

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Sh. Jaswant Sarpal 9465477771
s/o Sh. Darbari Lal Sarpal
H.No. 2220/2, Gali Arian,
I/s Mahan Singh Gate, District Amritsar

....Appellant

vs

Public Information Officer
o/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation
District Amritsar

First Appellate Authority
o/o Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation
District Amritsar

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3133 of 2019

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 11.8.2021 vide which the order in this case was reserved to be pronounced.

2. The appellant has sought the following information:-
“Regarding complete renovation in Municipal Corporation Amritsar with Wooden, steel work and others.
 1. Date of Proposal
 2. Date of which sanction obtained.
 3. Amount sanctioned and used.
 4. Tender called on
 5. To whom work given.”
3. The titled case was allocated to the bench of Dr. Pawan Kumar Singla, State Information Commissioner, and thereafter the case was heard by the bench of Sh. Khushwant Singh, State Information Commissioner who recused himself from the case as the appellant had shown dissatisfaction with the bench. Thereafter the double bench was constituted comprising Sh. Hem Inder Singh and Ms Preety Chawla, SICs and on the recommendations made by the bench, this bench was constituted to hear the titled case of the appellant and the notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 11.8.2021 and after hearing the submissions made by the parties the order in this case was reserved to be pronounced.
4. During the hearing on 11.8.2021 the representative of the respondents stated that the sought information related to the civil works from 1.1.2019 to 30.6.2019 has already

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Appeal Case No. 3133 of 2019

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been supplied to the appellant. He also states that an affidavit has also been filed by the respondent-Public Information Officer-cum-Executive engineer (Civil) Sh. Sandeep Singh presently Superintending Engineer. It has also mentioned in the said affidavit that “complete information as available in this office has already been sent to the appellant and no other information is pending in the office record.

5. The appellant has sought the information vide his RTI application dated 1.6.2019 mentioning that complete renovation in Municipal Corporation Amritsar with Wooden, steel work and others but no where the period has been mentioned for which period the information is required and also used the word ‘Regarding complete renovation in Municipal Corporation Amritsar with Wooden, steel work and others’ and use of word ‘others’ which clearly reflects that the sought information is unclear/unspecific.

6. In the case of *S.K. Ranga vs. Container Corporation of India Ltd.* (Appeal No.CIC/OK/A/2006/00260, dated 2/1/2007), the applicant had asked for inspection of all Dak registers of the Corporation from 1/1/2003 onwards, pertaining to various departments, i.e., HRD, Vigilance, MD’s office, as well as the General Dak Register in which the Central Information Commission noted that the information asked by the appellant from the public authority was vague. The Commission further held that the applicant under the RTI Act should clearly specify the information sought in terms of **Section 2(f)** of the RTI Act.

7. The RTI application of appellant was also considered in terms of office memorandum issued by the Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India vide No. 11/2/2008-IR dated 10.7.2008 in which it has been stated that the Public Information Officer has to supply the ‘material’ in the form as held by the public authority and it is not required to do research on behalf of the citizen to deduce anything from the material and then supply it to him.

8. As far as the information is concerned the appellant contended that the information is incomplete which is not tenable as he has not sought the specific information i.e. regarding which period the information has been sought from the respondent authority even though the respondent authority has supplied the information related to the Civil

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works from 1.1.2019 to 30.6.2019 along with an affidavit. More so, as per the submissions of the respondent the information may relate to various/all the wings of the Municipal Corporation having their own PIOs as the appellant has used the word 'OTHERS' as per his RTI request. However, the office accessed the website of the Municipal Corporation, Amritsar i.e. www.amritsarcorp.com and the notification of the Public Information Officer(s)/Appellate Authorities is available on the website but it appears to be incomplete in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 as the detailed information of Public Information Officer/First Appellate Authority of all Branches/Wings of the Municipal Corporation has to be available on the website in compliance of the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 along with their telephone numbers and email addresses for the convenience of the general public. Therefore, this order is being sent to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, District Amritsar with the directions to look into the same and the website be updated accordingly.

9. It is also appropriate to mention the instructions issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Personnel & Training No. 10/2/2008-IR dated 12.6.2008 to transfer the RTI application of the appellant under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005 to 'public authority' and not to the 'public authorities' in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

10. Keeping in view the non-specific information sought by the appellant as mentioned herein no further directions can be given to the respondent authority in this case. However, the appellant is advised to file the specific RTI application afresh to the concerned Public Information Officer in case he is willing to take additional information. Thus, the Commission observes that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Hence, the case is disposed of and closed.

SD
(Maninder Singh Patti)
State Inf. Commissioner
Punjab

SD
(Asit Jolly)
State Inf. Commissioner
Punjab

SD
(Suresh Arora)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

Dated: 27.8.2021
PS/ SIC (AJ)
PS/ SIC(MSP)

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CC

Sh. M.S. Jaggi, IAS

Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation,

District Amritsar.

Registered