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Helpline No.:0172-2864116(10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Tejinder Singh, Advocate Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside Sanjh Kendra, Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer-cum-

O/o Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority (GLADA), Ludhiana.

Public Information Officer

O/o Chief Administrator, Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority (GLADA), Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.406 of 2021

Present: (i) Shri Tejinder Singh, Appellant in person.

(ii) None on behalf of the PIO O/o GLADA, Ludhiana.

ORDER:

(Heard through cisco webex)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.09.2021 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. Shri Tejinder Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that no information has been supplied to him in spite of the fact that he had been asked to deposit Rs.190/- as fee for supply of information.
- 3. Neither the PIO O/o GLADA, Ludhiana has come present nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. Shri Sumit Singla, Sr. Assistant who had attended the previous hearing, is contacted on phone. There has been no response from him. The Bench also peruses the case file and finds that a letter dated 24.09.2021 is available in the case file stating therein that information is being denied as only such information is required to be supplied which already exists and is held by the public authority and CPIO is not supposed to create information or interpret the information.



-2-

AC No.406 of 2021

4. The Bench on perusing the RTI application of the appellant observes that the information sought by the appellant is in the public interest. However, the PIO has denied the same and has also not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex and has also not filed reply to the show cause notice in compliance with the directions of the Bench.

5. The facts of the case prove beyond any doubt that the PIO/Respondent does not deserve any leniency. Hence, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, a penalty to the tune of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) is imposed upon PIO, GLADA, Ludhiana to be deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head. The Drawing & Disbursing Officer concerned is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs.5,000/- from the salary of the PIO and deposit the same in State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission before the next hearing:-

- 0070-Other Administrative Services - 60-Other Services-

-0800-Other Receipts- 86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005.

- 6. The PIO is also directed to supply complete information to the appellant and file reply to the Show Cause Notice as also produce evidence for having deposited the penalty in the State Treasury, before the next date of hearing. The PIO is further directed to ensure to come present before the Bench in person on the next hearing.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 21.02.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Public Information Officer, O/o Greater Ludhiana Area Development Authority(GLADA), Ludhiana.



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Shri Tejinder Singh, Editor India's Justice, Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside Sanjh Kender, Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Ropar

First Appellate Authority-cum-

O/o Deputy Director, Local Bodies, Ludhiana.

....Respondents

AC No.2982 of 2020

Versus

Present: (i) Shri Tejinder Singh, Appellant.

(ii) Shri Navtej Singh, Computer Operator, M.C. Ropar in person,

on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Heard through cisco webex)

- **1.** This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.09.2021 passed by the Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Tejinder Singh, the appellant comes present through cisco webex.
- 3. Shri Navtej Singh, Computer Operator, comes present in person on behalf of the PIO O/o Executive Officer, MC, Ropar. He states that the appellant has been sent information vide letter dated 02.07.2021 by registered post as well as by e.mail.
- 4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he has received information on point No.2 and he has sent deficiencies on points No.1, 3 & 4 vide his letter dated 21.09.2021. He further states that he had also contacted the Executive Officer Shri Bhajan Chand on phone to whom he has apprised of the deficiencies and that Shri Bhajan Chand, Executive Officer had assured him to send the information after removing the deficiencies. He has, however, not received the rectified information so far.



-2- AC No.2982 of 2020

- 5. The Bench directs the PIO to supply information to the appellant after removing the deficiencies as also to ensure to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 08.03.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab





Shri Tejinder Singh, Advocate Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside Sanjh Kendra, Phillaur, District Jalandhar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer-cum-O/o Municipal Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

Public Information Officer-cum-O/o Commissioner, O/o Municipal Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No.407 of 2021

Present: (i) Shri Tejinder Singh, Appellant.

