

Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate,  
8/237, Jagraon Road,  
Mandi Mullanpur,  
Distt. – Ludhiana -141101(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

- (Regd. Post)
- i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
  - ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o Senior Town Planner  
O/o Local Government, Punjab,  
(Town Planning Wing),  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
  - iii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o Superintendent,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Establishment Branch,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

Encl : RTI Request

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 853 of 2021

- Present :
- Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, the appellant in person.
  - i) Ms. Kanwaljit Kaur, Senior Town Planner-cum-PIO(Town Planning Wing), in person ;
  - ii) Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Building Inspector, on behalf of the respondent.

### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 09.03.2020. First appeal is dated 18.03.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 22.02.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative was present.
- iii) After examining the documents placed in the case-file, it was found that the RTI request of the appellant was transferred from office of General Branch of Local Government, Punjab to office of Senior Town Planner of Local Government, Punjab vide letter no. 20951 dated 08.06.2020 under 6 (3) of the RTI Act.
- iv) Further, the respondent sent a reply vide letter no. 2499 dated 26.07.2021, signed by Assistant Town Planner(Town Planning Wing) of Local Government, Punjab, showing that for information demanded through the RTI request, RTI request was further forwarded to office of Establishment Branch of Local Government, Punjab.

- v) All the above-said replies reflected that the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of i) Senior Town Planner of Local Government, Punjab and ii) Superintendent, Establishment Branch, hence, Public Information Officers of above-said offices/branch were impleaded as necessary parties in this case.
- vi) A copy of the order was sent to them alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries (whichever query/queries relates to their office) raised by him through RTI request with a copy to the Commission.
- vii) The Public Information Officers of office of i) Senior Town Planner of Local Government, Punjab and ii) Superintendent, Establishment Branch iii) Director, Local Government, Punjab, Chandigarh were also directed to represent this case in person on the next date fixed to clear the facts of this case.

The appellant, Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has received information only at point no. 01 of the RTI request and rest of the information is still pending.

Ms. Kanwaljit Kaur, Senior Town Planer-cum-PIO(Town Planning Wing), who appeared in person with Sh. Rhjeev Kumar, Building Inspector, in today's hearing, states that the information demanded through RTI request does not relate with Town Planning Wing, moreover, the RTI request of the applicant was forwarded to Establishment Branch, then Municipal Services Cell, then Trust Service Cell, then Recruitment Cell, then General Branch and presently again forwarded to Establishment Branch as demanded information relates with Establishment Branch . She also states that a reply has already been given to the appellant vide letter no. 3284 dated 21.09.2021 , intimating him that information demanded through the RTI request was forwarded to office of Establishment Branch of Local Government, Punjab. She also intimates the Commission that a reply has been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 3285 dated 21.09.2021. It is taken on record.

As a copy of the Order dated 11.08.2021 was sent to Public Information Officer of office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch with the direction to represent this case in person on the next date fixed to clear the facts of this case but neither the respondent PIO office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has also not sent any intimation regarding his non-availability. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

**Nevertheless, another opportunity is given to the Public Information Officer concerned of office of Superintendent, Establishment Branch of Department of Local Government on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings, failing which action would be initiated against him under the provisions of the RTI Act.**

**An opportunity is also given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries (whatever query/queries relate with their office) raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission by the next date of hearing.**

**An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information or not. He is also advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.**

**The case is adjourned to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.**

**Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.**

**Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**

**(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab**

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**

Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate,  
8/237, Jagraon Road,  
Mandi Mullanpur,  
Distt. – Ludhiana -141101(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 861 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 14.03.2020. First appeal is dated 20.01.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 18.02.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) Sh. Ramninder Singh, Senior Assistant, stated that a reply dated 07.07.2021 in an affidavit was supplied to the appellant and the same was sent to the Commission.
- i) The appellant stated that he had not received the above-mentioned reply.
- ii) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO.
- iii) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to send the above-said reply through an e-mail to the appellant.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite has already been given to the appellant.

The appellant, Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that incomplete information has been given to him by the respondent PIO.

As the appellant has not pointed out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, to the respondent PIO, another opportunity is given to him (the appellant) to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Another opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the information, after removing the deficiencies, which would be pointed out by the appellant, to him by registered post or through an e-mail with a copy to the Commission.

The case is adjourned to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**

Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate,  
8/237, Jagraon Road,  
Mandi Mullanpur,  
Distt. – Ludhiana -141101(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

- (Regd. Post) i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
- (Regd. Post) ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Regional Deputy Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Ludhiana (Punjab)
- (Regd. Post) iii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o Superintendent,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
LG – III Branch,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 862 of 2021

Present : Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, the appellant in person.  
i) Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch ;  
ii) Sh. Rajesh Kalra, Joint Director O/o Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana, on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 08.06.2020. First appeal is dated 02.07.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 18.02.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative was present.
- iii) After examining the documents placed in the case-file, it was found that the RTI request of the appellant was transferred from office of Establishment Branch of Local Government, Punjab to office of Superintendent, LG – III Branch of Local Government, Punjab vide letter no. 25737 dated 02.07.2020 under 6 (3) of the RTI Act and further forwarded to office of Deputy Director, Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana vide letter no. 25740 dated 02.07.2020.
- iv) Further, the respondent sent a reply vide letter no. 1546 dated 10.08.2021 showing that for information at point no. (a) of the RTI request, RTI request was further transferred to office of Director, Local Government Punjab vide letter no. 1545 dated 10.08.2021.
- v) All the above-said replies reflected that the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of i) Director, Local Government Punjab ii) Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana and iii) Superintendent, LG – III Branch of Local Government, Punjab, hence, Public Information Officers of above-said offices/branch were impleaded as necessary parties in this case.

- vi) All the above-said replies reflected that the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of i) Director, Local Government Punjab ii) Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana and iii) Superintendent, LG – III Branch of Local Government, Punjab, hence, Public Information Officers of above-said offices/branch were impleaded as necessary parties in this case.
- vii) A copy of the order was sent to them alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries (whichever query/queries relates to their office) raised by him through RTI request with a copy to the Commission.
- viii) The Public Information Officers of office of i) Director, Local Government Punjab ii) Deputy Director, Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana and iii) Superintendent, LG – III Branch of Local Government, Punjab were also directed to represent this case in person on the next date fixed to clear the facts of this case.

Sh. Rajesh Kalra, Joint Director office of Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the information demanded through RTI request does not relate with the office of Regional Deputy Director, Ludhiana.

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 2172 dated 21.10.2021. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 2173 dated 21.10.2021 which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that reply given to him by the respondent PIO is not satisfactory.

As the appellant has not pointed out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing to the respondent PIO, another opportunity is given to him (the appellant) to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

An opportunity is also given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring the relevant official record (as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Ravi Kant  
S/o Sh. Sansari Lal,  
Krishan Bazaar,  
Ward No. 04,  
Dhariwal (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

i) Public Information Officer,  
(Regd. Post) O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

ii) Public Information Officer,  
(Regd. Post) O/o The Examiner ,  
Local Fund Accounts,  
O/o Local Government Punjab,  
Sector 9, Pb. Mini Secretariat,  
Chandigarh

Encl : i) RTI Request  
ii) Order dated 11.08.2021

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 654 of 2021

Present : Sh. Ravi Kant, the appellant in person.  
None on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 19.11.2020. First appeal is dated 27.11.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 25.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that incomplete information was given to him by the respondent PIO as he has received only information at point no. 02, 04 and 06 of the RTI request.
- ii) Sh. Rajeev Saggar, Superintendent-cum-PIO office of Vigilance Cell, stated that whatever information relates with Vigilance Cell, was provided to the appellant. Sh. Rahul, Section officer of Accounts Branch, stated that available information was given to the appellant.
- iii) He (Sh. Rajeev Saggar) also stated that part information at point no. 03 relates with office of Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Dhariwal and part information at point no. 03 is regarding dues of retirees, which is 'personal information' .
- iv) He further intimated that part information at point no. 05 relates with office of Examiner Local Fund office of Local Government, Punjab, which is a separate department and a reply was sent to the appellant vide letter no. 24362 dated 22.06.2021 with a copy to the Commission.

Contd...2/-



- v) Heard the parties and examined the reply given by the respondent, not found it satisfactory, directions were given to supply the required information at point no. 03 of the RTI request to the appellant after collecting the same from the concerned office i. e. Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Dhariwal and regarding information at point no. 06 of the RTI request, he/she (respondent-PIO concerned) was directed to file a reply, in writing, to the particular query ( at point no. 06), to the appellant with a copy to the Commission.
- vi) For information at point no. 05 of the RTI request, Public Information Officer office of office of Examiner Local Fund Accounts, office of Local Government Punjab, Chandigarh was impleaded as necessary party in this case.
- vii) A copy of the order was sent to him alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per query raised at point no. 05 of the RTI request with a copy to the Commission.
- viii) The Public Information Officer of office of office of Examiner Local Fund Accounts, Punjab, Chandigarh was directed to represent this case in person or through his representative on the fixed date of hearing to clear the facts of this case.
- ix) The respondent PIO of Accounts Branch of office of Director Local Government, Punjab was also directed to remain present in person or represent this case through his representative on the date of hearing fixed.

The appellant, Sh. Ravi Kant, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date nas information at point no. 03 and 05 is still pending.

After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the respondent PIO through a reply vide letter no. 1346 dated 16.10.2021 signed by Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Dhariwal, which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail, has intimated the Commission that the requisite information at point no. 03 of the RTI request has been supplied to the appellant . It is taken on record.

After examining the documents placed on record, it is also found that order dated 11.08.2021 sent by the Commission vide letter dated 26.08.2021 in the name of the Public Information Officer office of Examiner, Local Fund Accounts office of Local Government Punjab, Chandigarh is received back in the office of the Commission as 'undelivered' through Diary No. 20158 dated 07.09.2021. It is taken on record.

Nevertheless, a copy of this order be again sent to Public Information Officer office of office of Examiner Local Fund Accounts, office of Local Government Punjab, Chandigarh alongwith earlier order dated 11.08.2021 and RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per query raised at point no. 05 of the RTI request with a copy to the Commission, by next date of hearing.

As directions were given to PIO office of Local Government, Punjab Chandigarh to supply the required information at point no. 03 to the appellant after collecting the same from the concerned office i. e. Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Dhariwal but none is present from office of Director Local Government, Punjab.

Hence, a copy of this order be sent to the respondent PIO of office of Director Local Government, Punjab, with the directions to remain present in person or represent this case through his representative on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' so that facts of this case could be cleared.

The respondent PIO of Accounts Branch of office of Director Local Government, Punjab is also directed to remain present in person or represent this case through his representative on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' so that facts of this case could be cleared.

The case is adjourned to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Encl : i) RTI Request  
ii) Order dated 11.08.2021

**Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'**



Sukhchain Singh,  
Sanan Mohalla,  
Fatehgarh Churian,  
Tehsil – Batala,  
Distt. - Gurdaspur(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
LG – III Branch  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 658 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Sukhchain Singh, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 02.11.2020. First appeal is dated 09.12.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 27.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Sh. Ramninder Singh, Senior Assistant, stated that available information at point no. 01 and 02 was given and part information at point no. 03 and 04 demanded by the appellant does not relate with LG- III branch and the information at point no. 05 is regarding action taken report on a letter dated 27.08.2019 and the letter dated 27.08.2019 was never received in the Branch.
- iii) As the RTI request of the appellant is dated 02.11.2020 and oral-submission, made by Sh. Ramaninder Singh, Senior Assistant during the hearing i. e. after more than three months of the proceedings of this case in the Commission, was not accepted.
- iv) Accordingly, last opportunity was given to the respondent-PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the remaining information to the appellant, after collecting the same from the concerned branch/branches. If any information, to any query/queries raised by the appellant through RTI request, is not available or not maintained in the official record, he/she (respondent-PIO concerned) will send/file a reply, in writing, to the particular query/queries, to the appellant with a copy to the Commission.

Contd...2/-

The appellant, Sh. Sukhchain Singh, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that incomplete information has been given to him by the respondent PIO as information at point no. 05 of the RTI request is still pending.

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been given to the appellant vide letter no. 17890 dated 03.05.2021 through registered post. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 1619 dated 20.08.2021 signed by Superintendent, L. G. – III Branch, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 19502 dated 31.08.2021, intimating that a letter was sent to the office of Addl. Deputy Commissioner(Dev.), Gurdaspur vide letter no. 1611 dated 20.08.2021, with the directions to provide action taken report on a letter dated 27.08.2019 as demanded through RTI request. It is taken on record.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring the relevant official record (for the period as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Ashok Kumar Watts,  
H. No. B-V-1534, Street No. 01,  
Lajpat Nagar, Abohar,  
Distt. – Fazilka - 152116(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 730 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Ashok Kumar Watts, the appellant in person.  
Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, on behalf of the respondent.

**ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application ‘CISCO Webex Meetings’.  
The RTI request is dated 02.11.2020. First appeal is dated 09.12.2020. Second

appeal has been received in the Commission on 27.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Sh. Harpreet Singh, Senior Assistant, LG – III Branch, stated that the requisite information could not be supplied to the appellant as the information sought for by him is regarding action-taken on complaints dated 17.10.2018 and 10.11.2020 and an enquiry is not completed and whenever it would be completed, it would be given to the appellant.
- iii) After hearing the parties and examining the documents placed on record, it was found that RTI request is dated 11.11.2020 and the enquiry on the above-said complaints has started, hence, directions are hereby given to the respondent PIO concerned either to supply the required information to the appellant or send a reply in an affidavit mentioning that why during enquiry no document can be supplied, to the appellant with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information/reply.

The appellant, Sh. Ashok Kumar Watts, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been supplied to him by the respondent PIO so far.

Contd...2/-

Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG – III Branch, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been given to the appellant intimating that the information sought for by him (appellant) is regarding action-taken on complaints dated 17.10.2018 and 10.11.2020 and an enquiry is going on the said complaints and matter is under process with the Government of Punjab. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 2175 dated 21.10.2021 which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It is taken on record.

The PIO concerned, who is Sh. Ashish Kumar, Superintendent of LG - III Branch, is directed to submit a reply in an affidavit under his signatures to each and every query, raised by the appellant through his RTI request by the next date of hearing. He is also directed to send a copy of that reply in advance to the appellant through registered post and send a copy of the same to the Commission to establish the fact that order of the Commission has been complied with.

The case is adjourned to 20<sup>th</sup> December, 2021 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Rajinder Kumar  
S/o Sh. Mehar Chand,  
Ward – 02, Supreme Enclave,  
Near Vishavkarma Bhawan,  
Link Road, Mansa(Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

- (Regd. Post) i) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
(General Branch),  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh
- (Regd. Post) ii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Additional Deputy Commissioner  
(Urban Development),  
Mansa (Punjab)
- (Regd. Post) iii) Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Executive officer,  
Nagar Council,  
Mansa (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 701 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Rajinder Kumar, the appellant in person.  
i) Sh. Baljinder Singh, Junior Assistant O/o Nagar Council, Mansa ;  
ii) Sh. Amit, Senior Assistant O/o Local Government (General Branch) on  
behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 22.10.2020. First appeal is dated 24.11.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 29.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that he had not received information from the respondent PIO.
- ii) Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative was present.
- iii) After examining the documents placed in the case-file, it was found that the respondent PIO through a letter no. 19856 dated 17.05.2021 had intimated the Commission that the RTI request of the appellant was transferred from office of General Branch of Local Government, Punjab, to office of Deputy Director, Regional Deputy Director, Bathinda.
- iv) Further, the respondent sent a reply vide letter no. 2147 dated 25.06.2021, signed by Joint Deputy Director, Bathinda, showing that for information demanded through the RTI request, RTI request was further forwarded to office of Executive officer, Nagar Council, Mansa.

- v) All the above-said replies reflected that the information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of i) Regional Deputy Director, Bathinda and ii) Executive officer, Nagar Council, Mansa, hence, Public Information Officers of above-said offices were impleaded as necessary parties in this case.
- vi) A copy of the order was sent to them alongwith RTI request through registered post with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries (whichever query/queries relates to their office) raised by him through RTI request with a copy to the Commission.
- vii) The Public Information Officers of office of i) Regional Deputy Director, Bathinda and ii) Executive officer, Nagar Council, Mansa were also directed to represent this case in person on the next date fixed to clear the facts of this case.

Sh. Amit, Senior Assistant office of Director, Local Government (General Branch), who appeared on behalf of the respondent in today's hearing, states that as six posts of Deputy Director, Urban Local Bodies in State of Punjab has been abolished and in every District, Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development) are appointed, hence, hence, a letter with a copy of RTI request was sent in the name of Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Mansa instead of Regional Deputy Director, Local Bodies, Bathinda for further hearing/hearings of this case.

Sh. Baljinder Singh, Junior Assistant office of Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Mansa, appeared in today's hearing

The appellant, Sh. Rajinder Kumar, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO. He also intimates the Commission that the information demanded by him through RTI request does not relate with office of Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Mansa or Regional Deputy Director, Local Bodies, Bathinda or Nagar Council, Mansa.

Accordingly, office of Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Mansa and Executive Officer of Nagar Council, Mansa are exempted from personal appearance in further hearings of this case and a copy of this order be sent to them for intimation

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO office of Director, Local Government (General Branch) to bring the relevant official record (as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Sector 16, Chandigarh.  
Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

**(Sanjiv Garg)**

**State Information Commissioner  
Punjab**

**Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021**



Amarjit Singh Dhamotia,  
H. No. 60-35-P-330,  
Street – 08, Maha Singh Nagar,  
P. O. - Dhandari Kalan,  
Ludhiana- 141014 (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 719 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Gurmej Lal on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell), on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.10.2020. First appeal is dated 09.11.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 29.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was given to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Sh. Jaswinder Singh, Senior Assistant, stated that the appellant did not visit the office on 19.05.2021 as directed vide orders dated 18.05.2021.
- iii) Another opportunity was given to the appellant to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 02.09.2021 at 11:00 A. M. to identify and collect the information.
- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office and supply the required information to the appellant.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Gurmej Lal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to the appellant by the respondent PIO.

