



Sh. Baljinder Singh, S/o Sh. Darshan Singh,  
Daan Singh Nagar, Gali No-1,  
Back Side Guru Nanak Public School,  
Goniana Mandi, Distt. Bathinda

Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o EO, MC, Goniana Mandi  
Distt. Bathinda.

**First Appellate Authority, O/o**  
Joint Deputy Director, Local Govt,  
Mini Secretariat, Bathinda.

.....Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 538 of 2020**

**PRESENT:      None for the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant RTI application dated 29.10.2019 has sought information regarding details of clerks promoted from the post of peon and the documents submitted by them in NC Goniana Mandi and other information concerning the office of EO-MC Goniana Mandi. The appellant was provided with the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 02.12.2019. After the first appeal, the PIO sent a reply to the appellant vide letter dated 31.12.2019 stating that the information sought is in question form, it cannot be provided. The First appellate authority also disposed of the appeal on 03.01.2020 directing the PIO to provide the information as per the RTI Act and within time.

The case has already been heard on 03.09.2020, 03.11.2020, 05.01.2021, 11.08.2021 & 15.12.2021.

On the date of hearing on 11.08.2021, Sh. Vijay Kumar who was the PIO-cum-EO NC Goniana at the time of filing of RTI application as well as the PIO for at least the next 100 days, was issued a **show cause notice under Section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time and directed to file reply on an affidavit.**

**On the date of hearing on 15.12.2021,** Sh. Deepak Setia, EO-MC Goniana Mandi and Sh. Vijay Kumar, EO-MC Budhlada (earlier PIO-cum-EO MC Goniana Mandi) were present. The respondent Sh. Vijay Kumar pleaded that the RTI application was filed on 29.10.2019 and since the information sought by the appellant was in question form, he had denied the information on that basis without any intention to stonewall the information and had sent reply to the appellant on 31.12.2019. Thereafter, the appellant filed first appeal and as per order of the First Appellate authority, the information was provided to the appellant on 02.07.2020 which the appellant had acknowledged having received the same.

Having gone through the facts and the merits of the case. The Commission was inclined to give the benefit of doubt to the PIO as the PIO had replied within time. However, the PIO failed to apply his mind, but not tantamount to denial of information.

Given the above facts, the show cause was dropped.

However, the Commission was of the view that since the appellant has had to suffer undue inconvenience to get the information, the PIO-cum-EO-MC Goniana Mandi was directed to pay an amount of **Rs.2,500/-** via demand draft as compensation to the appellant and submit proof of having compensated the appellant.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. Both the parties are absent.

There is no communication from the PIO regarding the payment of compensation to the appellant.

Earlier order stands. The PIO is given one more opportunity to comply with the order of the Commission.

To come up compliance on **14.12.2022 at 11.00 PM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda.

Chandigarh  
Dated:28.09.2022

**Sd/-**  
**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**

CC to Sh.Vijay Kumar,  
EO-MC, Budhlada.



Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, S/o Sh. Kuldeep Raj Mahajan,  
Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market,  
Mission Road, Pathankot.

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o XEN,  
Water Supply and Sanitation,  
Sub Division-1, Gurdaspur.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o SE,  
Water Supply and Sanitation Circle,  
Gurdaspur

.....Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 3488 of 2020**

**PRESENT:     None for the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 17.08.2020 has sought information regarding grants received/utilized from 01.08.2019 to 01.08.2020 in Sub Division No.1,2& 3 Gurdaspur and Sub Division Dinanagar – copies of work order booked in all the subdivisions – copies of comparative statements of other works for which no tender was called and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Xen Water Supply & Sanitation Division No.1, Gurdaspur. The appellant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 10.09.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing on 11.08.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Pathankot. As per the appellant, the PIO did not provide the information but only sent a reply vide letter dated 07.05.2021 that since there has been lockdown order u/s 144 of CPC and restrictions imposed to work with 50% staff strength w.e.f. 02.05.2021, the information will be provided after the relaxation of the above-said restrictions. The respondent was absent.

The Commission observed that there has been an enormous delay of one year in attending to the RTI application. The Commission having taken a serious view of this directed the PIO to provide the information to the appellant and send a compliance report to the Commission otherwise the commission will be constrained to take action against the PIO u/s 20 of the RTI Act.

On the date of last hearing on **15.12.2021**, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Pathankot. Both the parties are absent for 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive hearing.

Both the parties are directed to appear personally on the next date of hearing.

To come up for further hearing on **11.01.2023** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot.

**Sd/-**

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated:28.09.2022**

**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSIONER**  
**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,**  
**Sector 16, Chandigarh.**  
**Ph: 0172-2864114, Email: - [psicsic30@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psicsic30@punjabmail.gov.in)**  
**Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com)**



Smt Tarsem Devi, W/o Late Sh Vakil Singh,  
R/o Villgae Lahri 183, P.O Rattangarh,  
Tehsli & Distt Pathankot.