> None on behalf of the PIO. (ii)

ORDER:

(Heard through cisco webex)

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.09.2021 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- The case has been heard today in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Tejinder Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that no information has been received by him in spite of his reminder dated 21.07.2021 also given to the PIO.
- 3. Neither the PIO O/o Municipal Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has come present to attend the hearing nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO. He was also not present during the hearings dated 05.04.2021 and 20.09.2021. As the PIO has failed to supply information to the appellant even after a lapse of more than one year, a show cause notice was issued on the previous hearing, to which no reply has been filed by the PIO. The Bench observes that the PIO has been adopting casual approach towards the directions of the Bench. This indifferent and lackadaisical attitude of the PIO is viewed adversely.

Cont..P-2



-2- <u>AC No.407/2021</u>

4. The facts of the case prove beyond any doubt that the PIO/Respondent does not deserve any leniency. Hence, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, a penalty to the tune of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) is imposed upon PIO/Municipal Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar to be deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head. The Drawing & Disbursing Officer concerned is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs.5,000/- from the salary of the PIO and deposit the same in State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission before the next hearing:-

- 0070-Other Administrative Services 60-Other Services-
- -0800-Other Receipts- 86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005.
- 5. The PIO is also directed to supply complete information to the appellant and file reply to the Show Cause Notice as also produce evidence for having deposited the penalty in the State Treasury, before the next date of hearing. The PIO is further directed to ensure to come present before the Bench in person on the next hearing.
- 6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 08.03.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 21.12.2021 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Public Information Officer O/o Municipal Town Planner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.



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Shri Veeru Singh, S/o Shri Dolla Singh, Village Ladhuka, Tehsil & Distirct Fazilka.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer (BDPO), Jalalabad, District Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer (BDPO), Jalalabad, District Fazilka.

...Respondents

AC No.4068/2021

Present: (i) Shri Veeru Singh, Appellant.

(ii) None on behalf of PIO O/o BDPO Fazilka.

ORDERR

(Heard through cisco webex)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 10.03.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 07.05.2021and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 08.09.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.12.2021 in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Veeru Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has not been provided any information so far.
- 3. Neither the PIO has come present in person nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing before the Bench or through cisco webex. The Bench observes that a letter dated 12.10.2021 is available in the case file whereby the BDPO Jalalabad has directed the Panchayat Secretary-cum-PIO, Gram Panchayat, Ladhuka to supply information to the appellant and also to attend the hearing. He has, however, failed to supply information as also to attend the hearing before the Bench in person.

 Cont...P-2

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AC No.4068/2021

4. The indifferent attitude of the PIO is viewed adversely. As such, the PIO/Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Ladhuka, Block Jalalabad, District Fazilka, is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and for not complying with the directions of the Bench. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by her in getting the information.

-2-

- 5. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next 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.
- 6. The PIO is directed to ensure to supply information to the appellant before the next hearing. The BDPO Jalalabad is also directed to ensure that the PIO Gram Panchayat, Ladhuka supplies the information to the appellant before the next hearing.
- 7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 08.03.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Public Information Officer Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Ladhuka, District Fazilka.



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Shri Jasveer Singh, S/o Shri Joginder Singh, Village Megha Panj Grain Hithar, Tehsil Guruharsahai, District Ferozepur.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer (DDPO), Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority

O/o The Director, Rural Development and Panchayat Department, Punjab, Punjab, Mohali.

...Respondents

AC No.4065/2021

Present: (i) Appellant- absent.

(ii) None on behalf of PIO O/o DDPO Ferozepur.

ORDERR

- 1. The RTI application is dated 23.03.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 10.05.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 07.09.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.12.2021 in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Jasveer Singh, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex.
- 3. The PIO O/o DDPO, Ferozepur has also not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing.
- 4. In the absence of appellant as well as the PIO, the Bench is unable to proceed further in the matter and as such, deems it appropriate to adjourn the matter.