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Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell),,, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 19737 dated 13.05.2021 through registered post. He also intimates that the appellant did not visit the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 40791 dated 04.10.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 22837 dated 08.10.2021. It is taken on record.

The appellant or his representative has neither visited the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021 nor approached the Commission with any contrary claim. But during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case in today's hearing, the representative of the appellant orally stated that no information has been given to the appellant till date.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring the relevant official record (for the period as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant or his authorized representative is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant or his authorized representative would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'



Amarjit Singh Dhamotia,  
H. No. 60-35-P-330,  
Street – 08, Maha Singh Nagar,  
P. O. - Dhandari Kalan,  
Ludhiana- 141014 (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Principal Secretary  
to Government. of Punjab,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### **Appeal Case No. 725 of 2021**

Present : Sh. Gurmej Lal on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell), on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

The RTI request is dated 07.11.2020. First appeal is dated 07.12.2020. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 29.01.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was given to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Sh. Jaswinder Singh, Senior Assistant, stated that the appellant did not visit the office on 19.05.2021 as directed vide orders dated 18.05.2021.
- iii) Another opportunity was given to the appellant to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 02.09.2021 at 11:00 A. M. to identify and collect the information.
- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office and supply the required information to the appellant.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Gurmej Lal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to the appellant by the respondent PIO.

Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell), who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 17890 dated 03.05.2021 through registered post. He also intimates that the appellant did not visit the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 40793 dated 04.10.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 22838 dated 08.10.2021. It is taken on record.

The appellant or his representative has neither visited the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021 nor approached the Commission with any contrary claim. But during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case in today's hearing, the representative of the appellant orally stated that no information has been given to the appellant till date.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring the relevant official record (for the period as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant or his authorized representative is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant or his authorized representative would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'

Amarjit Singh Dhamotia,  
H. No. 60-35-P-330,  
Street – 08, Maha Singh Nagar,  
P. O. - Dhandari Kalan,  
Ludhiana- 141014 (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o The Director,  
Deptt. of Local Government,  
Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35 - A,  
Plot No. 03, Chandigarh

...Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 878 of 2021

Present : Sh. Gurmej Lal, on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell), on behalf of the respondent.

#### ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.  
The RTI request is dated 16.11.2020. First appeal is dated 20.12.2020. Second

appeal has been received in the Commission on 09.02.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 11.08.2021 ;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was given to him by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant, stated that the appellant did not visit the office on 19.05.2021 as directed vide orders dated 18.05.2021.
- iii) Another opportunity was given to the appellant to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 02.09.2021 at 11:00 A. M. to identify and collect the information.
- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office and supply the required information to the appellant.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO and also to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.

Sh. Gurmej Lal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to the appellant by the respondent PIO.

Sh. Vikas Kumar, Senior Assistant(Municipal Services Cell),, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the appellant did not visit the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021. He also intimates the Commission that a reply has also been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 36970 dated 07.09.2021 ,which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 20286 dated 08.09.2021. It is taken on record.

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The appellant or his representative has neither visited the office on 02.09.2021 as directed vide orders dated 11.08.2021 nor approached the Commission with any contrary claim. But during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case in today's hearing, the representative of the appellant orally stated that no information has been given to the appellant till date.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to bring the relevant official record for the period from 17.11.2017 to 16.11.2020 (as demanded through RTI request) in the Commission before the bench of the undersigned on the next date of hearing fixed so that facts of this case could be cleared.

If the respondent PIO would not appear before the Commission to attend the hearing, action would be taken against him as per provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant or his authorized representative is also directed to remain present during the proceedings of the instant appeal-case on the next date of hearing fixed.

If the appellant or his authorized representative would not attend the hearing fixed, it would be assumed that he is not willing to pursue the case further and the case would be decided on merits.

The case is adjourned to 05.01.2022 at 12:00 Noon for hearing in Court Room office of State Information Commission, Punjab, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 27<sup>th</sup> October, 2021

(Sanjiv Garg)  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

Note : Install → CISCO WEBEX Meetings → Click on Join Meeting → Enter Meeting Code ID No. i. e. is '1589136034'