

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

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Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia
RTI Acitivist President, Whistle Blower,
NCAG Office, Ludhiana
1331-5, Street No.5,
Near Vishawkarma Bhawan,
Down Canal Road, Shimlapuri,
Ludhiana-141003.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Bodies., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Bodies., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 878 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has received information on point No.1, 2 & 3 whereas information on point No.4 & 5 is still pending.

3. Neither the PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing.

Cont..P-2

4. The Bench observes that during the previous hearing, Shri Kuldeep Singh, Senior Assistant had put in appearance on behalf of the PIO and directions were issued by the Bench to the PIO to bring along copy of the information along with the relevant official records and produce the same before the Bench, but the PIO has failed to comply with the directions of the Bench. This attitude of the PIO is viewed adversely.

5. The PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and for not supplying complete information to the appellant. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next 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.

7. The PIO is directed to supply remaining information on Point No.4 & 5 to the appellant before the next hearing as also to ensure to come present in person before the Bench.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

**PIO O/o Director, Local Govt. Department, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.**

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Shri K.N.S.Sodhi,
#1634, Sector 70,
Mohkali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Bodies., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 1286 of 2022

Present:

- (i) **Shri Y.V. Chawla, on behalf of the Appellant- in person.**
- (ii) **Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, Office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh ,on behalf of the PIO- in person.**
- (iii) **Shri Gurvinder Singh, SDO/APIO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 26.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Y.V. Chawla, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant. He refers to the submissions made by the appellant regarding non receipt of information as also for condoning his non appearance. He also requests for adjournment on behalf of the appellant.

3. Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the RTI application has been transferred to PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali under Section 6(3) of RTI Act, 2005, as the matter relates to Municipal Corporation, Mohali.

Cont..P-2

4. Shri Gurvinder Singh, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali comes present in person before the Bench and states that the information sought by the appellant is voluminous and is not specific. As such, the appellant has been asked vide letter dated 27.09.2022 to visit the office of Municipal Corporation on any working day to inspect the records so as to identify the information required by him. He also produces a copy of the letter before the Bench to substantiate the same.

5. In view of the letter produced before the Bench by the representative of PIO, the Bench advises the appellant to visit the office of PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali on any working day to inspect the records and to identify the information as is required by him. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant as may be identified by him after inspection of records, duly authenticated by the PIO, before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

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Shri K.N.S.Sodhi,
#1634, Sector 70,
Mohkali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Bodies., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 1287 of 2022

Present:

- (i) **Shri Y.V. Chawla, on behalf of the Appellant- in person.**
- (ii) **Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, Office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh ,on behalf of the PIO- in person.**
- (iii) **Shri Sandeep Saini, SDO/APIO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 26.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Y.V. Chawla, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant. He refers to the submissions made by the appellant regarding non receipt of information as also for condoning his non appearance. He also requests for adjournment on behalf of the appellant.

3. Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the RTI application has been transferred to PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali under Section 6(3) of RTI Act, 2005, as the matter relates to Municipal Corporation, Mohali.

Cont..P-2

4. Shri Sandeep Saini, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali comes present in person before the Bench and states that the information sought by the appellant is voluminous and is not specific. As such, the appellant has been asked vide letter dated 27.09.2022 to visit the office of Municipal Corporation on any working day to inspect the record so as to identify the information required by him. He also produces a copy of the letter before the Bench to substantiate the same.

5. In view of the letter produced before the Bench by the representative of PIO, the Bench advises the appellant to visit the office of PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali on any working day to inspect the records and to identify the information as is required by him. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant as may be identified by him after inspection of records, duly authenticated by the PIO, before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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



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Shri K.N.S.Sodhi,
#1634, Sector 70,
Mohkali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Bodies., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 1285 of 2022

Present:

- (i) **Shri Y.V. Chawla, on behalf of the Appellant- in person.**
- (ii) **Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, Office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh ,on behalf of the PIO- in person.**
- (iii) **Shri Dharminder, SDO/APIO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 26.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Y.V. Chawla, comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the appellant. He refers to the submissions made by the appellant regarding non receipt of information as also for condoning his non appearance. He also requests for adjournment on behalf of the appellant.

3. Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the RTI application has been transferred to PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali under Section 6(3) of RTI Act, 2005, as the matter relates to Municipal Corporation, Mohali.

Cont..P-2

4. Shri Dharminder, SDO, Municipal Corporation, Mohali comes present in person before the Bench and states that the information sought by the appellant is voluminous and is not specific. As such, the appellant has been asked to visit the office of Municipal Corporation on any working day to inspect the record so as to identify the information required by him. He also produces a copy of the letter before the Bench to substantiate the same.

