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Sh. Jung Bahadur Goyal, IAS (Retd.), S/o Ruldhu Ram, R/o H. No. 1595, Sector- 38-B, Chandigarh.

.....Complainant

Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, (Personnel Department), Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh.

PIO/Principal Secretary to Government of Punjab, Departments of Local Bodies, Municipal Bhawan, Sector 35, Chandigarh.

......Respondents

### Complaint Case No. 861 of 2019

Present:- Shri Jung Bahadur Goyal, appellant, alongwith Advocate Ramneek Kaur Sandhu. (In the previous order, Ms. Ramaneek Kaur Sandhu was written wrongly, it should be read as Ms. Ramneek Kaur Sandhu)

> Shri Pardeep Singh, Superintendent-cum-PIO alongwith Shri Jatinder Singh, Senior Assistant, on behalf of Secretary to Government of Punjab, Department of Personnel, Chandigarh and Shri Abhishek Manoor, Senior Assistant alongwith o/o Department of Local Bodies, Punjab, Chandigarh on behalf of the respondents....

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.02.2020, in which it is mentioned that the respondent-PIO o/o Department of Personnel, Punjab Civil Secretariat, Chandigarh had produced original record concerning point at Sr. No.2 for the perusal of the Commission. The Commission observes that the Department of Personnel has taken the required action by writing to the Department of Personnel and Training, Government of India, New Delhi. The record concerning point at Sr. No. 4 was left to be got perused from the Commission by Local Self Government. The representatives of Department of Local Self Government, Punjab, Chandigarh seek short adjournment due to ongoing Punjab Vidhan Sabha Session and the case was adjourned to 9.3.2020.

Contd.....p/2

-2-

2. The respondent-PIO/Local Self Government Department, Punjab, Chandigarh places their letter dated 5.3.2020 on the record of the case file. With the supply of this letter, complete information as per his RTI application has been supplied to the complainant.

3. After hearing the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that information except Sr. No.2 of RTI application of the complainant has been supplied. The respondent-PIO-cum-Superintendent. IAS Branch, is directed to get a copy of the reference sent to DOPT, Government of India, New Delhi on 20.02.2020, emailed, for the record of the Commission, which has been received in the Commission. A copy of reference dated 20.02.2020 is being enclosed with this order to the complainant for ready reference. A photocopy of the reply received from Local Self Government is handed over to the complainant during the hearing. With the supply of these documents, complete information as sought by him under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005 has been supplied to the satisfaction of the complainant. Accordingly, the present case is disposed of and closed.

Dated : 09.03.2020

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Sh. Sarbpreet Singh, House No. 1603, Sector-38 B, Chandigarh.

......Appellant Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Punjab Vidhan Sabha, Secretariat, Sector-1, Chandigarh.

Appeal Case No. 3324 of 2019

Present:- Shri Sarabpreet Singh, appellant, in person.

Shri Surinder Pal, Joint Secretary-cum-PIO on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 11.02.2020 in which it is mentioned that on the request of both the parties, the case was adjourned to 09.03.2020.

2. The respondent-PIO states that complete information regarding points at Sr. No. 1 and 2 has been given to the satisfaction of the appellant. He further states that the same information has also been sought by the appellant in Civil Writ Petition, which is pending before the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court at Chandigarh. On this the appellant states that both the cases are separate and he sought information under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005.

3. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that information concerning points at Sr. No. 1 and 2 has been provided to the appellant to his satisfaction. The appellant is advised to send public interest involved in seeking the information to the respondent-PIO with a copy to the Commission. On receipt of the public interest from the appellant, the respondents are directed to reconsider the position and intimate the decision to the appellant with a copy to the Commission, before the next date of hearing.

4. The case is adjourned to 07.04.2020 at 11.00 A.M.

sd/-

Dated : 09.03.2020

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Sh. Hardiyal Singh, s/o Sh. Sher Singh. r/o VPO Dhablan, Tehsil & District Patiala

....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer, o/o Block Development and Panchayats Officer, District Patiala

First Appellate Authority, o/o District Development and Panchayats Officer, Mini Seretariate, Patiala

....Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 4300 of 2019

Present:- Shri Hardiyal Singh, appellant in person.

Shri Daljit Singh, Panchayats Officer on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with the previous order dated 24.2.2020 vide which a compensation of Rs.10,000/- was awarded to the appellant for loss and detriments suffered by him.

2. In compliance to the previous order dated 24.02.2020, the respondent-PIO hands over a demand draft No.10221 dated 6.3.2020 of AXIS Bank of Rs.10,000/- being compensation to the appellant during the hearing after taking proper receipt of it.

3. The appellant states that the respondent-PIO has given in writing that reference Nos. 368, 1009 and 2564 were never received in their office but action taken on reference Nos. 876 and 2367 has not been provided to him.

