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Versus

Sh. Paramjeet Chand, S/o Shri Ramesh Chand, R/o Baghe ke Hithar, Tehsil Jalalabad, Distt Fazilka.

Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Baghe ke Hithar, Tehsil Jalalabad, Distt Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Fazilka.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2751/2018

Date of RTI application: 26.03.2018
Date of First Appeal : 23.04.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 09.08.2018

Present: Sh. Paramjeet Chand, Appellant in person.

None on behalf of the Respondents.

Order

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

Sh. Paramjeet Chand, Appellant is present. None is present on behalf of the respondents. The Commission takes strong exception to the neglectful and dismissive attitude of the respondents.

The PIO –cum – BDPO, Jalalabad, Distt. Fazilka is issued a show cause notice to explain in a self- attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to maximum of Rs.25,000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay / denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the Appellant under Section 19 (8) (b) of the Act for the detriment suffered by him.

In addition to the written reply, the PIO is also given an opportunity under Section

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20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Fazilka.

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan) State Information Commissioner

CC: The PIO – cum –Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Jalalabad, Distt. Fazilka for n/a.

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Sh. Sandeep Singh, S/o Sh. Malkit Singh, R/o Village-Khanpur, Block-Malerkotla, Distt.-Sangrur.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Malerkotla-1, Sangrur.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Sangrur.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2754/2018

Date of RTI application: 09.05.2018
Date of First Appeal : 14.06.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 06.08.2018

Present: Sh. Sandeep Singh, Appellant in person at Commission's office, Chd.

None on behalf of the Respondents.

Order

The appellant is present in the Court itself. He rues the dismissive attitude of the respondents in having refused to respond to his original application, first appeal and even the second appeal in the Commission.

None is present on behalf of the respondents. No reply has also been filed to the notice issued by the Commission. The Commission takes serious note of it.

The PIO – cum – BDPO, Malerkotla - 1 is issued a show cause notice to explain in a self- attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to maximum of Rs.25,000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay / denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the Appellant under Section 19 (8) (b) of the Act for the detriment suffered by him.

In addition to the written reply, the PIO is also given an opportunity under Section

Contd..page...2

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Appeal Case No. 2754/2018

20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of

hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of

the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Sangrur.

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan) State Information Commissioner

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Shri Harvinder Singh, Advocate, Chamber No 7009, District Court, Ludhiana.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block-II, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block-II, Ludhiana.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2775/2018

Date of RTI application: 07.05.2018

Date of First Appeal : 06.06.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 22.07.2018

Present: None on behalf of the Appellant.

Smt. Ramandeep Kaur, Steno, BDPO, Block - 2, Ludhiana - for Respondent.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The complainant is not present. Smt. Ramandeep Kaur appearing on behalf of the respondents submits that sought for information has been provided to the appellant. She further says that an acknowledgement has also been received from him which is available with them on record. The Commission has no reason to disagree with the contention of the respondent. The appellant's absence without any communication suggests that he is satisfied with the information reported to have been sent to him. No further intervention is called for.

The appeal is disposed.

Sd/-(Yashvir Mahajan) State Information Commissioner

28.11.2018

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Versus

Sh. Rajinder Mehta, S/o Sh. Kewal Krishan, R/o House No. B-18, 4/3, Old Grain Market, Nawashaher-144514

Appellant

Public Information Officer,

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,

S.B.S Nagar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, S.B.S Nagar.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2783/2018

Date of RTI application: 31.05.2017
Date of First Appeal : 01.08.2017

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 13.04.2018

Present: Sh. Rajinder Mehta, Appellant in person.

Sh. Devi Dayal, Panchayat Secretary, BDPO Office, SBS Nagar - for

Respondents.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

Sh. Devi Dayal, Panchayat Secretary appearing on behalf of the respondents submits that the appellant was desired to deposit Rs.268/- towards cost of the information. Having failed to do so, the information could not be provided. Though the second appeal is hopelessly time-barred, still in the interest of transparency the Commission desires the respondents to allow him the inspection of the record and arrange to provide him the certified copies of the documents not beyond fifty pages within 15 days from today positively under intimation to the Commission.

