



Ms Priti Puri,  
R/o # 1803, Ground Floor, House Fed Complex,  
Phase-X, Mohali.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Director,  
Department of Rural & Development Panchayat,  
Phase-8 S.A.S Nagar.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Director of Rural and Development Panchayat,  
Department of Rural & Development Panchayat,  
Phase-8, S.A.S Nagar.

Respondents

**Appeal Case No.3032/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 21.03.2018              | Nil                           | 28.04.2018                        | Nil                          |

**Present:** None on behalf of the Appellant.

1. Sh. Jasbir Singh, Senior Assistant, O/o Director, Rural Dev. & Panchayats, Punjab.
2. Sh. Narinder Pal Singh, Superintendent, Zila Parishad Office, Amritsar – for Respondents.

**ORDER**

The following order was passed by this forum on 05.02.2019:

*“The appellant had sought to know the information about vacancy position in the year 2007 for the recruitment of teachers in the office of Zila Parishad, Amritsar.*

*The respondents state that the entire record has been transferred to the Department of Education and this information is likely to be available in the office of the District Education Officer (EE), Amritsar. They were required to immediately transfer her application to the concerned Public Authority under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act. Nonetheless, they are directed to locate the source of information and transfer the application to the Public Authority within three days from today. The concerned Authority shall provide the information within thirty days of receipt of the communication.”*

*“The case has come up today. Sh. Jasbir Singh, Sr. Assistant appearing on behalf of the respondents submits that in compliance with the order of the Commission her application was*



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**Appeal Case No.3032/2018**

*transferred to the ADC (Dev.), Amritsar.*

*The Additional Deputy Commissioner ( Dev.), Amritsar is required to file a reply besides arranging to provide the information before the next date of hearing positively.”*

Sh. Jasbir Singh, Senior Assistant appearing on behalf of the respondents submits that the entire record has been transferred to the Director of Public Instructions (EE), Punjab, Phase - VIII, SAS Nagar (Mohali). The appeal is directed to the Director of Public Instructions (EE), Punjab, with the direction to do the needful quickly. The Commission understands that the Rural Development and Panchayats Department has provided the information available with them. Accordingly, they are exempt from further appearance in the proceedings.

To come up on **11.04.2019 at 11.30 AM.**

**12.03.2019**

**Sd/-  
(Yashvir Mahajan)  
State Information Commissioner**

**CC: The Director of Public Instructions (EE), Punjab, Phase VIII, SAS Nagar (Mohali), along with a photo copy of the RTI application for n/a.**



Sh. Gian Singh Bajwa,  
House no. 39, Sector 18 A,  
Chandigarh.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Gurdaspur.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Director of Rural and Development Panchayat,  
Department of Rural & Development Panchayat,  
Sector-62, S.A.S Nagar.

Respondents

**Appeal Case No.3039/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 23.03.2018              | Nil                           | 04.05.2018                        | Nil                          |

**Present:** Smt. Paramjit Kaur, wife of Sh. Gian Singh Bajwa, Appellant.  
Sh. Balkar Singh, Panchayat Secretary, BDPO Office, Gurdaspur – for Respondents.

**ORDER**

The following order was passed by the Commission on 05.02.2019:

*“The respondents are absent. The Commission understands that the polling for the panchayat elections in the State of Punjab is being held shortly. Their absence may be attributed to their occupation with the same.*

*The appellant submits that the information sent by respondents is deficient. Even the one sent is uncertified. The appellant is directed to specify the deficiency and intimate it to the respondents with a copy to the Commission. The respondents shall ensure that they make good the deficiency positively and inform the Commission before the next date of hearing.”*

*“The case has come up for hearing today. The respondents are still absent. Nothing has been heard from them also. According to the appellant the status quo remains despite a communication sent by the appellant to the respondents on 11.01.2019. The Commission takes a serious note of the apathy shown by the respondents. Apparently they have rendered themselves liable for imposition of penalty.*



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**Appeal Case No.3039/2018**

*The PIO – cum – Block Dev. & Panchayat Officer 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 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.”*

The case has come up today for hearing. Sh. Balkar Singh, Panchayat Secretary has come present on behalf of the respondents. He has provided the certified copies of the resolutions passed on 25.04.1993 and 05.09.2013 to the proxy of the appellant on spot. However, this does not meet the complete requisition made in the original application. The respondents are once again advised to give point-wise reply to the appellant without further loss of time. Be it noted that they are already under show cause notice. Any laxity shall follow penal consequences.

