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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Sarabjit Singh Gill, H. No. 60-35-P-376/1, Street – 08, Maha Singh Nagar, P. O. – Dhandari Kalan, Ludhiana - 141014 (Punjab)

....Appellant

i) 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

V/s

(Regd. Post) ii) The Assistant Town Planner-cum-PIO O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Zone-C, Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) iii) The Assistant Town Planner-cum-PIO O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Zone-D, Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) iv) The Executive Engineer-cum-PIO
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
O & M Cell, Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) v) The Executive Engineer -cum-PIO O/o The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Light Branch, Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) vi) The Executive Engineer
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
(B & R), Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) vii) The Executive Engineer
O/o The Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Zone-A (B & R), Ludhiana (Punjab)

(Regd. Post) viii) The Executive Engineer O/o The Commissioner,

Municipal Corporation, Zone-C (B & R), Ludhiana (Punjab)

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. 2067 of 2021

Present: Sh. Gurmej Lal on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Building Inspector(Town Planning Wing) of Local Government,

Punjab, for the respondent.

ORDER

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

The RTI request is dated 05.02.2021. First appeal is dated 06.03.2021. Second

appeal has been received in the Commission on 28.04.2021.

In the earlier hearing, held on 25.08.2021;

- Sh. Vijay Kumar, Assistant Town Planner of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, stated that the information demanded through RTI request is regarding connections of water supply and sewerage and street lights to illegal colonies in Ludhiana, which relates with office of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana and RTI request of the appellant was transferred vide letter no. 1569 dated 30.04.2021 to Public Information Officer office of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act with an intimation to the appellant and a reply was sent to the Commission vide letter no. 2504 dated 26.07.2021.
- ii) Ms. Kashish Garg, Building Inspector-cum-APIO who appeared on behalf of PIO-cum-Assistant Town Planner of office of Municipal Corporation, Zone C, Ludhiana, stated that the information demanded through RTI request relates with O & M Cell and Light Branch of Zones A, B, C and D of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana and the appellant also given in writing that the information demanded by him relates with O & M Cell and Light Branch of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana and a reply was sent to the Commission vide letter no. 835 dated 24.08.2021.
- iii) As information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of O & M Cell and Light Branch of different Zones of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, hence, a copy of the order was sent through registered post to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana with the advice to direct the concerned PIO/PIOs of concerned branches and Zones of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request with a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing and to ensure presence of concerned PIO/PIOs on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' to clear the facts of this case.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the information from the concerned branches/Zones or not and also 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 and the case was adjourned for 17.11.2021.

The hearing in the instant appeal-case, which was fixed to be heard for 17.11.2021, which could not held due to technical fault in connection of network and the case was adjourned for today i. e. 31.01.2022.

Sh. Gurmej Lal, who appeared on behalf of the appellant, Sh. Sarabjit Singh Gill, in today's hearing, states that he has demanded copy of compliant alongwith Diary Number, which has not been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Building Inspector(Town Planning Wing) of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab,, 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. 2504 dated 26.07.2021 intimating him that the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of O & M Cell and Light Branch of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana. It is placed in the case-file.

After examining the documents placed in the case-file, it is found that the respondent PIOs office of Assistant Town Planner, Zone-C of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana through a reply vide letter no. 645 dated 24.05.2021 and again 807 dated 12.08.2021; Assistant Town Planner, Zone-D of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana vide letter no. 288 dated 12.11.2021; PIO-cum-Executive Engineer(Lights) vide letter no. 398 dated 27.10.2021 and PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, (B & R) vide letter no. 500 dated 09.11.2021 and again vide letter no. 807 dated 12.08.2021; PIO-cum-Executive Engineer, Zone-A (B & R) vide letter no. 158 dated 11.11.2021 had intimated the Commission that replies (whichever query/queries relates to their office) were sent to the appellant time and again. All the above-mentioned replies are placed in the case file.

Nevertheless, a copy of this order be sent to the PIOs of above-said concerned branches of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana to represent this case in person or through their representative on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' to clear the facts of this case.

A copy of this order also be sent to the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana to ensure presence of above-mentioned concerned PIO/PIOs or their representatives 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 <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through</u> facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Puniab

(Regd. Post)

The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Punjab)

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Sarabjit Singh Gill, H. No. 60-35-P-376/1, 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. 2068 of 2021

Present: Sh. Gurmej Lal on behalf of the appellant, the appellant in person.