4. The respondents are directed to intimate the appellant with a copy to the Commission regarding action taken on references Nos. 876 and 2367 and if no action is taken on these references, the respondents are directed to give in writing before the next date of hearing.

5. To come up on 23.03.2020 at 11.00 A.M. to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala.

Dated:09.03.2020

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Sh. Surjeet Singh S/o Surain Singh, R/o Vill. –Devi Dass, P.O.- Baja Chak, Tehsil – Mukerian District- Hoshiarpur.

..... Complainant

.....Respondent

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Mukerian, District- Hoshiarpur.

Complaint Case .No. 937 of 2019

Present:- Shri Surjit Singh, complainant.

Shri Jarnail Singh, Panchayat Secretary on behalf of the respondent.

Vs

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 in which it is mentioned that complete information had been given even after the inspection but the complainant was not satisfied with the documents supplied to him. They gave in writing that no documents are available except which had already been supplied to him. To settle this matter regarding receipt/supply of the information, both the parties were directed to appear before the Commission on 09.03.2020 at 11.00 A.M. at Chandigarh with original record regarding supply/receipt of the information.

2. After perusal of the record brought by both the parties, it is revealed that complete information has been provided to the complainant. The complainant states that what action has been taken on his complaints. On this, the respondent-PIO states that BDPO has not taken any action on his complaints. The respondent-PIO is directed to give in writing that information as available on their record has been supplied to the complainant and no record is available except which has already been supplied to him before the next date of hearing.

3. To come up on 25.03.2020 at 3.00 P.M. to be hearing through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Hoshiarpur.

Dated: 09.03.2020.

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Respondent

Sh. Ranjit Singh, S/o Sh. Sadhu Singh, Village- Moga, P.O: Bhogpur, District- Jalandhar.

.....Appellant Vs

Public Information Officer, DDPO, Jalandhar.

Complaint Case No. 670 of 2019

Present:- Shri Ranjit Singh complainant.

Mr. Ramjji Dass Social Education and Panchayats Officer on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 in which it is mentioned that a copy of order dated 24.06.2009 was supplied to the complainant within stipulated period but information regarding point at Sr. No. 1 and 3 is not available in their record. This fact was also given in writing to the complainant. It is further mentioned in that order the correction should be got done after following the procedure under the provisions of Revenue Act. The complainant was not satisfied even with a copy of the order passed on 24.06.2009. To settle the matter regarding supply/receipt of the information, both the parties were directed to appear before the Commission on 9.3.2020 at 11.00 A.M. with original record regarding supply/receipt of the information.

2. Both the parties produced original record for the perusal of the Commission. After perusal, it is found that the complainant wants that correction of the names mentioned in the order be made with the intervention of this forum. He was also advised on the previous date of hearing that this is not the forum in which the correction could be made. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that complete information has already been provided within stipulated period. Hence, the SCN issued to Shri Ram Ji Dass is dropped with the direction to be careful in future while dealing with the RTI applications. With these observations, the present case is disposed of and closed. Copies of t he order be sent to the parties.

Dated : 09.03.2020

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Sh. Sukhchain Singh S/o Ajit Singh, R/o Sonam Mohalla, Fatehgarh Churian, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Fatehgarh Churian, Tehsil –Batala, District – Gurdaspur.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development & Panchayat Officer, Mini Secretariat, District Gurdaspur.

..... Respondents

### Appeal Case No. 220 of 2020

Vs

(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant. Shri Gurmeet Singh, Superintendent alongwith Shri Devinder Singh, APO, on behalf of the respondents.

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 in which it is mentioned that complete information concerning MANREGA had been provided to the appellant and the remaining information is to be supplied by Shri Gurmeet Singh, Superintendent (M. No. 98148-65126). Accordingly Shri Gurmeet Singh, Superintendent o/o BDPO, Fatehgarh Churian was directed to supply the information concerning panchayat before the next date of hearing.

2. The appellant states that complete information except Utilization Certificates of works completed have not been supplied.

3. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that complete information except utilization certificates has been provided to the satisfaction of the appellant. The respondents are directed to supply photostat copies of utilization certificate, if these are prepared otherwise give in writing that no utilization certificate has been prepared before the next date of hearing.

4. To come up on 23.03.2020 at 3.00 P.M. to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur.

Dated :09.03.2020

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Sh. Sukhchain Singh S/o Ajit Singh, R/o Sonam Mohalla, Fatehgarh Churian, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Fatehgarh Churian, Tehsil Batala, District Gurdaspur.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development & Panchayat Officer, Mini Secretariat, District Gurdaspur.

### Appeal Case No. 4183 of 2019

(Video Conference Proceedings) Present:- None on behalf of the appellant. Shri Gurmeet Singh, Superintendent alongwith Shri Devinder Singh, APO, on behalf of the respondents.

#### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 vide which the respondents were directed to send in writing to the appellant with a copy to the Commission stating that utilization certificates are not prepared/available in their record before the next date of hearing and the case was adjourned to 9.3.2020.

2. The appellant states that complete information except Utilization Certificates of works completed have not been supplied to him.

3. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that complete information except utilization certificates has been provided to the satisfaction of the appellant. The respondents are directed to supply photostat copies of utilization certificate, if these are available in their record otherwise give in writing that no utilization certificate has been prepared before the next date of hearing.

4. To come up on 23.03.2020 at 3.00 P.M. to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Gurdaspur.

Dated :09.03.2020

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Sh. Balwinder Singh s/o Shri Sadhu Singh r/o village Ran Kalan, Tehsil Shahkot, District Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Vs

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

First Appellate Authority O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Lohian Khas, District: Jalandhar.

### Appeal Cases No.2548 of 019

(Video Conference Proceeding)

Present:- None on behalf of the appellant.

Shri Satnam Singh, Superintendent alongwith Shri Sandeep Sharma, Panchayats Secretary on behalf of the respondents.

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the order dated 02.12.2019 vide which the case was disposed and closed as complete information was supplied to the appellant and subsequent to the hearing Shri Satinder Pal Singh Dhairwal, counsel for the appellant, appeared and requested for imposition of penalty and award of compensation as the information could not be supplied to the appellant within stipulated period. SCN was issued to the respondent PIO to file his explanation for not supplying the information within stipulated period. The respondent-PIO submitted in writing on 2.9.2019 stating that they alognwith respectable persons of the village visited appellant's residence to deliver the information but his mother/family members refused to receive the same and stated that Shri Balwinder Singh was away to Leh/Ladakh and on his return, he would get the information but he never returned to their office to receive the information. He further stated that he has nothing to say more except he has already given in writing on 2.9.2019. Both the parties remained absent on 06.01.2020 and the case was adjourned to 24.01.2020 for submitting explanation to show cause notice. On 24.01.2020, the counsel for the appellant stated that penalty must be

Contd....p/2

-2-

imposed on the respondent-PIO and compensation be awarded to him and the respondents were given one more opportunity to send his explanation in writing but he reiterated that he has nothing to say except which he has already given in writing on 2.9.2019 and the case was adjourned 24.02.2020. On 24.02.2020, the counsel for the appellant remained absent and he has sent an email stating that one adjournment may be given. On his request the case was adjourned to 09.03.2020. Today, the counsel for the appellant is absent without intimation.

2. After hearing the respondents and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that complete information had already been provided to the appellant and the case was disposed of on 2.12.2019 but on the request of the counsel for the appellant, show cause notice was issued to the respondent-PIO. He always reiterated that he has already given in writing that he alongwith respectable persons of village visited the house of the appellant on various dates and tried to supply the information but their family members refused to receive the same. Hence, the information could not be supplied to the appellant. In view of the statement dated 02.09.2019, SCN issued to him is dropped and the case is disposed of and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated : 09.03.2020

( Suresh Arora ) Chief Information Commissioner, Punjab

sd/-

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Sh. Manpreet Singh Aulakh, S/o Sh. Davinder Singh, R/o Vill: Kailpur, PO –Dakha,

Distt: Ludhiana.

.....Appellant Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer, Nagar Council, Mullanpur Dakha, Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority O/o Deputy Director, Local Bodies, Mini Secretariat, Ludhiana.

.....Respondents

Appeal Case .No. 3746 of 2019 (Video Conference Proceeding)

Present:- Shri Manpreet Singh alongwith Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate.

Shri Parvinder Singh, Executive Officer alongwith Shri Abhey Joshi, Accountant on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.02.2020 vide which show cause notice was issued to the respondent-PIO for award of compensation to the appellant for not getting the record inspected and providing the information sought by the appellant within stipulated period.

2. The appellant states that till date no more information has been provided to him after the previous date of hearing..

3. The representative of the respondents states that point-wise reply alongwith complete information has been provided to him. He further states that no action other than notice issued to the third party is available. A copy of the notice has been provided to him within stipulated period under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005. He further states that he has given an affidavit in which it is clearly mentioned that complete information has been provided and nothing has been left, which could be supplied to him as per their record.

4. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that as per the statement of the respondent-PIO complete information has been provided to the appellant. The respondents are directed to provide necessary latest instructions as per query No. 5 of the appellant for seeking information and give him again in writing that except notice, no more record regarding action taken is available before the next date of hearing. The matter regarding show cause notice issued for compensation to the respondent-PIO on 20.02.2020 will be decided on the next date of hearing.

5. To come up on 30.03.2020 at 11.00 A.M. at Chandigarh with original record for perusal of the Commission.

Dated: 09.03.2020.

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Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Block - Bhagta Bhai Ka, Bathinda.

First Appellate Authority, O/o District Development & Panchayat Officer, Bathinda.

Public Information Officer o/o Executive Officer, Nagar Panchayat, Bhaika, District Bathinda.

..... Respondents

#### Appeal Case No. 4324 of 2019 (Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Shri Gurjit Singh on behalf of the appellant. Shri Gurdeep Singh, Clerk o/o Nagar Panchayat, Bhagtan Bhai Ke on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 vide which the PIO was directed to get the record inspected on 29.02.2020 at 11.00 A.M. from the appellant and supply the information after charging @ Rs.2/- per page from the appellant after identification of the documents.

2. The appellant states that no information has been supplied to him till date. He visited the office of the respondent-PIO but he was not available on the said date and time.

3. The respondent states that the appellant may be asked to deposit Rs.250/- and get information comprising of 125 pages..

4. After hearing both the parties and going through the record available on the case file, it is revealed that the respondent-PIO failed to get the record inspected on the fixed date and time. Hence, the respondent is directed to hand over the information to the representative of the appellant during the hearing free of cost. The representative of the appellant is advised to go through the same and revert back to the authorities with a copy to the Commission, in case of deficiencies in the information, so provided to him during the hearing.

5. To come up on 23.3.2020 at 3.00 P.M. to be heard through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bathinda.

Dated: 09.03.2020.

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Sh. Damodar Sharma S/o Sh. Jagdish Rai, R/o Vill. –Chuhri Wala Dhanna, Tehsil & District –Fazilka.

.....Appellant Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Block – Khuiya Server, Abohar, District- Fazilka.

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

Shri D.P. Pandey, (Regd.) PIO/Tehsildar, Fazilika (M.No.94635-87400).

### .....Respondents <u>Appeal Case No. 4331 of 2019</u> (Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- Shri Damodar Sharma, appellant.

Shri Pardeep Kumar, Village Development Officer alongwith Shri Rakesh Kumar, Clerk, on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

3.

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 vide which the respondent-Tehsildar, Fazilika was directed to supply the information before the next date of hearing failing which punitive action under the provisions of RTI Act, 2005 would be initiated.

2. The appellant states that till date no information concerning points at Sr. No.1 to 5 has been provided to him.

Today, none is present on behalf of the respondent-Tehsildar, Fazilika.

4. Video Conference Facility was introduced for convenience of general public and for government officials. Viewing the absence of the respondent seriously, it is, therefore, a fit case to issue a notice under Section 20 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 to Shri D.P. Pandey, Tehsildar, Fazilikacum-PIO to show cause why penalty should not be imposed on him for absence and for not supplying the information within the stipulated period and compensation be awarded to the appellant for loss and detriment suffered. The written explanation of the PIO may be filed before the next date of hearing when he may also avail the opportunity of personal hearing.

5. To come up on **03.04.2020** at **3.00 P.M.** through Video Conference Facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Fazilika.

Dated: 09.03.2020.

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Sh. Sardool Singh S/o Sh. Sukhchain Singh, R/o Vill. -Ghumiara, (98150-41837) Tehsil –Malout, 151211 District –Sri Muktsar Sahib.

.....Complainant

Public Information Officer, O/o Panchayat Secretary, Ghumiara, C/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Block –Lambi, Tehsil -Malout, District- Sri Muktsar Sahib.

PIO/Block Development and Panchayats Officer, Lambi, District Sri Mukatsar Sahib.

PIO/Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Punjab, Malout, District Sri Mukatsar Sahib.

.....Respondents

### <u>Complaint Case .No. 995 of 2019</u> (Video Conference Proceedings)

Vs

Present:- None on behalf of the complainant.

None on behalf of the respondent-PIO.

### ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2020 vide which last opportunity was afforded to the complainant to appear on the next date of hearing and defend his case failing which it will be presumed that complete information has been provided and nothing has been left, which could be supplied to him. It was mentioned in the above said order that the appellant remained absent on 16.01.2020, 31.01.2020, 24.02.2020 without any intimation and the case was adjourned for today (09.03.2020).

2. Today again the complainant is absent but he has sent in writing that he has received order dated 24.02.2020 only today.

3. After perusing the record of the case file, it is ascertained that the complainant failed to send any deficiency in this case. In view of the request of the complainant, the respondent-PIO was informed for not appearing before the Commission today as the complaint will remain absent today and one more last opportunity is afforded to the complainant to appear/defend his case on the next date of hearing and send deficiencies to the respondent-PIO as early as possible otherwise the case will be decided exparte.

5. The case is adjourned to 23.03.2020 at 11.00 A.M. with the direction to the parties to appear with original record regarding receipt/supply of information.

Dated: 09.03.2020.