To come up on **11.04.2019 at 11.30 AM.**

**12.03.2019**

**Sd/-  
(Yashvir Mahajan)  
State Information Commissioner**



Sh. Sohan Singh,  
S/o Sh. Sucha Singh,  
Village-Bara, PO-Pathreri Jattan,  
Tehsil & Distt. Roopnagar.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer,  
Roopnagar.

Respondent

**Complaint Case No.958/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 18.07.2018              | Nil                           | Nil                               | Nil                          |

**Present:** None on behalf of the Complainant.  
Sh. Ranjit Singh, Panchayat Secretary, BDPO Office, Roopnagar – for Respondent.

**ORDER**

The following order was made by this forum on 05.02.2019:

*“The appellant is seeking a copy of the proceedings book of the gram panchayat of village Bara, Tehsil and District Ropar entailing the record of the meetings held during the period from 01.01.2013 to 17.07.2018 onwards. The details of various grants received and the expenditure incurred with their supporting bills etc. have also been sought.*

*Sh. Ranjit Singh, Panchayat Secretary appearing on behalf of the respondent says that they have provided him the entire information. The perusal of the reply sent suggests that the requisition has been dismissed as unsustainable for the reason of its being in question form.*

*The Commission feels that the provision of record for five years shall be an onerous affair and certainly consume a massive stationery. It shall be in the fitness of things that an inspection of the record is allowed and the complainant is provided with certified copies of the documents he is looking for. The Commission feels that one hundred fifty pages at the most should suffice to serve the public cause. The respondent shall convey him the specific time after mutually arriving at a convenient date and clinch the aforesaid directions.”*

*“The case has come up today. The complainant is absent. Sh. Ranjit Singh,*

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**Complaint Case No.958/2018**

*Panchayat Secretary, appearing on behalf of the respondent says that the appellant did not report despite having been asked on numerous occasions. The respondent is directed to convey him a definite date and time in writing for the inspection of record and provide him the certified copies as already mentioned in the aforesaid order.”*

The case has again come up today for hearing. There is a communication gap between the Parties. Resultantly, the inspection has not matured. The Commission desires that the complainant shall visit the office of the BDPO, Roopnagar on 19.03.2019 at 11.00 AM. The Panchayat Secretary shall make him the record available for inspection and comply with the instructions already issued above.

To come up on **11.04.2019 at 11.30 AM.**

**12.03.2019**

**Sd/-  
(Yashvir Mahajan)  
State Information Commissioner**

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
**RED CROSS BUILDING, SECTOR-16, MADHYA MARG, CHANDIGARH**  
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Email:psic22@punjabmail.gov.in



Sh. Krishan Kumar,  
S/o Shri Ram Partap,  
R/o House No 15,  
Shivalik Vihar, Block D,  
Navagoan, Tehsil Kharar, Distt Mohali.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Deputy Commissioner,  
Mohali.

Respondent

**Complaint Case No.1268/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA | Date of Second Appeal/ Complaint |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 04.10.2018              | Nil                           | Nil                               | Nil                          | 13.12.2018                       |

**Present:** Sh. Krishan Kumar, Complainant in person.  
None on behalf of the Respondents.

**ORDER**

The complainant has filed a complaint. However he is interested in information instead of taking the complaint to logical ends. The original application is remanded back to Sh. Charandev Singh Mann, PCS, First Appellate Authority – cum – Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), SAS Nagar to decide the matter expeditiously in terms of Section 19(1) of the RTI Act after hearing both the parties.

**Disposed.**

12.03.2019

**Sd/-**  
**(Yashvir Mahajan)**  
**State Information Commissioner**

**CC: Sh. Charandev Singh Mann, PCS, First Appellate Authority – cum - Additional Deputy Commissioner (General), SAS Nagar (Mohali) along with photo copy of RTI Application, for n/a.**



Sh. Lakhveer Singh,  
S/o Sh. Jeet Ram,  
Vice President, Dr. Ambedkar Sewa Societies,  
Village Lakhawal Kalan,  
Tehsil-Samrala, Ludhiana.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Block Sri Machhiwara Sahib, Distt. Ludhiana.