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Child Development Project Officer,  
Pathankot.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o Child Development Project Office,  
Pathankot.

.....Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 3541 of 2020**

**PRESENT:     None for the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 15.07.2020 has sought information regarding a copy of the APR/document where a report of Sarpanch or other officers regarding non-acceptance of old aged Pension by Tarsem Devi is recorded – copy of the order for stoppage of pension and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Child Development Project Officer, Pathankot.. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of the PIO dated 17.09.2020 after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 07.09.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 11.08.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Pathankot.. As per counsel representing the appellant, the PIO did not provide the information.

The respondent present pleaded that the matter regarding deduction/discontinuation of old aged pension relates to District Social Security Officer Gurdaspur.

The PIO-District Social Security Officer, Gurdaspur was impleaded in the case and directed to provide the information to the appellant. A copy of the RTI application was attached with the order for the reference of the PIO-DSSO Gurdaspur.

On the date of last hearing on **15.12.2021**, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Pathankot. Both parties are absent.

On the date of hearing on 11.08.2021, the PIO-District Social Security Officer, Gurdaspur, was impleaded as party in the case and directed to provide the information. The PIO-DSSO Gurdaspur is absent on 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive hearing, is not represented and well not complied the order of the Commission to provide the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

To come up for further hearing on **21.12.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot.

Chandigarh  
Dated: 28.09.2022

Sd/-  
(Khushwant Singh)  
State Information Commissioner

CC to: PIO-District Social Security Officer,  
Gurdaspur.



Sh Rajinder Kumar, S/o Sh. Mehar Chand, Ward No-  
2, Supreme Enclave,  
Near Vishwakarma Bhawan,  
Link Road, Mansa.

...Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Director, Local Govt, Pb  
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o Director, Local Govt, Pb  
Sector-35,  
Chandigarh.

Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2219 of 2020**

**PRESENT: Sh.Rajinder Kumar as the Appellant**  
**Sh.Kuldeep Singh, Suptd.(Gen Branch) for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 11.05.2020 has sought information on 12 points regarding a letter of the Director Local Govt No.17896 dated 28.04.2020 regarding meeting dated 17.01.2020 – letter No.149-50 dated 20.01.2020 - report of EO vide letter dated 24.01.2020 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Director, Local Govt. Punjab, Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed the first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 15.06.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case has already been heard on 02.12.2020, 01.02.2021, 12.05.2021, 23.08.2021 & 15.12.2021.

**On** the date of hearing on **12.05.2021**, the appellant claimed that despite orders of the Commission, the PIO neither supplied complete information nor given any affidavit.

The respondent was absent without any communication. The PIO was issued a **show-cause notice under Section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 and directed to file a reply on an affidavit.**

On the date of the last hearing on **23.08.2021**, The Commission received a reply of the PIO on 19.08.2021, which was taken on the file of the Commission. However, the PIO did not comply the order of the Commission to provide complete information or to provide an affidavit that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no other information is available in the record.

The PIO- Director Local Govt. Pb, Chandigarh was directed to pay an amount of **Rs.2500/-** via demand draft through Govt. Treasury as compensation to the appellant and submit proof of having compensated the appellant.

The PIO was again directed to provide an affidavit to the appellant that the information that has been provided is true, and complete and no other information is available in the record.

On the date of hearing on **15.12.2021**, the respondent present pleaded that the compensation amount of Rs.2500/- has been paid to the appellant vide demand draft No.001104 dated 23.09.2021 and the appellant has received the same.

**Appeal Case No. 2219 of 2020**

However, as per the appellant, the PIO has not provided the affidavit as per the order of the Commission.

The PIO is given one last opportunity to provide affidavit that the information that has been provided is true, complete and no other information is available in the record. The affidavit should be on stamp paper duly attested by the competent authority.

The decision on the show cause to be taken on the next date of hearing.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Mansa. As per the respondent, the affidavit has been provided to the appellant, and the appellant has received the same.

The appellant, however, alleges that how can information having the signature of the concerned authority dated 30.07.2020 & 05.08.2020 (part of the meeting) can be sent by the PIO on 29.05.2020 (as claimed by the PIO in the affidavit that the information was sent on 29.05.2020).

Having gone through the record, the Commission directs the Director, Local Govt. Pb Chandigarh to enquire into the matter of how the discrepancies in the dates.

To come up for further hearing on **14.12.2022 at 11.00 AM** through a video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner Mansa. The PIO to appear at Chandigarh.