Disposed.

Sd/-

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

28.11.2018

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Versus

Smt Gurjeet Kaur, W/o Shri Prabhdyal Singh, R/o VPO Khamra, Jalandhar. M: 9914552002

Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Khamra, Distt Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar.

Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2815/2018

Date of RTI application: 19.02.2018
Date of First Appeal : 27.04.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 14.08.2018

Present: Adv. Ravinder Kumar, Counsel for the appellant at Commission's off., Chd.

Sh. Charanjit Singh, Panchayat Secretary, Village, Khamra, Distt. Jalandhar -

for Respondents.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The appellant had sought the certified copies of the documents relating to various resolutions passed, works having been executed by the Gram Panchayat and other connected information relating to the years 2013-18. Adv. Ravinder Kumar, Counsel for the appellant submits that they were desired to deposit a fee of Rs.9500/- as cost of information in response to which an irrelevant information comprising the bank statements in about 100 pages has been provided. The respondent Panchayat Secretary has failed to explain the demand of such a hefty amount and supply of the relevant information. It is a clear case of violation of the provision of RTI Act. Prima facie he has rendered himself liable for penal consequences.

Sh. Charanjit Singh, PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary, Village Khamra, O/o BDPO,

Jalandhar is issued a show cause notice to explain in a self- attested affidavit as to why a penalty @

Contd...page...2

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Appeal Case No. 2815/2018

Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to maximum of Rs.25,000/- till the complete information is furnished,

be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay / denial of the

information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the Complainant under

Section 19 (8) (b) of the Act for the detriment suffered by him.

In addition to the written reply, the PIO is also given an opportunity under Section

20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of

hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of

the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Jalandhar.

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

1. Sh. Charanjit Singh, PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary, Village Khamra, O/o Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar,

2. The Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar, for n/a.

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Shri Inderjeet Singh, S/o Shri Gurdeep Singh, Village Kamam, Tehsil Nawanshaher.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block-Aur, Distt SBS Nagar.

Respondent

Complaint Case Nos. 891 and 892 of 2018

Date of RTI application: 21.05.2018
Date of First Appeal : Nil

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil
Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 20.08.2018

Present: Sh. Inderjeet Singh, Complainant in person.

Sh. Jaswant Singh, PIO - cum - Panchayat Secretary, O/O BDPO, Block Aur -

for Respondent.

Order

The cases have been heard through video conferencing.

Since the complainant, the respondent and the information sought for is identical, the single order shall dispose of both the complaints.

The complainant and respondents are present. Sh. Jaswant Singh, PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary submits that the information comprised in about 700 pages has been sent across to him under registered cover. Seemingly, it is in transit as of now it has not reached him. The complainant submits that he is convinced and hopefully he shall receive it in due course and in case there is any deficiency they will mutually settle the issue. As no controversy remains the complaints are **disposed.**

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

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Shri Gurlal Singh, S/o Shri Dev Singh, R/o Village Dhandial, PO Shadihari, Tehsil Sunam, Distt Sangrur.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Village Development and Panchayat Officer, Dirba, (Rural), Sangrur.

Respondent

Complaint Case No. 905/2018

Date of RTI application: 14.05.2018
Date of First Appeal : Nil

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 23.08.2018

Date of 2 Appear/complaint. 23.06.20

Present: Sh. Gurlal Singh, Complainant in person.

Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, BDPO, Dirba - for Respondent.

Order

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The complainant had sought an information about the resolution passed by the panchayat of village Dhandial, block Dirba and the bills & vouchers against various development works that are taken up by the gram panchayat.

Sh. Sanjeev Kumar, BDPO who is present in the video conferencing informs that the concerned Panchayat Secretary was dismissed for his various acts of omissions and commissions. He is still in possession of some of the record and has not yet handed over to his successor. He submits that the department is trying to retrieve it from him. He assures the Commission that the available information with the office shall be transmitted to the complainant early. While accepting his plea the Commission observes that in case the Panchayat Secretary fails to provide the official record he should be criminally proceeded against under intimation to the Commission. The matter shall be reheard on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Sangrur.

Sd/-

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

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Shri Avtar Singh, S/o Shri Kanan Singh, R/o Village Chahadpur, PO Gangomahal Tehsil Ainala Dist

PO Gangomahal, Tehsil Ajnala, Distt Amritsar.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,

Ajnala, Distt Amritsar. Respondent

Complaint Case No. 909/2018

Date of RTI application: 30.05.2018

Date of First Appeal : Nil Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 23.08.2018

Present: None.

<u>Order</u>

Due to technical glitch the case could not be heard through video conferencing.

The matter is adjourned to be heard through video conference on 20.02.2019 at

11.30 AM at Amritsar.

Sd/-

28.11.2018 (Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

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Shri Ajmel Singh, S/o Shri Surjeet Singh, R/o Village Sangatpura, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt Ludhiana. M: 9417647043

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer – cum – Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Sangatpura, Tehsil Jagraon, Distt Ludhiana.

Respondent

Complaint Case No. 915/2018

Date of RTI application: 18.05.2018

Date of First Appeal : Nil Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 23.08.2018

Present: Sh. Ajmel Singh, Complainant in person.

None on behalf of the Respondent.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The respondents are absent. The Commission takes a serious note of it and issues a show cause notice to the PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat Sangatpura to explain in a self- attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to maximum of Rs.25,000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay / denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the Complainant under Section 19 (8) (b) of the Act for the detriment suffered by him.

In addition to the written reply, the PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary is also given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written

Contd... Page...2

Complaint Case No. 915/2018

reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at udhiana.

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan) **State Information Commissioner**

CC: PIO – cum – Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat Sangatpura, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Jagraon, for n/a.

CC: The Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Jagraon, for n/a.

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Shri Prem Chand, S/o Shri Gurmeet Ram, R/o VPO Mamu Khera, Tehsil & Distt Fazilka.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,

Fazilka. Respondent

Complaint Case No. 918/2018

Date of RTI application: 04.07.2018

Date of First Appeal : Nil Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 23.08.2018

Present: Sh. Surjit brother of the complainant at Commission's office, Chd.

1. Sh. Ranjit Singh, Superintendent, BDPO Office, Fazilka,

2. Sh. Bawandeep, Clerk, BDPO Office, Arniwala – for Respondents.

ORDER

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The complainant is aggrieved with an alleged action of former sarpanch towards demolition of a structure in the village. He seeks to know the authority under which the private property is being demolished by the gram panchayat. The respondent who is present in the Bathinda studio has brought along the reply which obviously cannot be handed over in person as the complainant is present in the Court at Chandigarh.

The respondent in the BDPO office, Fazilka submits that since the issue relates to another block they had forwarded the application to the BDPO, Arniwala under Section 6(3) of the Act. The BDPO, Arniwala is advised to deliver him the information by post under intimation to the Commission as well.

The matter shall be reheard on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference

Sd/-

28.11.2018

at Fazilka.

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

CC: The Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer, Arniwala, Distt. Fazilka, for n/a.

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Sh. Satnam Singh Sekhon, S/o Sh. Kartar Singh Sekhon, Vill. Tandi, P.O- Laroya, Distt. Jalandhar, Pin-144201

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Sarpanch, Gram Panchayat, Tandi, Block Bhogpur, Distt. Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Block- Bhogpur, Jalandhar.

Respondents

Appeal Case No.2988/2018

Date of RTI application: 24.05.2018

Date of First Appeal : 05.07.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 04.09.2018

Present: Sh. Jasbir Singh Sekhon on behalf of Sh. Satnam Singh Sekhon, Appellant.

Sh. Ajay Kumar, DDPO, Jalandhar - for Respondents.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The following order was passed by the Commission on 23.10.2018:

"Sh. Vikas Sharma, Superintendent has brought along the information in a bunch of papers. The same has been handed over to the proxy of the appellant as mentioned above. He may like to go through it and point out any infirmity in writing to the respondents with a copy to the Commission before the next date of hearing."

Sh. Ajay Kumar, DDPO says that despite the express directions of the Commission no deficiency has been pointed out. The appellant has no convincing argument not to comply with the order of the Commission. It feels that sufficient information has been given. No further intervention of the Commission is called for.

Disposed.

28.11.2018

Sd/-(Yashvir Mahajan) State Information Commissioner

CC: The District Development & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar.

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Sh. Manjit Singh Sekhon, S/o Late Sh. Charan Singh Sekhon, Vill. Tandi, P.O- Laroya, Distt. Jalandhar, Pin-144201.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development), Jalandhar.

Respondents

Appeal Case No.2989/2018

Date of RTI application: 12.06.2018
Date of First Appeal : 16.07.2018
Date of Order of FAA or Books: Nile

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 04.09.2018

Present: Sh. Jasbir Singh Sekhon on behalf of the Appellant.

Sh. Ajay Kumar, DDPO, Jalandhar - for Respondents.

Order

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

This should be read in continuation of order passed by this forum on 23.10.2018.

The appellant intends to have a certified copy of the page on which the dispatch number and date has been assigned to the forwarding letter of enquiry report which was sent to the Director, Rural Development and Panchayats, Punjab, Chandigarh.

The Commission understands that the enquiry report has already been provided to the appellant. The respondents are advised to look into the dispatch register and arrange to provide him a certified copy of the page on which the number and date was assigned.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Jalandhar.

Sd/-

28.11.2018 (Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

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Sh. Jasbir Singh Sekhon, S/o Sh. Kartar Singh Sekhon, Vill. Tandi, P.O- Laroya, Distt. Jalandhar, Pin-144201.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer,

Distt. Jalandhar

First Appellate Authority

O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development),

Distt. Jalandhar,

Respondents

Appeal Case No.3009/2018

Date of RTI application: 11.06.2018
Date of First Appeal : 13.07.2018

Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil

Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: 04.09.2018

Present: Sh. Jasbir Singh Sekhon, Appellant in person.

Sh. Ajay Kumar, DDPO, Jalandhar – for Respondents.

<u>Order</u>

The following order was passed by this forum on 23.10.2018:

"The appellant is seeking the action having been taken on a complaint filed by him to the then Deputy Chief Minister, Punjab on its online porter.

Sh. Vikas Sharma, Superintendent says that the same was forwarded to the District Development & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar for appropriate action under intimation to the appellant. He further says that as the issue pertains to the DDPO he has already requested him to do the needful. The District Development & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar is hereby advised to apprise him of the status of the matter under intimation to the Commission before the next date of hearing."

Sh. Ajay Kumar, DDPO, Jalanahdar is present in the video conferencing. He submits that he has recently joined and is unaware of the issue. This stance of the DDPO is not appreciable. He is advised to look into it immediately and arrange to provide him the information failing which this forum shall be constrained to draw the adverse inference and proceed to impose penalty.

To come up on 20.02.2019 at 11.30 AM through video conference at Jalandhar.

Sd/-

28.11.2018

(Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner

CC: The District Development & Panchayat Officer, Jalandhar, for n/a.

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Shri Gurdeep Singh (RTI Activist), R/o H. No.238, Ward 1, Payal, Ludhiana.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Excise Inspector, Ludhiana.

Respondent

Complaint Case No. 889/2018

Date of RTI application: 26.09.2017

Date of First Appeal : Nil
Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil
Date of 2nd Appeal/complaint: Nil.

Present: Sh. Gurdeep Singh, Complainant in person.

Sh. Harjot Singh, ETO - cum - APIO, Ludhiana - 1 - for Respondent.

<u>Order</u>

The case has been heard through video conferencing.

The complainant had mis-sent his application to one Sh. Navdeep Singh, Excise Inspector who in fact is posted at Jagraon and not in Ludhiana. Nonetheless the respondent submits that an FIR was registered after the raid and recovery of contraband. A copy of FIR is available with them. They are desired to send its copy to him under intimation to the Commission within fifteen days from today positively. No further action seems called for.

The complaint is **disposed**.

Sd/-

28.11.2018 (Yashvir Mahajan)
State Information Commissioner