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

Respondents

**Appeal Case No.2651/2018**

Date of RTI application: 19.04.2018  
Date of First Appeal : 16.02.2018  
Date of Order of FAA or Reply: Nil  
Date of 2<sup>nd</sup> Appeal/complaint: 03.08.2018

**Present:** **Sh. Lakhveer Singh, Appellant in person.**  
**Sh. Ravi Kumar, Accounts Clerk, BDPO Office, Sri Machhiwara Sahiab – for Respondents.**

**ORDER**

The following order was passed by this forum on 07.02.2019:

*“The appellant has sought information pertaining to various activities of the gram panchayat of village Lakhawal Kalan, Block Machhiwara.*

*Sh. Raghbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary, who is the custodian of the record, in question says that his predecessor has not handed over the record. He further says that the senior functionaries of the Department are in picture. At their behest a criminal case for the loss/malafidely withholding of the official record has been lodged against him. The Commission would like to see a copy of the FIR thus lodged to proceed further in the matter. The respondent Panchayat Secretary is directed to send it across to the Commission before the next date of hearing. Meanwhile, he shall ensure to recast the record to the extent possible and arrange to provide it to the appellant to the extent possible.”*

*“The case has come up today. Sh. Raghbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary maintains that the charge has not been handed over to him and as such the information could not be provided.*

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**Appeal Case No.2651/2018**

*He further says that the BDPO, Sri Machhiwara Sahib was to attend the Court in person to explain the case. However, due to a bereavement in the family, she has not been able to join the proceedings.”*

*“Sh. Raghbir Singh, Panchayat Secretary appearing on behalf of the respondents says that the department is holding an enquiry into the matter. He has brought along information to the extent of 300 plus pages which has been handed over on spot to the appellant. The appellant finds it to be deficient. He should point-out the deficiency in writing to the respondents who shall make it good by providing the rest of the information before the next date of hearing.”*

The case has again come up for hearing today. The appellant says that the copies of the record supplied to him does not reveal the complete details as some of the information has been camouflaged and concealed in making the photo stat copies. He again alleges that there has been embezzlement of the funds. In the scenario the Commission feels that the appellant should be allowed inspection of the record. The BDPO, Sri Machhiwara Sahib shall arrange to get the needful done on 25.03.2019 at 11.00 AM and the respondents shall provide him certified copies of the documents to the extent of 150 pages only besides the ones already provided.

To come up on **11.04.2019 at 11.30 AM.**

**12.03.2019**

**Sd/-  
(Yashvir Mahajan)  
State Information Commissioner**



Shri Gurinder Singh Sekhon,  
S/o Shri Ram Singh Sekhon,  
R/o Village Chibranwali,  
PO Khunan Kalan,  
Tehsil & Distt Sri Muktsar Sahib.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Sri Muktsar Sahib.

Respondent

**Complaint Case No.997/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA | Date of Complaint |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|
| 10.10.2017              | Nil                           | Nil                               | Nil                          | 18.09.2018        |

**Present:** Shri Gurinder Singh Sekhon, Appellant in person.  
Sh. Vijaypal Singh, Panchayat Secretary, BDPO office, Sri Muktsar Sahib – for Respondent.

**Order**

It shall be appropriate to reproduce the following orders passed by this forum on

01.01.2019 and 07.02.2019:

**Order dated 01.01.2019**

*“The complainant had sought to know the detail concerning revenue generated by the Gram Panchayat of village Chibranwali, Tehsil & Distt. Sh. Muktsar Sahib and the expenditure incurred on various development works having been undertaken by it from year 2017 onwards besides other connected information.*

*The respondent is absent. No reply has been filed by him. The Commission takes serious note of the lackadaisical attitude on part of PIO and directs him to provide him the information immediately and explain the inordinate delay in having failed to provide it so far.”*



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**Complaint Case No. 997/2018**

*“The case has come up today. The Commission had expressed its displeasure in the aforementioned observation. However, the respondents have shown scant regard to the same. BDPO apparently has rendered himself liable for penal consequences.*

*The Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib, 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 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.”*

**Order dated 07.02.2019**

*“This should be read in continuation of order passed on 01.01.2019.*

*It is very intriguing that the Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib is maintaining a silence even after issue of a show cause notice. Logically, he should have*

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**Complaint Case No.997/2018**

*been penalized today with other collateral damages. However, in view of the extreme inclement weather today which might have prevented him from travelling, the Commission affords him a last opportunity to show cause as to why the proposed penalty should not be imposed. Meanwhile he shall ensure that the sought for information is supplied without further loss of time."*

The case has again come up for hearing today. Sh. Vijaypal Singh, Panchayat Secretary has been deputed by the incumbent BDPO to attend the proceeding who seeks more time to part with the information. He is directed to ensure that it is provided to the complainant completely without further loss of time.

Meanwhile, the Commission finds that Sh. Hakam Singh, formerly Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib in whose tenure the entire default occurred has seemingly behaved disdainfully to the provisions of law as well as various directions of the Commission. So much so the show cause notice issued to him on 01.01.2019 has gone abegging. No explanation or information was provided by the then BDPO. He is thus guilty of the offence under Section 7(1) of the RTI Act. The original application was filed on 10.10.2017. The delay is substantial and beyond 100 days.

The Commission, thus, exercising its authority under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act imposes a penalty of Rs.25,000/- (Rupees Twenty Five Thousand only) @ of Rs.250/- per day for the 100 days as prescribed in law on Sh. Hakam Singh, formerly Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib which shall be recovered from his salary in five equal installments commencing

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**Complaint Case No.997/2018**

from the month of April, 2019.

The District Development & Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib who is the Drawing & Disbursing Officer shall ensure that the amount of penalty is deducted from his salary and deposited in the government treasury under the head given below:

- 0070-Other Administrative Services
- 60 Other Services
- 800 Other Receipts
- 86 Fee under RTI Act, 2005

A copy of the challan shall be sent to the Commission for record immediately.

The Block Development & Panchayat Officer has shown a grave indiscipline and misconduct in the performance of his duties. The Financial Commissioner to Government, Punjab, Department of Rural Development and Panchayats is hereby desired to charge-sheet him for the aforesaid delinquency and inform the Commission of the action thus initiated.

To come up on **02.05.2019 at 11.30 AM.**

Sd/-

**12.03.2019**

**(Yashvir Mahajan)  
State Information Commissioner**

**CC: The Financial Commissioner to Government, Punjab, Department of Rural Development and Panchayats, Sector – 62, Vikas Bhawan, SAS Nagra ( Mohali ), for n/a.**

**CC: The District Development & Panchayat Officer, Sri Muktsar Sahib, for n/a.**

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Sh. Gian Chand,  
S/o Late Shri Lachhman Das,  
R/o Village Sanghol, Tehsil Khamano,  
Distt Fatehgarh Sahib.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Khamano, Distt Fatehgarh Sahib.

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

Respondents

**Appeal Case No.4313/2018**

| Date of RTI Application | Date of Reply, if any of SPIO | Date of First Appeal made, if any | Date of order, if any of FAA | Date of Second Appeal/ Complaint |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 23.08.2018              | Nil                           | 03.10.2018                        | Nil                          | 13.12.2018                       |

**Present:** Sh. Gian Chand, Appellant in person.  
Sh. Jagtar Singh, Village Dev. Officer, BDPO Office, Khamanon – for Respondents.

**ORDER**

The following order was passed by this forum on 05.02.2019:

*“The appellant had sought copies of resolutions passed by Sh. Manjit Singh, Administrator of gram panchayat of Village Sanghol and the details of expenses incurred by him during the currency of his incumbency.*

*Sh. Hari Chand Sharma, Panchayat Secretary appearing on behalf of the respondents has brought along the information which has been handed over to the appellant in the Court itself. He is satisfied with the same. However, a copy of the letter vide which reportedly a requisition of an amount of Rs.10 lacs was made by the Additional Deputy Commissioner (Dev.), Fatehgarh Sahib has not been provided. The respondents should also provide the same before the next date of hearing positively.”*

The case has come up today. Sh. Jagtar Singh, VDO appearing on behalf of the respondents has brought along a copy of the letter as mentioned in the aforesaid order which has been handed over on spot to the appellant. The appellant is satisfied. No further action is called for.

**Disposed.**

**Sd/-**

**12.03.2019**

**(Yashvir Mahajan)**  
**State Information Commissioner**