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated :28.09.2022**

**Sd/-**  
**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**



Sh Harjinder Singh, S/o Sh Kuldeep Singh,  
#29, Mall Road, Ferozepur Cantt,  
Ferozepur .

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o ADC (D),  
Ferozepur

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o Joint Director,  
Rural Development,  
Vikas Bhawan, Phase-8,  
Mohali.

... Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2784 of 2021**

**PRESENT: Sh. Harjinder Singh as the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 05.06.2020 has sought information on 8 points regarding misappropriation of fund in Manrega – funds received from 01.04.2019 under Manregar scheme – payments made – name and designation of officers dealing the scheme – action taken against employees involved in the scam as per advertisement published in Ajit Newspaper – complaints registered against employees and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of ADC(D) Ferozepur. The appellant was not provided the information after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 25.07.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing on 15.12.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. Both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. As per the appellant, the PIO has not provided the information.

The respondent is absent on 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive hearing nor is represented as well as not supplied the information.

There has been an enormous delay of more than one year and three months in attending to the RTI application. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

The PIO is again directed to provide information to the appellant immediately.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **26.12.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

**Sd/-**

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated: 28.09.2022**

**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**





Sh M.P Singh S/o Sh Gallu Singh,  
R/o Village Sohargarh, Ratewala,  
Distt Ferozepur.

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o District Social Security Officer,  
Ferozepur.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o Commissioner,  
Ferozepur.

...Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2016 of 2021**

**PRESENT:     None for the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 03.02.2021 has sought information regarding list of pensioners name of the bank and account number in which pension PLA No.178285 is deposited – number of pensions PLA No.107355 deposited in account No.85340300032925 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of District Social Security Officer Ferozepur. The appellant was not provided the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 03.03.2021 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing on 15.12.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. The Commission received a letter from the Superintendent O/o Commissioner, Ferozepur Division stating that they are not the first appellate authority in this case and the appeal of the appellant has been forwarded to District Social Security Officer, Ferozepur vide letter dated 07.04.2021 with a copy to the appellant for information.

The respondent present from the office of CDPO Zira sought an adjournment and assured to provide the information within 15 days.

The appellant was absent.

The PIO was directed to provide information to the appellant within 15 days and send a compliance report to the commission.

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ferozepur. Both parties are absent.

The case is adjourned. To come up for further hearing on **26.12.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated: 28.09.2022**

**Sd/-**  
**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**



Sh Surinder Kumar Gupta,  
# 202, Street No-12,  
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Colony,  
Rampura Phul, .

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Joint Director,  
Rice Branch Establishment-4, Punjab,  
Room No-603, Sector-9, Chandigarh.  
O/o Director,  
Food and Supplies,  
Sector-39-C, Chandigarh.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o Principal Secretary,  
Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs,  
Pb, Sector-39-C, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2826 of 2021**

**PRESENT: Sh.Surinder Kumar Gupta as the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through RTI application dated 24.07.2020 has sought information regarding reasons for the issue of the charge sheet to Sh.Munish Kumar Gupta who was given charge of Tapa centre on 06.03.2012 relating to enquiry case of Hare Ram Rice Mills going on since 2010-2011 – the decision taken on reply/justification given in the year 2018 – reasons for the delay in taking the decision and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Principal Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Pb, Chandigarh. The appellant was not satisfied with the reply of the PIO dated 23.11.2020 after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 14.12.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 16.12.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. The respondent present pleaded that the information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 23.11.2020.

The appellant was absent and vide email requested for hearing at DAC Bathinda.

Having gone through the RTI application and the copy of reply of the PIO, the PIO was directed for following:-

- |           |   |  |
|-----------|---|--|
| - Point-1 | - | To provide a copy of the charge sheet to the appellant                                   |
| - Point-2 | - | To provide a copy of the decision taken or reply appropriately                           |
| - Point-3 | - | Information is in question form, thus does not qualify as information under the RTI Act. |
| - Point-4 | - | As per the respondent, there is no limitation. PIO to reply appropriately                |

**Hearing dated 28.09.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Bathinda. The appellant claims that the PIO has not supplied the complete information as per order of the Commission.

The respondent is absent nor is represented.

Having gone through the RTI application, reply of the PIO and hearing the appellant, the commission concludes as under

- Point-1            - Information provided
- Point-2            - As per the reply of the PIO, the decision is still pending. The appellant alleged that undue delay has taken place in taking the decision.

I am marking this to the Director of Food Supply with the recommendation to finish the enquiry at the earliest and provide a copy of the decision to the appellant.

- Point-4            - PIO has not filed an appropriate reply. The Commission having taken a serious view of this, directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not complying the order of the Commission and for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.**

**To come up** for further hearing on **14.12.2022** at 11.00 AM through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda.

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated: 28.09.2022**

**Sd/-**  
**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**