Sh. Mannveer Singh, Senior Assistant (LG - 1 Branch), for the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 05.02.2021. First appeal is dated 06.03.2021. Second

appeal has been received in the Commission on 28.04.2021.

In the earlier hearing, held on 25.08.2021;

- i) The appellant stated that no information was supplied to the appellant by the respondent PIO.
- ii) Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative was present and the requisite information was also not been supplied by the respondent PIO to the information seeker.
- iii) The respondent PIO concerned was directed to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request, through registered post or e-mail with a copy to the Commission.
- 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 so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned.
- v) A show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act was issued to Public Information Officer concerned of office of Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Deptt. of Local Government, Chandigarh, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/denial in supplying the information to the RTI applicant under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 and the case was adjourned for 17.11.2021.

Contd...2/-

The hearing in the instant appeal-case, which was fixed to be heard for 17.11.2021, which could not held due to technical fault in connection of network and the case was adjourned for today i. e. 31.01.2022.

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

Sh. Mannveer Singh, Senior Assistant (LG – 1 Branch), who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the appellant has demanded action take report on a complaint, which has not been received in the Branch and the appellant was intimated to provide a copy of compliant so that reply could be given but till date no communication has been made by the appellant till date.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to send a written reply, to the queries raised through RTI request, to the appellant as well as a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he received the reply(which would be supplied by the respondent) or not.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through</u> facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022 State

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, H. No. 60-35-P-376-1, Street – 08, Maha Singh Nagar, P. O. - Dhandari Kalan, Ludhiana (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

- i) 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
- ii) Public Information Officer,
 O/o The Commissioner,
 Municipal Corporation,
 Ludhiana (Punjab)

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. 2140 of 2021

Present: Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, the appellant in person.

Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Building Inspector(Town Planning Wing), for the respondent.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.
The RTI request is dated 01.02.2021. First appeal is dated 02.03.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 04.05.2021.

In the earlier hearing, held on 25.08.2021;

- i) Sh. Vijay Kumar, Assistant Town Planner appeared on behalf of Chief Town Planner of office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, and stated that the RTI request of the appellant was received in the Branch on 10.02.2021 and as the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, the RTI request of the appellant was transferred to Public Information Officer office of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana vide letter no. 1119 dated 23.03.2021 under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act with an intimation to the appellant.
- ii) As the required information demanded by the appellant through RTI request, relates with office of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, hence, Public Information Officer office of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana was impleaded as necessary party in this case with the directions to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries raised by him through RTI request with a copy to the Commission.

- iii) An opportunity was 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.
- iv) The case was adjourned for 17.11.2021.

The hearing in the instant appeal-case, which was fixed to be heard for 17.11.2021, which could not held due to technical fault in connection of network and the case was adjourned for today i. e. 31.01.2022.

Sh. Rajeev Kumar, Building Inspector(Town Planning Wing) office of Director, Local Government, Punjab, who appeared in today's hearing, states that the information demanded through RTI request relates with office of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, the RTI request of the appellant was transferred to Public Information Officer office of Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana vide letter no. 1119 dated 23.03.2021 under Section 6 (3) of the RTI Act with an intimation to the appellant It is placed in the case-file.

Neither the respondent PIO of office of Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing .

After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the respondent PIO through a reply vide letter no. 1376 dated 16.11.2021 signed by PIO-cum-Assistant Town Planner, Zone – B, Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 26468 dated 25.11.2021, has intimated the Commission that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 1358 dated 28.10.2021 and again 1376 dated 16.11.2021. It, alongwith a copy of supplied information is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Amarjit Singh Dhamotia, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that incomplete information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Nevertheless, the appellant is advised to visit the office of the respondent PIO to inspect the relevant official record on 11.02.2022 at 12:00 noon to identify the information.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to facilitate the appellant to inspect the relevant official record during his visit to the office on 11.02.2022 at 12:00 noon so that information could be identified by him. He is also directed to supply the required information to the appellant (which would be identified by him after inspection) with a copy to the Commission

An opportunity is also given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO after inspection, or not.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022 State Information Commissioner
Punjab



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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Kuldip Kumar Kaura (Retd. Lecturer), H. No. 5-C, Phase – 1, Urban Estate, Focal Point, Ludhiana – 141010(Punjab)

...Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Commissioner(Zonal), Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Commissioner(Zonal), Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 234 of 2020

Present: Sh. Kuldip Kumar Kaura, the appellant in person.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 07.08.2019. First appeal is dated 06.10.2019. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 07.01.2020.

V/s

The appellant, Sh. Kuldip Kumar Kaura, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he visited the office of the respondent on 15.09.2021 and Sh. Pankaj Garg, D. C. (F & A), committed him to provide the remaining information at point no. 06 of the RTI request within one month to him but no information at point no. 06 has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has also not sent any intimation regarding his non-availability. Moreover, the remaining information at point no. 06 of the RTI request has not been supplied by the respondent PIO to the information seeker even after the directions were given by the Commission vide orders dated 14.09.2021. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

In view of the above, a fresh show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act is issued to Public Information Officer, who is Sh. Pankaj Garg, D. C. (F & A) office of Commissioner(Zonal), Municipal Corporation Ludhiana as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/denial in supplying the information to the RTI applicant under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings', it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the remaining information at point no. 06 of the RTI request to the appellant through registered post or through an 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.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 31st January, 2022 State Information Commissioner

Punjab

(Regd. Post) Sh. Pankaj Garg,

D. C. (F & A)-cum-Public Information Officer,

O/o The Commissioner (Zonal),

Municipal Corporation,

Encl: RTI request Room No. 58, Mata Rani Chowk,

Ludhiana (Punjab)





S/o Sh. Harbans Singh,

Raipur Majra,

Police Station - Kathgarh,

Tehsil - Balachaur,

Distt. - Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar(Punjab)

....Appellant

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer,

O/o The Block Development and Panchayat Officer,

Balachaur,

Distt. - Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,
O/o The District Development
and Panchayat Officer,
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 4265 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. Pritam Singh, 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 12.04.2021. First appeal is dated 19.05.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 15.09.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021,

- i) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.
- iii) A show-cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO under provisions of the RTI Act.

The appellant, Sh. Pritam Singh, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has neither sent any intimation regarding his non-availability even after a cause notice was issued vide orders dated 16.11.2021 nor sent any document, which shows that the required information has been supplied to the appellant, which reflects that he is trying to delay in supplying the required information to the information-seeker. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

For making delay in supplying the requisite information to the information-seeker under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act, a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) is imposed upon the concerned Public Information Officer office of Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Balachaur. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

Contd...2/-

The amount of penalty will be deposited in the Treasury of Punjab Government under the head.....

Major Head ... 0070 -Other Administrative Services

Sub-Major Head .. 60 - Other Services

Minor Head .. 800 - Other Receipts

Sub-Head .. 86 - Fee under the Right to Information Act, 2005

Detailed Head .. 0070 Other Administrative Services

60 Other Services- 800- Other Receipts-

86- Fees under the Right to Information Act, 2005

And a copy of challan receipt be submitted to the Commission on the next date of hearing.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries 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. He is also advised to represent his case in person or through his representative on the next date of hearing.

A copy of this order be sent through registered post to District Development and Panchayat Officer, Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar to ensure compliance of the above-announced order.

The case is <u>adjourned to 4th May, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing</u> through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 31st January, 2022 State Information Commissioner

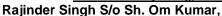
Punjab

(Regd. Post) The District Development

and Panchayat Officer,

Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar (Punjab)

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<u>Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab</u>



V.P.O. – Kot Fatuhi, Tehsil – Garhshankar,

Distt. – Hoshiarpur – 144519 (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o The Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Division - 02, Ropar (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Circle, S. A. S. Nagar (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3372 of 2020

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 03.05.2021. First appeal is dated 04.06.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 27.07.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- i) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit, with a copy to the Commission.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.

Neither the appellant, Sh. Rajinder Singh nor the respondent is present in today's hearing.

After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the respondent PIO through a reply vide letter no. 3898 dated 16.11.2021 signed by Executive Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Division, Roopnagar, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 26031 dated 18.11.2021, has intimated the Commission that the requisite information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 3853 dated 16.11.2021. It is taken on record.

An opportunity is 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 or the case would be decided on merits.

Nevertheless, another opportunity is also given to both the parties to represent this case in person or through their representative on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' or the case would be decided on merits.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Rajinder Singh S/o Sh. Om Kumar, V.P.O. – Kot Fatuhi, Tehsil – Garhshankar,

Distt. – Hoshiarpur – 144519 (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Executive Engineer,
Water Supply &
Sanitation Division - 01,
Ropar at SriAnandpurSahib (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Water Supply & Sanitation Circle, S. A. S. Nagar (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3373 of 2020

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

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

The RTI request is dated 03.05.2021. First appeal is dated 04.06.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 27.07.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- iii) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit, with a copy to the Commission.
- iv) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.

Neither the appellant, Sh. Rajinder Singh nor the respondent is present in today's hearing.

Nevertheless, another opportunity is also given to both the parties to represent this case in person or through their representative on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' or the case would be decided on merits.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through</u> facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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

Date: 31st January, 2022

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab



Yogesh Mahajan S/o Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan, Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road, Pathankot (Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Executive Engineer,

Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation, Division – 02, Ludhiana (Punjab)

Encl: RTI request

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3562 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, the appellant in person.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 05.05.2021. First appeal is dated 10.06.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 06.08.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021,

- i) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.
- iii) A show-cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO under provisions of the RTI Act
 The appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, who appeared in person in today's hearing,
 states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has neither sent any intimation regarding his non-availability even after a cause notice was issued vide orders dated 16.11.2021 nor sent any document, which shows that the required information has been supplied to the appellant, which reflects that he is trying to delay in supplying the required information to the information-seeker. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

For making delay in supplying the requisite information to the information-seeker under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act, a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) is imposed upon the concerned Public Information Officer office of Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation, Division – 02, Ludhiana. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

The amount of penalty will be deposited in the Treasury of Punjab Government under the head.....

> .. 0070 -Other Administrative Services Major Head

Sub-Major Head .. 60 - Other Services

Minor Head .. 800 - Other Receipts

Sub-Head .. 86 - Fee under the Right to Information Act, 2005

.. 0070 Other Administrative Services **Detailed Head**

60 Other Services- 800- Other Receipts-

86- Fees under the Right to Information Act, 2005

And a copy of challan receipt be submitted to the Commission on the next date of hearing.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries 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.

A copy of this order be sent through registered post to Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana to ensure compliance of the aboveannounced order.

The case is adjourned to 4th May, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 31st January, 2022 **State Information Commissioner**

Encl :RTI request **Punjab**

The Superintending Engineer, (Regd. Post)

> **Punjab Water Supply** and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana ((Punjab)

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Bench: Sh. Sanjiv Garg, State Information Commissioner, Punjab



Yogesh Mahajan S/o Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan, Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road, Pathankot (Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer,

(Regd. Post) O/o The Executive Engineer,

Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation, Division – 02, Ludhiana (Punjab)

Encl: RTI request

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3563 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, the appellant in person.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 05.05.2021. First appeal is dated 10.06.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 06.08.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021,

- i) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.
- iii) A show-cause notice was issued to the concerned PIO under provisions of the RTI Act
 The appellant, Sh. Yogesh Mahajan, who appeared in person in today's hearing,
 states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Neither the respondent PIO nor any of his representative is present in today's hearing. He has neither sent any intimation regarding his non-availability even after a cause notice was issued vide orders dated 16.11.2021 nor sent any document, which shows that the required information has been supplied to the appellant, which reflects that he is trying to delay in supplying the required information to the information-seeker. The Commission took a serious view of this casual approach of the respondent PIO.

For making delay in supplying the requisite information to the information-seeker under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act, a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand Only) is imposed upon the concerned Public Information Officer office of Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation, Division – 02, Ludhiana. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

The amount of penalty will be deposited in the Treasury of Punjab Government under the head.....

Major Head ... 0070 -Other Administrative Services

Sub-Major Head .. 60 - Other Services

Minor Head .. 800 - Other Receipts

Sub-Head .. 86 - Fee under the Right to Information Act, 2005

Detailed Head .. 0070 Other Administrative Services

60 Other Services- 800- Other Receipts-

86- Fees under the Right to Information Act, 2005

And a copy of challan receipt be submitted to the Commission on the next date of hearing.

Last opportunity is given to the respondent PIO concerned to supply the certified copies of the required information to the appellant as per queries 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.

A copy of this order be sent through registered post to Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana to ensure compliance of the above-announced order.

The case is <u>adjourned to 4th May, 2022 (Wednesday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)

Date: 31st January, 2022 State Information Commissioner

Encl :RTI request Punjab

(Regd. Post) The Superintending Engineer,

Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Ludhiana ((Punjab)

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Ram Chander S/o Sh.Tikka Ram,

H. No. 910, Sector 70,

Mataur, S. A. S. Nagar) (Mohali)(Punjab)

Oformation Cos

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o The Secretary, Punjab School Education Board, Vidhya Bhawan, P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Vice-Chairman, Punjab School Education Board, Vidhya Bhawan, P.S.E.B. Complex, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 4308 of 2021

Present: Sh. Ram Chander, the appellant in person.

Sh. Niranjan Lal, Assistant Secretary(Establishment), on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

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

The RTI request is dated 25.06.2021. First appeal is dated 28.07.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 21.09.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- i) Sh. Niranjan Lal, Assistant Secretary(Establishment), intimated that information at point no. 02, 04 and 05 of the RTI request was given to the appellant, information at point no. 03 is 'personal information' and information at point no. 01 is not clear.
- ii) The appellant was advised to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information already supplied to him and also to specify the particulars of the information sought by him at point no. 01, in writing, to the respondent PIO concerned, so that the respondent PIO could provide the requisite information to him.

The appellant, Sh. Ram Chander, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that information at point no. 03 has not been given to him by the respondent PIO till date.

Sh. Niranjan Lal, Assistant Secretary(Establishment), who appeared in today's hearing, states that information at point no. 03 'personal information', moreover, the enquiry in the matter is under investigation and a reply was sent to the Commission vide letter dated 12.11.2021. It is taken on record.

After going through the RTI request, it is found that the information demanded by the appellant at point no. 03 is not 'third party' information, hence, directions are hereby given to the respondent PIO to supply the required information at point no. 03 to the appellant.

An opportunity is given to the appellant to confirm whether he has received the information, which would be supplied to him by the respondent PIO.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022

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State Information Commissioner

Punjab



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Nathu Ram S/o Sh. Mahavir Sihag, Village – Taja Patti,

Tehsil - Abohar - 152122,

Distt. - Fazilka(Punjab)

....Appellant

i) Public Information Officer,
 O/o The District Education Officer(Sec.),
 Fazilka (Punjab)

ii) Public Information Officer,
O/o The Head Mistress,
Govt. Middle School,
Village – Taja Patti,
Tehsil – Abohar,
Distt. - Fazilka (Punjab)

iii) Public Information Officer, O/o The Block Primary Education Officer, Abohar - 02, Distt. - Fazilka (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The District Education Officer(Sec.), Fazilka (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 4260 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. Nathu Ram, the appellant in person.

Sh. Mehar Chand, Headmaster of Govt. Middle School, Taja Patti, for the

respondent.

ORDER

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

The RTI request is dated 29.06.2021. First appeal is dated 02.08.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 20.09.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021,

- iv) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit.
- v) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.

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

Sh. Mehar Chand, Headmaster of Govt. Middle School, Taja Patti, who appeared in today's hearing, states that the available information at point no. 03 and 04 of the RTI request information of 280 pages has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter no. 69 dated 11.11.2021 and information at point no. 01 and 02 relates with office of District Education Officer(Sec.), Fazilka and a reply in an affidavit has already been sent to the Commission vide letter no. 74 dated 22.11.2021, which has been received in the Commission vide Diary No. 28082 dated 15.12.2021. The above-said replies are taken record.

Nevertheless, another opportunity is given to the respondent-PIO concerned to send a reply, in an affidavit, to the queries raised at point no. 01 and 02 of the RTI request to the appellant with a copy to the Commission, by the next date of hearing.

As the information at point no. 01 and 02 relates with office of District Education Officer(Sec.), Fazilka, moreover, the RTI request is also sent that office.

Accordingly, an opportunity is given to the PIO office of District Education Officer(Sec.), Fazilka to supply the certified copies of the remaining information at point no. 01 and 02 of the RTI request, to the appellant with a copy to the Commission. He is also directed to represent this case in person or through his representative on the next date of hearing fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings' to clear the facts of this case. A copy of this order be sent to him through registered post.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 31st January, 2022 State Information Commissioner Punjab

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R. P. Singh

Through Sh. Gurmel Singh Nahar, Advocate, 4th Floor, Near Public Lift,

Court Complex, Ludhiana (Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation Division – 02,

Ludhiana (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation Division – 02, Ludhiana (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3610 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. R. P. Singh, the appellant in person.

Sh. Ajit Singh, S. D. O., Ludhiana - II, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

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

The RTI request is dated 22.05.2021. First appeal is dated 25.06.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 11.08.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- vi) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit.
- vii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.
- viii) A show cause notice under Section 20 (1) of the RTI Act Was issued to Public Information Officer concerned under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

The appellant, Sh. R. P. Singh, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that no information has been given to him by the respondent PIO till date. It is taken on record.

Sh. Ajit Singh, S. D. O., Ludhiana - II, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has already been sent to the appellant on 29.01.2022 vide a letter no. 351 dated 28.01.2022 through registered post and a copy of the has also been sent to the Commission through an e-mail. It is taken on record.

As the information is sent by the respondent PIO to the appellant on 29.01.2022 and probably the same would be received by the appellant within coming two or three days.

Moreover, copy of the postal-receipt is not attached with the above-said reply.

Nevertheless, an opportunity is also given to the respondent PIO to send a copy of the postal-receipt 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, which was sent to him by the respondent PIO vide letter dated 28.01.2022 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.

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Sanjiv Garg)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Surjit Singh Aujla, Village – Aujla Dhakk, P. O. – Lidder Kalan,

Distt. - Jalandhar (Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply & Sanitation, Division – 01, Jalandhar (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation Circle, Jalandhar (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3614 of 2021

V/s

Present: Sh. Surjit Singh Aujla, the appellant in person.

Sh. Sukhwinder Mahi, S. D. E., in person.

ORDER

Heard through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'. The RTI request is dated 26.04.2021. First appeal is dated 03.06.2021. Second

appeal has been received in the Commission on 11.08.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- i) The respondent PIO concerned was directed either to supply the certified copies of the complete information to the appellant or file a reply in an affidavit, with a copy to the Commission.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information supplied to him, in writing, to the respondent PIO.

Sh. Sukhwinder Mahi, S. D. E., who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that the requisite information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 30.01.2022. He also intimates the Commission that a copy of reply has also been sent to the Commission which has been received in the Commission through an e-mail. It, alongwith a copy of supplied information, is taken on record.

The appellant, Sh. Surjit Singh Aujla, who appeared in person in today's hearing, states that he has received the information through 'What's App' not in manual manner.

The respondent PIO concerned is directed to send the requisite information to the appellant through registered post at his residential address and send a copy of the postal receipt to the Commission, by the next date of hearing.

An opportunity is 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 through registered post well in time so that the same could be removed by the respondent concerned by the next date of hearing.

The case is adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (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: 31st January, 2022

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State Information Commissioner
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S/o Sh. Gurdev Kumar, Barnala Road, Ward - 01,

Dhanaula, Distt. - Barnala (Punjab)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o The Tehsildar, Dhanaula, Distt. – Barnala (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Sub Divisional Magistrate, Barnala (Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3636 of 2021

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

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

The RTI request is dated 05.04.2021. First appeal is dated 17.05.2021. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 12.08.2021.

On the last date of hearing, held on 16.11.2021;

- i) Sh. Ashu Joshi, Naib Tehsidar, intimated that the required information sought by the appellant is not specific, moreover, 'personal' in nature.
- ii) An opportunity was given to the appellant to specify the required information (regarding property owned by him) to the respondent so that the same could be provide by the respondent.

Neither appellant, Sh. Munish Kumar nor the respondent PIO or any of his representative is present in today's hearing.

After examining the RTI request placed in the case-file, it is found that the appellant has demanded the documents, on the bases of which registries of properties were transferred in Sub Tehsil Dhanaula for the period from 01.03.2020 to the date of filing of RTI request i. e. 05.04.2021.

Nevertheless, last opportunity is given to the appellant to specify the required information (regarding property owned by him) to the respondent so that the same could be provide by the respondent by the next date of hearing or the case would be decided on merits.

Another opportunity is also given to both the parties to represent this case in person or through their representative on the next date fixed through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'

The case is <u>adjourned to 9th May, 2022 (Monday) at 11:00 A. M. for hearing through facility of Software/application 'CISCO Webex Meetings'.</u>

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date: 31st January, 2022

(Sanjiv Garg)

State Information Commissioner

Punjab