Cont...P-2



-2- <u>AC No.4065/2021</u>

5. In view of the above, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 08.03.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab



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Shri Kuldeep Singh, Sohiya Road, Ramgarh Colony, Ward NO.7, Sangrur.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director General, School Education, Punjab, Vidya Bhawan)(PSEB Complex), Phase-8, Mohali.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary to Govt. of Punjab, Department of School Education, Punjab Civil Secretariat-2, Sector-9, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

AC No.4057/2021

Present: (i) Shri Kuldeep Singh, Appellant.

(ii) None on behalf of PIO

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 23.03.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 08.07.2021and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 07.09.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.12.2021 in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Kuldeep Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that he had made a complaint dated 01.11.2020 against the DEO (SE), Sangrur Shri Malkit Singh and has sought the copies of documents related with the enquiry conducted in this regard and copies of documents relating to another enquiry against one Shri Gurmeet Singh in response to his letter dated 05.11.2021 as also the action taken report on his letter dated 15.03.2021. He states that the said enquiries have been completed. He further states that he had also filed First Appeal in this regard, but he has not been provided the requisite information sought by him.

Cont..P-2



AC No.4057/2021

-2-

3. The PIO O/o Director General, School Education, Punjab has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor he has deputed any of his representatives to

attend the hearing.

4. The Bench observes that the RTI application of the appellant is dated 20.03.2021 and

the first appeal is dated 08.07.2021 and in spite of the lapse of eight months, the appellant has not

been supplied any information and the PIO has not complied with the directions of the Bench.

5. The indifferent attitude of the PIO is viewed adversely. As such, the PIO, O/o Director

General, School Education, Punjab, Mohali is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and

as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in

the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and for not supplying information to the appellant.

He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not

be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by her in getting the information.

6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1)

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

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

the opportunity of personal hearing on the next 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.

7. The PIO is also directed to ensure to supply information to the appellant before the

next hearing as also to ensure to come present before the Bench in person on the next hearing.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on

09.02.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the

orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Public Information Officer, O/o Director General, School Education, Punjab, Mohali.



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Shri Sandeep Kumar, Advocate Chamber No. 182, Block-C, District Courts, Gurdaspur.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Deputy Secretary (RTI Cell), Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd. (PSPCL), Patiala.

First Appellate Authority-cum-

Chief Engineer, Technical Audit & Inspection, Punjab State Power Corporation Ltd., (PSPCL), Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.4067/2021

Present: (i) Shri Dinesh Mahajan on behalf of Shri Sandeep Kumar, Appellant.

(ii) Shri Dharamvir Kamal, Sr.XEN, Technical Audit & Inspection, PSPCL, Patiala, on behalf of PIO, in person.

ORDER

(Heard in person/through cisco webex)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 12.03.2021 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 20.04.2021and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 08.09.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 21.12.2021 in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Dinesh Mahajan, comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex on behalf of the appellant.
- 3. The PIO O/o Superintending Engineer/TA(Elect.), PSPCL, Patiala comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and produces before the Bench authority letter to appear for the hearing, which is taken on record. He states that the information sought by the appellant relates to three different branches who have supplied information to the appellant, as mentioned in letter dated 03.12.2021 of S.E. (Elect.), PSPCL, Patiala, vide letters 15.04.2021, 05.04.2021, 23.04.2021 and 05.08.2021.

PSIC USSU

AC No.4067/2021

4. On the asking of the Bench, the representative of appellant states that the appellant has sought information about one Gagan Bhaskar, AEE, PSPCL, Amritsar, against whom a number of enquiries are pending. In spite of enquiries pending against him, he has been posted on the seats having public dealing. The information sought is in the public interest and the appellant has been denied information on the plea that it is third party information and is not covered under Section 2(f) of

-2-

5. On perusal of the RTI application and the reply of the PIO as also hearing the version of the representative of PIO, the Bench observes that the information sought is in order and thus, the reply given by the PIO is not justified. The Bench directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The appellant, after inspecting the records, will identify the information as required by him and the same will be provided to the appellant by the PIO before the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 08.03.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh 21.12.2021

RTI Act.

(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma, (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab