162

Appellant

Vs

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

First Appellate Authority  
O/o Deputy Commissioner,  
Ludhiana.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2187/2021  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Lalit \_\_\_\_\_ on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

The RTI application is dated 27.10.2020 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter called FAA) on 1.1.2021 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 7.5.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today.

2. The appellant has sent the request to adjourn the case. However, the representative of the respondents states that he will file the response in this case before the next date of hearing.

3. Accordingly, the case is adjourned with the directions to the respondent-Public Information Officer to file the response in this case before the next date of hearing.

4. To come up on 18.8.2021 at 12.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana /cisco webex.

sd

Dated: 26.7.2021

(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Gurmeet Singh 9876269776

Village Kikar Khera,

Tehsil abohar,

District Fazilka.

....Appellant

Vs

Sh. Prithvi Singh, Panchayat Secretary

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Munak at Andana,

Tehsil Khanauri,

Sangrur.

Public Information Officer

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Munak at Andana,

Tehsil Khanauri,

Sangrur .

First Appellate Authority

o/o Addl. Deputy Commissioner (Dev.)

Sangrur.

Public Information Officer

o/o the Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt., Pb.

Vikas Bhawan,

Sector 62, Mohali.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2316 of 2020

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Sunita Rani, Sr. Asstt, RD 2 9646095124 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 29.6.2021.

2. The appellant is absent after the hearing dated 8.3.2021. He has not sent any submission in this case today i.e. 26.7.2021. As far as the respondent-Public Information Officer is concerned a reply has already been sent to the appellant vide No. 1643 dated 8.3.2021 and the same has been reiterated by the representative of the respondents during the hearing.

3. Accordingly, the order in this case is 'RESERVED' and will be pronounced later on.

sd

Dated: 26.7.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Gagandeep Singh Thareeka 9780471680

SCO 26, Shant Park,

Main Sua Road,

Thareeka,

District Ludhiana 142028

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer

o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Ludhiana-1,

District Ludhiana

First Appellate Authority

o/o Director,

Rural Development & Panchayat, Pb.,

Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, Mohali

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3031 of 2020

(Video Conference/Telephone Proceedings)

Present:- Sh. Gagandeep Singh Thareeka, appellant, on telephone.

None on behalf of the respondents. 6239079871

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 29.6.2021.

2. None is present on behalf of the respondents due to strike by the officials of the respondent authority. Accordingly, the appellant has been informed on telephone.

3. That the respondent-Public Information Officer is directed to comply with the orders of the Commission dated 29.6.2021 before the next date of hearing failing which the penalty provisions will be invoked.

4. To come up on 25.8.2021 at 3.30 PM to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, District Ludhiana/cisco webex.

sd

Dated: 26.7.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

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Sh. Vikul Puri, 9888588282

# 377 PUDA Colony,

Malout

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer

o/o Superintendent, General Admn.

(Estb 2 Branch),

Punjab Civil Secretariat-1, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

o/o Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,

General Administration (Estb 2 Branch)

Punjab Civil Secretariat-1, Chandigarh.

Ms Hardeep Kaur,

d/o Sh. Major Singh

c/o o/o Superintendent, General Admn.

(Estb 2 Branch),

Punjab Civil Secretariat-1, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1686 of 2021

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Mandeep Singh, Sr Asstt on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 22.6.2021.

2. The appellant has sent the written request through email, which is taken on record, vide which he has requested for the adjournment of the case.

3. The appellant has sought the information related to the third party i.e. Ms Hardeep Kaur, in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005, she is also impleaded as necessary party in this case to file the response, if any, in the interest of natural justice. A copy of the RTI application is being **sent** to her along with this order.

4. Also the respondent-Public Information Officer is directed to deliver the copy of this order to Ms Hardeep Kaur d/o Sh. Major Singh who is an employee of the respondent authority under intimation to the Commission.

5. The parties in this case are directed to remain present on the next date of hearing failing which ex-parte decision will be taken on the next date of hearing.

4. To come up on 25.8.2021 at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

sd

Dated: 26.7.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab.

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Sh. Surinder Kumar 9465313956

r/o VPO Bareka,

Tehsil & District Fazilka.

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer, **Registered**

o/o Panchayat Secretary, Gram panchayat, Bareka,

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer,

Block Khuhian Server,

District Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority

o/o District Development and Panchayats Officer,

District Administrative Complex,

Fazilka

Sh. Gian Singh, VDO **Registered**

Public Information Officer

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer

Khuhian Server,

Fazilka

Sh. Varinder Kumar 8968652368, **Registered**

Public Information Officer

c/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer

Khuhian Server,

Fazilka

.....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1896 of 2020

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Shri Aman s/o Sh. Surinder Kumar, appellant & Sh. Krishan Lal on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondents, M 9914400517

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 29.6.2021.

2. The representative of the appellant states that he has received the complete information except the copy of audit report and audit note of Village Panchayat Bareka from 1.1.2013 to 6.11.2019. He also states that an amount of Rs.2560/-has been charged by the respondent-Public Information Officer but only 300 pages have been supplied to him. In addition he further states that the respondent-Public Information Officer may be directed to refund the amount as the complete information has not been supplied till date.

3. The respondent-Public Information Officer –cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer and respondent-Public Information Officer-cum-Panchayat Secretary are absent

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Appeal Case No. 1896 of 2020

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without intimation.

4. As per the order dated 20.5.2021, the respondent-Public Information Officers were directed to remove the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant although they were absent. The case was further adjourned for 29.6.2021. During the hearing on 29.6.2021 neither the deficiencies were removed nor the Public Information Officer-cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer was present on the said date. Therefore, the Public Information Officer-cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer was also issued the show cause notice to impose penalty and award of compensation in this case.

5. The show cause notice has also been issued to Sh. Gian Singh VDO on 22.12.2020 but till date neither the reply has been received from him nor is he supplying the requisite information in his custody.

6. None is present on behalf of the respondents today i.e. 27.7.2021 although the specific directions were given to the Public Information Officer-cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer and Public Information Officer-cum-Panchayat Secretary to remain present along with the original record pertaining to the RTI application of the appellant.

7. The perusal of the file shows that in this case, application for information was filed on 8.11.2019 but after a lapse of more than one and a half year, incomplete information has been supplied to the appellant so far. It is, thus apparent from the response of the respondent-Public Information Officer that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. Although the office of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer dealt the RTI application of the appellant in a casual manner but taking a lenient view a compensation amounting to Rs.5000/- was awarded in favour of the appellant due to delay occurred in this case. It is also a fact that the directions were issued to both the parties to remain present on the next date of hearing. But the appellant came to Chandigarh to attend the hearing from Fazilka but none is present on behalf of the respondents otherwise they should have informed the appellant in advance so that he should not be harassed. Also no submission have been

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Appeal Case No. 1896 of 2020

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received from the respondent-Public Information Officer. Still the office of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Khuhian Server does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act.

5. I am, therefore, of the view that ends of justice would be met by awarding additional sum of Rs. 5000/- (Rupees Five thousands only) by way of compensation to the appellant. This amount shall be payable from the State Exchequer before the next date of hearing by the office of the Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Khuhian Server as the RTI application of the appellant was filed to the Public Information Officer o/o the Block Development and Panchayats Officer Khuhian Server.

6. Sh. Varinder Kumar, Public Information Officer-cum-Block Development and Panchayats Officer and Sh. Gian Singh, VDO is also directed to remain present along with the original record at Chandigarh on the next date of hearing failing which disciplinary proceeding will also be recommended to the authorities concerned. He is also directed to refund the amount i.e. Rs.2560/-, as incomplete information has been supplied so far, before the next date of hearing.

7. To come up on 7.9.2021 at 12.30 PM at Chandigarh.

SD

Dated: 26.7.2021

(Suresh Arora)

Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

CC

Financial Commissioner (by name) Registered  
Government of Punjab,  
Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt.,  
Vikas Bhawan, Sec-62, Mohali

To look into the matter personally and  
ensure compliance of this order.

The Director (By name)  
Rural Development & Panchayat Deptt.,  
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62,  
Mohali

Registered

-do-