PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN, SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.



Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

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Helpline No.: 0172-2864100 (From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Jasbir Singh

S/o Shri Joginder Singh R/o VPO Ghanie-Ke-Banger, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur.

.....Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o The Director, State Transport, Punjab Sector-17, Chandigarh.

...Respondents

CC No.449/2020

Present: (i) Shri Jasbir Singh, Complainant

(ii) Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant O/o Director, State Transport, Punjab, Chandigarh in person before the Bench.

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 22.11.2019 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed in the Commission on 20.07.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 23.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Gurdaspur.
- 3. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Gurdaspur. Shri Jasbir Singh, complainant comes present to attend the hearing. He states that he has not been provided any information as yet.
- 4. Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant, O/o Director, State Transport, Punjab, Chandigarh comes present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that they have already written to the General Manager, Punjab Roadways, Batala to provide the requisite information to the complainant. He also states that an official from the O/o G.M. Punjab Roadways, Batala is present in the V.C. along with the requisite information.



-2- <u>CC No.449/2020</u>

- 5. On the asking of the Bench, Shri Gagandeep Singh, Clerk who has come to attend the hearing through V.C. in pursuance of the letter from the office of Director, State Transport, Punjab, states that he has brought along the information as asked for in the instant complaint case. On the directions of Bench, Shri Gagandeep Singh hands over the same to the complainant during the hearing.
- 6. In view of the above, no further action is called for in the matter. **The complaint case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 23.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

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Shri Sukhchain Singh

Sonam Mohalla, Fatehgarh Churian, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur.

..... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Executive Officer,

Municipal Council, Fatehgarh Churian

District Gurdaspur.

...Respondents

CC No.432/2020

Present: (i) Shri Sukhchain Singh, Complainant

(ii) Shri Ramesh Kumar, Inspector/APIO, M.C. Fatehgarh Churian, District Gurdaspur on behalf of PIO.

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 22.11.2019 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed in the Commission on 20.07.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 23.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Gurdaspur.
- 3. Shri Sukchain Singh, complainant comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. in DC Office, Gurdaspur. He states that he had received a letter from the PIO asking him to deposit Rs.5566/- as fee for supply of information. He, however, sought justification for the fee demanded vide his letter dated 28.02.2020.
- 4. Sh.Ramesh Kumar, Inspector O/o M.C. Fatehgarh Churian, District Gurdaspur comes present. He states that the appellant was sent the break up of Rs.5566/demanded as fee for supply of information. However, the same has not been deposited by the complainant and hence, no information has been supplied. The complainant states that the demand for fee was made by the PIO after a delay beyond acceptable limits.



CC No.432/2020

5. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the information asked for is voluminous and decides that the appellant will visit the office of PIO who will allow the appellant access to the relevant official records. The appellant will inspect the records and identify the information he requires. The PIO will provide the information so identified by the appellant on payment of prescribed charges.

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6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 07.12.2020 at 11.30 AM through V.C. in DC Office, Gurdaspur. Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 23.09.2020

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

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Shri Sukhwinder Singh

S/o Shri Banta Singh, Village Dhupsarhi, PO Govt. Multi-specialist College, Tehsil Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur.

..... Complainant

Public Information Officer

O/o Sr. Superintendent of Police, Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur.

Remanded Back:

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Superintendent of Police (HQs),

Batala, District Gurdaspur.

...Respondents

CC No.505/2020

Versus

Present: (i) Complainant – absent.

(ii) Shri Harpal Singh, Sub-Inspector, P.S. Civil Lines, Batala,

District Gurdaspur on behalf of PIO.

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 26.12.2019 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed in the Commission on 04.08.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 23.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Gurdaspur.
- 3. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Gurdaspur. Shri Sukhwinder Singh, complainant has not come present to attend the hearing.
- 4. Shri Harpal Singh, Sub Inspector O/o P.S. Civil Lines, Batala, District Gurdaspur comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO. He states that the information has been supplied to the complainant including copy of the compromise reached between the parties. He also states that the document showing the signatures of complainant is available with them.
- 5. Since the complainant is absent, he is contacted on mobile phone. He states that partial information has been received by him. He denies that any compromise has been

Cont..P-2



-2- CC No.505/2020

reached between the parties. He further states that he has been called to Police Lines for making a statement at 2.00 PM today.