5. In view of the letter produced before the Bench by the representative of PIO, the Bench advises the appellant to visit the office of PIO O/o Municipal Corporation, Mohali on any working day to inspect the records and to identify the information as is required by him. The PIO is directed to supply information to the appellant as may be identified by him after inspection of records, duly authenticated by the PIO, before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

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Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta,
Advocate,
8/237, Jagraon Road,
Mandi Mullanpur,
District Ludhiana..

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 685 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 21.03.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. The appellant Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that he has been supplied partial information. He further states that he had also pointed out deficiencies, but he has not been supplied rectified information after removing the deficiencies.

3. Neither the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government Department, Punjab, Chandigarh has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex. The Bench observes that during the last hearing, Shri Jasbir Singh was present from the Local Govt. Department and the Bench had directed the appellant to visit the office of PIO on a mutually decided date and time. However, no such compliance has been reported by the PIO.

Cont.P-2

4. The Bench again directs the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab to call the appellant to inspect the records on a mutually decided date and time. The appellant, after inspection of records, will identify the information required by him and the same will be provided by the PIO to the appellant before the next hearing.

5. The appellant and the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab are directed to come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

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Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta,
Advocate,
8/237, Jagraon Road,
Mandi Mullanpur,
District Ludhiana..

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 861 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 25.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. The appellant Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that he has been supplied partial information. He further states that he had also pointed out deficiencies, but he has not been supplied rectified information after removing the deficiencies.

3. Neither the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government Department, Punjab, Chandigarh has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex.

4. The Bench directs the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab to remove the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant as stated by him before the Bench, and supply the rectified information to the appellant before the next hearing.

Cont..P-2

5. The appellant and the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab are directed to come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

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Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta,
Advocate,
8/237, Jagraon Road,
Mandi Mullanpur,
District Ludhiana..

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 862 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. The appellant Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex and states that he has been supplied partial information. He further states that he had also pointed out deficiencies, but he has not been supplied rectified information after removing the deficiencies.
3. Neither the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government Department, Punjab, Chandigarh has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex.
4. The Bench directs the PIO O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab to remove the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant as stated by him before the Bench, and supply the rectified information to the appellant before the next hearing.

Cont..P-2

5. The appellant and the PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab are directed to come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

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Shri Amritpal Singh
S/o Shri Avtar Singh,
H.No.263A/13, Gali No.8,
Hussainpura East,
Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer,

Superintendent, Local Govt.-1 Branch,
O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Government, Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 1088 of 2021

Present:

- (i) **Shri Amritpal Singh, Appellant- in peson.**
- (ii) **Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, Office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh ,on behalf of the PIO- in person.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 11.07.2022 passed by the Bench of State Information Commissioner, Shri Sanjeev Garg.
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. He states that he has not received information so far.

Cont..P-2

3. Shri Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, Municipal Services Cell, Office of Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant has sought action taken report on a complaint made by him. In this connection, the report on the complaint has been sought from the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar on point No.3, which is still awaited. Points No.1 & 2 relate to PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-1 Branch of Local Govt. Department, Punjab.

4. As per version of Shri Vikas Kumar, the PIO/Superintendent, Local Government-1 Branch, O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh is impleaded as respondent No.2. He is directed to supply information to the appellant on points No.1 & 2 and ensure to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing. The PIO, Municipal Services Cell, O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh is also directed to come present in person on the next hearing.

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

**PIO/Superintendent, Local Government-1 Branch, O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Government, Punjab, Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35, Chandigarh**

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Shri Amritpal Singh
S/o Shri Avtar Singh,
H.No.263A/13, Gali No.8,
Hussainpura East,
Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 4412 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Amritpal Singh-Appellant.**
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/Respondent.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 18.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. He states that no information has been received from the PIO so far.
3. Neither the PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through cisco webex.
4. The Bench observes that the PIO was issued show cause notice on 28.03.2022 and on the next hearing on 18.07.2022, a penalty of Rs.5000/- was imposed on the PIO on account of absence of the PIO on two consecutive hearings. The PIO has neither supplied information to the appellant nor he has filed reply to the show cause notice nor the amount of penalty has been deposited.

Cont..P-2

5. The Bench directs the PIO to supply requisite information to the appellant as also file reply to the show cause notice and to produce evidence for having deposited the amount of penalty imposed on the PIO.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

PS: Shri Sukhdev Singh, Superintendent, Local Govt.-1 Branch, Local Government, Punjab comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench, after the appellant had left the court and submits letter dated 25.08.2022 addressed to the Commission. He states that due to re-allocation of work on account of transfer of dealing assistant, the PIO could not appear on the previous hearings. He further states that the RTI application of the appellant was dated 07.06.2021 and he was given reply vide letter dated 02.07.2022 well within prescribed time by registered post. He also brings to notice of the Bench that a letter was sent to the Commission on 27.07.2022, whereby attention of Hon'ble Bench was drawn to the fact that there are two persons namely Jaspal Singh and Amritpal Singh (present appellant) who have filed various RTI applications on the same matter. The PIO also states that on account of non-receipt of information, the appellant Shri Amritpal Singh has filed a defamation case on the PIO due to which there is pressure of work. He has requested that RTI application involving similar information may be fixed together for physical hearing. He also requests for withdrawal of order imposing penalty on the PIO in view of the position explained by him.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-1 Branch, Local Government, Punjab
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

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Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia,
(RTI Activist),
Ward No.18, Street No.2,
Kartar Nagar, Amlah Road,
Khanna, District Ludhiana-141401.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Secretary,
Deptt. Of Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secretary,
Department of Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 3319 of 2021

Present:

- (i) **Shri Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **Shri Sumit Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh, on behalf of the PIO/Respondent- in person.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, appellant comes present in person before the Bench. He refers to the submissions made by him in his e.mail sent to the Bench 26.09.2022 and states that the information sought by him has not been supplied so far.

3. Shri Sumit Kumar, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch, O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh comes present in person before the Bench. He states that a complaint dated 13.12.2021 was made by the appellant to Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab which was

Cont..P-2

marked to Local Government-3 Branch. However, the said complaint was not received in Local Govt.-3 Branch as checked from the Diary Register of the Branch. He further states that the appellant was also allowed to inspect the diary register and the entry relating to receipt of said complaint in the Branch was not found in the register. He also states that the subject matter of the complaint may relate to Local Government-4 Branch.

4. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIOs of Local Governemnt-3 and Local Governemnt-4 Branch of the Local Government Department to come present in person and bring along the receipt record i.e. diary register of 2019 and produce before the Bench on the next hearing.

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

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

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer

O/o Municipal Council,
Khanna, District Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer/

Superintendent, Establishment Branch,
O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secretary,
Department of Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 918 of 2022

Present:

- (i) **Shri Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **Shri Rajiv Sagar, Superintendent and Shri Navdeep Sharma, Vigilance Officer, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab on behalf of the PIO/Respondent- in person.**

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 04.07.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Ramandeep Singh Ahluwalia, appellant comes present in person before the Bench. He refers to the submissions made by him in his e.mail dated 26.09.2022 and states that the information sought by him has not been supplied so far.

Cont..P-2

3. Shri Rajiv Sagar, Superintendent, O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that information on point No.6 relates to Vigilance Branch, reply to which has been given to the appellant vide letter dated 16.05.2022. Rest of the points relate to other Branches of Local Government Department, Punjab.

4. The Bench observes that as per letters dated 02.05.2022 and 13.09.2022 available in the case file, some of the points of RTI application, apart from Establishment Branch of Director, Local Govt. also relate to PIO/ and PIO O/o Municipal Council, Khanna. Accordingly, the PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-2 Branch, Local Govt. Department and PIO O/o Municipal Council, Khanna and they have been impleaded as Respondents accordingly.

5. Post deliberations, the Bench directs the PIOs Establishment Branch, O/o Director, Local Govt., PIO/Superintendent, Local Govt.-3 Branch, Local Govt. Deptt. and PIO O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Khanna, District Ludhiana to supply information to the appellant before the next hearing. They are also directed to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing. Since the appellant admits receipt of information on point No.6, the PIO, Vigilance Branch, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab is exempted from appearance in the further hearings in the case.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.09.2022**

**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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Advocate Tejinder Singh,
Civil Court, Tehsil Complex,
Backside Sanjh Kender, Phillaur-144410
District Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director,
Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director,
Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 4387 of 2021

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

ORDER:

1. This appeal case was earlier allocated to Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg and the same has been reallocated to the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma vide order dated 04.08.2022. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 22.03.2022 passed by the Bench of Hon'ble SIC Shri Sanjeev Garg.
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 27.09.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. The appellant Shri Tejinder Singh has not come present either in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
3. The PIO O/o Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh has also not come present in person or through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO.
4. From the perusal of the order passed on the previous hearing, the Bench observes that the PIO was issued show cause notice to which no reply has been filed by the PIO and no information has been supplied to the appellant. Thus, the directions of the Bench still remain to be un-complied with. Since both the appellant and the PIO are absent for today's hearing, the Bench is unable to proceed further in this appeal case and deems it appropriate to adjourn the matter. The Bench, however, directs the PIO to comply with the directions of the Bench in its entirety, before the next hearing.
5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 01.11.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh

**Sd/-
((Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)**

27.09.2022

State Information Commissioner, Punjab