- 6. On perusal of case file, the Bench observes that the information asked for by the complainant relates to action taken on some complaints received by Police Station, Civil Lines, Batala and the same has been provided to the complainant, but the complainant is not satisfied with the same. It is further ascertained that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant.
- 7. It must be noted that there is an alternate and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act. It appears that the complainant has failed to avail the same in the instant complaint case.

- 8. In view of the aforesaid, the instant matter is remanded to the First Appellate Authority i.e. Superintendent of Police (HQs), Batala, District Gurdaspur. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal with Punjab State Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 9. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 23.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

Superintendent of Police (HQs), Batala, Distt. Gurdaspur, First Appellate Authority.

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Shri Sanjeev Goyal

S/o Shri Ashok Kumar, H.No.148, Model Town, Phase-I, Near TV Tower, Bathinda.

..... Complainant

Public Information Officer

O/o Regional Transport Authority, Bathinda.

Remanded Back:

First Appellate Authority, Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Bathinda.

...Respondents

CC No.483/2020

Versus

Present: (i) Shri Sanjeev Goyal, Complainant.

(ii) Shri Harivansh, Data Entry Operator, O/o Secretary, R.T.A.

Bathinda on behalf of PIO.

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 16.06.2020 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed in the Commission on 29.07.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 23.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Bathinda.
- 3. The case has been heard today through V.C. in DC Office, Bathinda. Shri Sanjeev Goyal, complainant comes present to attend the hearing. The complainant states that the information sought by him has not been provided as yet.
- 4. Shri Harivansh, Data Entry Operator, O/o Secretary, R.T.A. Bathinda comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO. He states that the information sought by the complainant is voluminous and seeks some time to provide the same.



-2- CC No.483/2020

5. On perusal of RTI application of the complainant, the Bench observes that the information asked for by the complainant is quite voluminous. It is also ascertained that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant.

- 6. It must be noted that there is an alternate and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act. It appears that the complainant has failed to avail the same in the instant complaint case.
- 7. In view of the aforesaid, the instant matter is remanded to the First Appellate Authority i.e. Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Bathinda. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal with Punjab State Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh 23.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

First Appellate Authority/Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Bathinda.

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Shri Anil Kumar Singh, Advocate

Office: Bus Stand, Rahon.

District S.B.S. Nagar(Nawanshahar)

.....Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Municipal Council, Rahon, Distt. S.B.S. Nagar (Nawanshahar)

...Respondents

CC No.434/2020

Present: (i) Shri Anil Kumar Singh, Complainant

(ii) Shri Rajiv Sareen, Executive Officer/PIO, Municipal Council, Rahon, District S.B.S. Nagar (Nawanshahar).

ORDER

- The RTI application is dated 23.05.2020 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed in the Commission on 13.07.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 23.09.2020 by the Commission through Video Conferencing facility in the office of D.C. Nawanshahar.
- 3. Shri Anil Kumar Singh, complainant comes present to attend the hearing. He states that in pursuance of his RTI application, the PIO sent him letter dated 04.06.2020 asking for the deposit of Rs.88/- for the information to be supplied. He visited the office of Municipal Council, Rahon to deposit the said amount, but he was put to a lot of harassment by the Clerks of Municipal Council and the amount was not accepted from him on one pretext or the other and the provision of information is being delayed intentionally.
- 4. Shri Rajiv Sareen, Executive Officer/PIO, Municipal Council, Rahon, District Nawanshahar comes present to attend the hearing. The PIO refutes the charges levelled on



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CC No.434/2020

them by the complainant and further states that the concerned Clerk has accompanied him and is present for the hearing. The Clerk also denies all charges leveled by the complainant. The PIO further elaborates that entire information in the related case is here with him and they have also brought along the receipt book and as such, the amount due of Rs.88/- from the complainant will be accepted and information supplied now during the hearing. It is complainant who is denying acceptance of information and unnecessarily harassing the officials of Municipal Council, Rahon.

- 5. Post deliberations on the case, the Bench advises the complainant to pay the amount and accept the information during the hearing in a congenial manner.
- 6. In view of the above, no further cause of action is left in the matter. **The**Complaint case is disposed off and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 23.09.2020 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab