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Sh. Harjinder Singh

Village Saddo Majra, Navi Abadi, Block Khera, PO-Saidpura, Distt. Sri Fatehgarh Sahib-140406 (M:9888809833)

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer,

O/o Block Development & Panchayat Officer, Khera Distt. Sri Fatehgarh Sahib

First Appellate Authority

O/o District Development & Panchayat Officer, Distt. Sri Fatehgarh Sahib

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5958 of 2023

Present : None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Rajinder Kumar (9876807968) on behalf of the respondent.

Vs

<u>ORDER</u>

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 06.11.2024.

- 2. The respondent submits that the complete information as available in the record has already been supplied to the appellant and nothing more is available on record which could be supplied to the appellant. With regard to the compensation amounting to Rs. 5,000/-, the respondent requested for an adjournment in this case. Accordingly, the case is adjourned with the directions to the respondent PIO to pay the compensation to the appellant amounting to Rs. 5,000/- out of State Exchequer before the next date of hearing, failing which punitive action will be initiated against the concerned respondent PIO.
- 3. To come up on **30.01.2025 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

Date:08.01.2025 G

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Ms. Jaspreet Kaur,

House No. 2716, Sunny Enclave, Sector-125, Kharar, Distt. SAS Nagar (Mohali), (M:9465166252)

.....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer-cum

Superintendent O/o Chairman, SSS Board, Forest Complex, Sector-68, SAS Nagar (Mohali)

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chairman, SSS Board, Forest Complex, Sector-68, SAS Nagar (Mohali)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3975 of 2024

Present : Ms. Jaspreet Kaur, the appellant.

Sh. Arun Kumar, Superintendent (9779740797) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 06.11.2024.

- 2. The respondent handed over the information to the appellant during the course of hearing. However, the appellant submits that the information supplied by the respondent pertains to Point No.1 and nothing has been supplied by the respondent with regard to Point No. 2 to 5. The respondent further submits that he has recently joined and requested for an adjournment in this case to file the written submissions with regard to Point No. 2 to 5 of the RTI application.
- 3. It is also a fact that a show cause notice, which was issued to Sh. Jaswant Singh, PIOcum-Superintendent and the decision of the same will be taken on the next date of hearing.
- 4. To come up on 13.03.2025 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

Date:08.01.2025 G

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Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu

S/o Sh. Jagdev Singh R/o #236, Sector-21 A, Chandigarh (M:9815355655)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Secretary Personnel Punjab Civil Secretariat Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Secretary Personnel, Govt. of Punjab (PP-2), Punjab Civil Secretariat Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

Present: Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu, the appellant.

Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant (8556849806) on behalf of the

respondent.

ORDER

This case may be read with reference to the previous order dated 19.12.2024.

2. The respondent submits that a letter was issued to Sh. B.C. Gupta, Additional & Session Judge ,Retired, who was brought on the panel of Inquiry Officers to conduct inquiries, under the Punjab Civil Services (Punishment and Appeal) Act/Rules 1970 by the Punjab Government to provide the details of pending/decided inquiries from 01.01.2020 to 30.06.2023. She further submits that in response to the letter issued by the Government to Sh. B.C. Gupta, he has filed the reply, the relevant portion of which is as follows:

"Kindly refer to your letters dated 27.11.2024 followed by reminders dated 17.12.2022 and 20.12.2022 intimating that Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu, Additional Registrar filed an appeal No. 5731 of 2024 before the Hon'ble State Commission for information in which it was stated that Sh. Harinder Singh sought following information from the Government.

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Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

- 1) Number of enquiries marked and pending with Sh. B.C. Gupta, Additional District and Sessions Judge (Retd.) on the panel of Punjab Government from:
 - a) 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020
 - b) 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021
 - c) 01.01.2022 to 31.12.2022
 - d) 01.01.2023 to 30.06.2023
- 2) Number of enquiries decided by Sh. B.C. Gupta, Additional District and Sessions Judge (Retd.) on the panel of Punjab Government from:
 - a) 01.01.2020 to 31.12.2020
 - b) 01.01.2021 to 31.12.2021
 - c) 01.01.2022 to 31.12.2022
 - d) 01.01.2023 to 30.06.2023

I was required by the Personnel Branch of the Personnel Department of the State of Punjab to supply this information to the Government, so that the same could be supplied to the Hon'ble Commission. It is not known as to when the original application was moved by Sh. Harinder Singh and what was the decision of that application against which an appeal has been preferred by him.

The Right to Information Act was enacted by the Parliament for setting up the practical regime of Right to Information for citizens to secure assess of information under the control of public authorities and for matters connected therewith are incidental thereto and that, in Section 2 of

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Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

the Act, appropriate Government has been defined as Central or State Government and information means any material in any form including records, documents etc. as mentioned in Section 2(f) of the Act and public authority has been defined in Section 2(h) of the Act. The record has been defined in Section 2(i) of the Act and the Right to Information has been defined in Section 2(j) of the Act.

In Section 4 of the Act, public authority has been required to maintain record due catalogued an indexed in a manner as prescribed and only public authority as defined in Section 2(h) is required to maintain this record. As and when, an application is moved every public authority shall supply the information to the applicant within the prescribed period and only that information can be supplied which is not exempt under Section 8 of the Act.

I may bring to the notice of the Government that the undersigned after retirement was brought on the panel of Enquiry Officers to conduct enquiries under the Punishment and Appeal Rules, 1970 and these enquiries are entrusted to the Enquiry Officers in the panel by the punishing authority Le. by the Administrative Secretaries or Heads of the Departments and the enquiries are required to be completed within a period of three months from the date of entrustment. According to the letter dated 09.08.2017 issued by the Personnel Department, secretarial assistance as well as a place to conduct day to day proceedings/hearings in the enquiries shall be made available to the Enquiry Officers by the concerned department and the secretarial assistance includes stationary, computer, computer operator and all documents, so that no difficulty is felt by the Enquiry Officer in conducting the enquiry.

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Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

I may submit that under the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Enquiry Officer does not come within the definition of public authority and the information sought is not covered under the definition of information under Section 2(f) of the Act. Only in that information can be supplied which is covered under Section 2(f) of the Act and public authority is required to maintain the record as prescribed in Rule 2(f) of the Act. I have very carefully gone through the provisions of the Act and the Enquiry Officer who has retired from service does not come within the definition of public authority and that the information sought by Sh. Harinder Singh is also not covered under Section 2(f) of the Act.

I may submit that though the Enquiry Officers conducted the enquiries as and when entrusted by the punishing authority and after the completion of the enquiry, the whole original record is sent to the punishing authority alongwith the file and even, the original letter entrusting the enquiry is returned by the Enquiry Officer. It may be submitted that, no clerk, no peon, computer operator, computer stationary or any other article is provided to the Enquiry Officer by the Government and even, the pen/stationary etc. is used by the Enquiry Officer. As no secretarial assistance is provided to the Enquiry Officer and therefore, no record of the enquiries entrusted or decided by the Enquiry Officer is maintained. The whole record of the enquiries is available with the punishing authority and therefore, I am unable to provide any information as sought by Sh. Harinder Singh, Additional RCS, Punjab.

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Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

I have a vague memory that this information was also sought earlier 2-3 years back but, no such letter is available with me nor such information was supplied and hence, the Commission may kindly be informed accordingly. I may state that the Ld. Additional Chief Secretary, Punjab Co-operative Department entrusted three regular enquiries to the undersigned for conducting regular enquiries in respect of various allegations as contained in the charge-sheets on 30.10.2019, 16.12.2019, 30.10.2019. The evidence has been recorded in all the three enquiries and Sh. Harinder Singh has also submitted written defence version. However, the enquiry reports could not be submitted because the Hon'ble High Court in CM No. 5797-CWP of 2020 in CWP No. 598 of 2020 vide order dated 06.07.2020 required the Enquiry Officer to continue with the enquiries but final decision shall not be taken till the next date of hearing and that the stay of the Hon'ble High Court is still continuing though, now, it is 2025. I am unable to submit reports in all the three enquiries though, only arguments remain to be addressed by the PO and charged officer Sh. Harinder Singh, Additional RCS (since retired). I am mentioning this fact because it is evident from the letter that the application for information was given by Sh. Harinder Singh, Additional RCS, who is quite intelligent and well aware of the proceedings pending with me.

It is requested that the Hon'ble Commission may kindly be apprised the above mentioned facts."

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Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

- 3. After hearing the submissions made by the respondent, the appellant placed on record a copy of Government instructions bearing number 3/54/91-2પીપી2/**પ.ਫ**.2013/216 dated 20.12.2019 issued by the Personnel Department (Personnel Policy-2 Branch) and the relevant portion of same is as follows:
 - "2. ਇੱਕ ਪੜਤਾਲੀਆ ਅਫਸਰ ਨੂੰ ਇੱਕ ਕਲੰਡਰ ਸਾਲ ਵਿੱਚ 20 ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਪੜਤਾਲਾਂ ਨਹੀਂ ਦਿੱਤੀਆਂ ਜਾ ਸਕਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ। ਜੇਕਰ ਅਲੱਗ-ਅਲੱਗ ਵਿਭਾਗਾਂ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਕਿਸੇ ਪੜਤਾਲੀਆ ਅਫਸਰ ਕੋਲ 20 ਪੜਤਾਲਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਵੱਧ ਪੜਤਾਲਾਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋ ਜਾਂਦੀਆਂ ਹਨ ਤਾਂ ਪੜਤਾਲੀਆ ਅਵਸਰ ਦੀ ਜਿੰਮੇਵਾਰੀ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਕਿ ਉਹ ਹੋਰ ਪੜਤਾਲ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਰ ਨਾ ਕਰਨ।
 - 3. ਇਹ ਪੱਤਰ ਵਿੱਤ ਵਿਭਾਗ ਦੇ ਅ .ਵਿ.ਪੰ.ਨੰ:21/159/2008-3ਵਿਪ2/249 ਮਿਤੀ 28.11.2019 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਪ੍ਰਵਾਨਗੀ ਦੇ ਸਨਮੁੱਖ ਜਾਰੀ ਕੀਤਾ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈਂ
 - 4. ਇਹ ਫੈਸਲਾ ਪੱਤਰ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ ਲਾਗੂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਜਿਹੜੀਆ ਪੜਤਾਲਾਂ ਇਸ ਪੱਤਰ ਦੇ ਜਾਰੀ ਹੋਣ ਦੀ ਮਿਤੀ ਤੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਤੋਂ ਪੜਤਾਲੀਆ ਅਕਸਰ ਕੋਲ ਪੈਡਿੰਗ ਹਨ , ਉਹਨਾਂ ਤੇ ਇਹ ਵਾਧਾ ਲਾਗੂ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ। ਉਹਨਾਂ ਕੇਸਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਮਾਨਕੋਟਾ ਮਿਤੀ 29 ਜਨਵਰੀ, 2015 ਵਾਲੀਆ ਹਦਾਇਤਾਂ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਹੀ ਮਿਲਣਯੋਗ ਹੋਵੇਗਾ।"
- 4. The appellant further submits that the mandate of RTI Act, 2005 is transparency and accountability and requested that the directions may be issued to supply the information which is in 'Larger Public Interest' as no Inquiry Officer can be given more than 20 inquiries in a calendar year and in case he has received more than 20 inquiries then it is responsibility of the inquiry officer not to receive the same.
- 5. After hearing the contentions made by the appellant, the respondent requested for an adjournment in this case as Sh. B.C.Gupta was appointed as Inquiry Officer by the Personnel Department.
- 6. To come up on 19.02.2025 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.

Date:08.01.2025

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu

S/o Sh. Jagdev Singh R/o #236, Sector-21 A, Chandigarh (M:9815355655)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Secretary Personnel Punjab Civil Secretariat Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Secretary Personnel, Govt. of Punjab (PP-2), Punjab Civil Secretariat Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5732 of 2024

Present : Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu, the appellant .

Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant (8556849806) on behalf of the

respondent.

ORDER

This case may be read with reference to the previous order dated 19.12.2024.

- 2. Both the parties amicably requested for an adjournment in this case. Accordingly, the case is adjourned.
- 3. To come up on 19.02.2025 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.

Date:08.01.2025

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

G

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Sh. Sandeep Kumar

#3035, Street No. 7, Guru Nanak Colony, Near Sharma Colony, Tarn Taran Road, Amritsar (M:9261330007)

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar

First Appellate Authority O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar

.....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5571 of 2023 Heard through Video Conference

Vs

Present : Sh. Sandeep Kumar, the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

<u>ORDER</u>

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.11.2024.

- 2. The appellant made the submissions that the directions may be issued to the respondent PIO to supply the complete information in this case. However, the respondent PIO is absent without intimation.
- 3. Viewing the attitude in dealing with the RTI application by the respondent in a casual manner, Sh. Navkirat Singh Randhawa, District Revenue Officer-cum-Public Information Officer, is, thus, issued a show cause notice, by name, to explain in a self-attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to a maximum of Rs.25000/- 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 to show cause why a compensation under section 19(8) of the RTI Act,2005, may not be paid to the appellant for causing willful delay/denial of the information for detriment suffered by him.

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Appeal Case No. 5571 of 2023 Heard through Video Conference

In addition to the written reply, the Public Information Officer 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 a note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission will proceed ex-parte.

- 4. The respondent PIO is also directed to provide the names and designation of SA/Supdt. (custodian of record) from the date of RTI application i.e. 24.04.2023.
- 5. In the interest of natural justice, again, a copy of this order is **being sent** to Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar to ensure the presence of the concerned PIO. It is also clarified that in case of defiance of this order, the presence of the concerned Public Information Officer will be procured by issuing **BAILABLE WARRANTS** and/or disciplinary action may be recommended in this case to the competent authority as per the procedure established by the Law.
- 6. To come up on 03.07.2025 at 11:30 A. M. through Video Conference Facility available at the office of Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.

Date:08.01.2025

G

(Inderpal Singh) Chief Information Commissioner Punjab

CC:

Ms. Sakshi Sawhney, IAS Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar

Sh. Navkirat Singh Randhawa Public Information Officer, Cum District Revenue Officer O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar

Encl. RTI Application

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Sh. Jasdev Inder Singh

S/o Sh. Jaswant Singh R/o House No. 254, Urban Estate-1, Patiala-147002 (M:9717887178)

.....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer,

O/o Regional Transport Authority, Patiala

First Appellate Authority

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Punjab, Sector-17, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3912 of 2024

Present: Sh. Jasdev Inder Singh, the appellant.

Sh. Dharamveer, Senior Assistant (9988101181) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 15.03.2024 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 22.04.2024 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 07.06.2024 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 08.01.2025.

- 2. The appellant submits that a vehicle bearing number PB11K1111 was issued to his Cielo Car, which was later on swapped to his new vehicle. The appellant also submits that due to an accident he swapped the registration number and further made the request to correct the online record which is still showing that the registration number PB11K1111 is allotted to the Cielo Car instead of his new vehicle. He further submits that he has given a request dated 14.02.2023 to correct the online record and has sought the information as to what action has been taken by the respondent in this regard. However, the respondent requested for an adjournment in this case to file the written reply/supply the information with regard to the request of the appellant dated 14.02.2023.
- 3. Both the parties are directed to remain present on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which case will be decided on merit, ex-parte.
- 4. To come up on **27.02.2025 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

Date:08.01.2025

G

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Sh. Rajwinder Singh, S/o Sh. Kuldeep Singh,(9872821947) House No.26-Nagar Nigam Colony, O/s Gilwali Gate, Tehsil and District Amritsar-1. 143001. RTI Application No. 72578.

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o Deputy Commissioner of Police,
Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.6051 of 2023

V/s

Present: None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 21.06.2023 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 27.07.2023 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 15.09.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.08.01.2025.

- 2. The appellant is absent but has requested to provide the point wise reply/information and also requested to list this case through video conference. However, the respondent is absent but sent the written submission to adjourn the case due to bus strike in the State as the Police Personnel are busy. Also, the respondent sent the written submissions bearing No.7039 dated 26.12.2024 that the appellant has sought the information pertaining to his complaints bearing no. 2398-COP dated 22.11.2022 and 2449-COP dated 06.12.2022, etc., vide online application no. 72578 in the titled case i.e. AC No. 6051 of 2023." It is also a fact that the appellant filed another RTI application No.73069 (6052/2023) which is also listed for hearing today in which the appellant has also sought the action taken on complaint Nos. 2398 dated 28.11.2022 and 2449 dated 06.12.2022. Also, it is a fact that the appellant sought the information regarding his complaints in which the appellant filed the second appeal bearing no. 4653 of 2023 in which he has sought the action taken on application nos. 2398 dated 28.11.2022 and 2449 dated 06.12.2022 which is pending for adjudication before SIC Sh. Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal. Also, it is a fact that while filling the appeal cases the appellant filed an undertaking that the matter under appeal/complaint has not been previously filed or pending or decided by any of the State Information Commission, Punjab.
- 3. Since, the subject matter of the RTI application, appellant and the respondent public authority remained the same, therefore, a copy of this order is being sent to the Registry Branch to transfer the Appeal Case No. 4653 of 2023 to this bench so that the same can be listed along with this case and adjudicated accordingly.

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- 4. Keeping in view the above, the presence of the appellant in person, is essential, so he is directed to remain present on the next date of hearing, in person, as the act and conduct of the appellant is not sustainable in the eyes of law rather a stringent action has to be taken for filling a misleading facts in the Commission as per the procedure established by the law.
- 5. With this, the case is <u>adjourned to 02nd April, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at Chandigarh.</u>

Dated: 08th January, 2025 R.S Sd/-(Inderpal Singh) Chief Information Commissioner Punjab

CC:

Deputy Registrar of PSIC

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Sh. Rajwinder Singh, S/o Sh. Kuldeep Singh,(9872821947) House No.26-Nagar Nigam Colony, O/s Gilwali Gate, Tehsil and District Amritsar-1. 143001. RTI Application No.73069.

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o Deputy Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.6052 of 2023

Present: None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 24.06.2023 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 27.07.2023 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 15.09.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.08.01.2025.

- 2. The appellant is absent but has requested to provide the point wise reply/information and also requested to list this case through video conference. However, the respondent is absent but sent the written submission to adjourn the case due to bus strike in the State as the Police Personnel are busy. Also, the respondent sent the written submissions bearing No.7039 dated 26.12.2024 that the appellant has sought the information pertaining to his complaints bearing no. 2398-COP and 2449-COP vide online application no. 73069 in the titled case i.e. AC No. 6052 of 2023." It is also a fact that the appellant filed another RTI application No. 72578 (6051/2023) which is also listed for hearing today in which the appellant has also sought the action taken on complaint Nos. 2398 dated 28.11.2022 and 2449 dated 06.12.2022. Also, it is a fact that the appellant sought the information regarding his complaints in which the appellant filed the second appeal bearing no. 4653 of 2023 in which he has sought the action taken on application nos. 2398 dated 28.11.2022 and 2449 dated 06.12.2022 which is pending for adjudication before SIC Sh. Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal. Also, it is a fact that while filling the appeal cases the appellant filed an undertaking that the matter under appeal/complaint has not been previously filed or pending or decided by any of the State Information Commission, Punjab.
- 3. Since, the subject matter of the RTI application, appellant and the respondent public authority remained the same, therefore, a copy of this order is being sent to the Registry Branch to transfer the Appeal Case No. 4653 of 2023 to this bench so that the same can be listed along with this case and adjudicated accordingly.

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- 4. Keeping in view the above, the presence of the appellant in person, is essential, so he is directed to remain present on the next date of hearing, in person, as the act and conduct of the appellant is not sustainable in the eyes of law rather a stringent action has to be taken for filling a misleading facts in the Commission as per the procedure established by the law.
- 5. With this, the case is <u>adjourned to 02nd April, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at Chandigarh.</u>

Sd/-(Inderpal Singh) Chief Information Commissioner Punjab

Dated: 08th January, 2025

CC:

Deputy Registrar of PSIC

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Rajwinder Singh, S/o Sh. Kuldeep Singh,(9872821947) House No.26-Nagar Nigam Colony, O/s Gilwali Gate, Tehsil and District Amritsar-1. 143001. RTI Application No. 115245.

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o Deputy Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.3852 of 2024

Present: None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 16.03.2024 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 19.04.2024 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 06.06.2024 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.08.01.2025.

- 2. Both the parties are absent. However, the appellant has requested that his case may please be listed through video conference at O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.
- 3. Since, the other cases of the appellant in which the respondent remained the same are listed for hearing in person, therefore, this case is adjourned accordingly.
- 4. With this, the case is <u>adjourned to 02nd April, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at Chandigarh.</u>

Dated: 08th January, 2025

Sd/-(Inderpal Singh) Chief Information Commissioner Punjab

R.S

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Sh. Rajwinder Singh, S/o Sh. Kuldeep Singh,(9872821947) House No.26-Nagar Nigam Colony, O/s Gilwali Gate, Tehsil and District Amritsar-1. 143001. RTI Application No. 115245.

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer, O/o Deputy Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Commissioner of Police, Amritsar.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 3717of 2024

Present: None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 16.02.2024 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 10.03.2024 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 30.05.2024 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.08.01.2025.

- 2. Both the parties are absent. However, the appellant has requested that his case may please be listed through video conference at O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.
- 3. Since, the other cases of the appellant in which the respondent remained the same are listed for hearing in person, therefore, this case is adjourned accordingly.
- 4. With this, the case is <u>adjourned to 02nd April, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at Chandigarh.</u>

Dated: 08th January, 2025

Sd/-(Inderpal Singh) Chief Information Commissioner Punjab

R.S

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Sh. Varinder Kumar, S/o Sh. Sita Ram, (9888832299) H.No.14598, Street No.7, Maharana Pratap Nagar, Tibba Road, Ludhiana.

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o SHO, Police station, Tibba, District Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority, O/o SHO, Police station, Tibba, District Ludhiana.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No.2488 of 2023

V/s

Present: None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 17.01.2022 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 27.07.2023 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 13.04.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.08.01.2025.

- 2. At today's hearing, both parties are absent without intimation. It is also a fact that a copy of notice of hearing was sent to them through registered post even though both parties are absent. **One last opportunity** is awarded to both the parties, to remain present on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which the case will be decided on merit *ex-parte*.
- 3. With this, the case is <u>adjourned to 30th January, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at</u> Chandigarh.

____Sd/-

(Inderpal Singh)

Dated: 08th January, 2025

R.S

Chief Information Commissioner

Punjab

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Sh. Jasvir Singh, S/o Sh. Niranjan Singh, Village Saleena, Tehsil and district Moga. (M.9780152092)

.....Complainant

Vs

District Revenue Officer-cum- Public Information OfficerO/o Deputy Commissioner,
Moga.

First Appellate Authority O/o Deputy Commissioner, Moga.

.....Respondents

Complaint Case No. 427 of 2024

Present: (i) Sh. Jasvir Singh along with his proxy counsel Sh. Narinder Kumar, the appellant.

(ii)Sh. Pawan Kumar, APIO (M.9815070592) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 18.12.2024. The relevant portion of the previous order is appended below:-

- "2. The complainant filed the CWP No. 23355 of 2024 and the same had been decided on 18.9.2024 by the Hon'ble Chief Justice, Punjab and Haryana High Court and the relevant portion of the same is as follows:-
 - "1. The petitioner is aggrieved by the non-supply of information by the Public Information Officer, Deputy Commissioner, Moga, despite order dated 10.04.2024 (Annexure P-5) passed by the first appellate authority under the Right to Information Act, 2005."
 - 2. The petitioner has remedy of Second appeal against the impugned order, which he has not availed.
 - 3. In case, Second appeal is filed by the petitioner within a period of 15(fifteen) working days from today, the same shall be entertained and decided by the second appellate authority, as expeditiously as possible, preferably within a period of one week thereafter.
 - 4. Accordingly, the petition stands disposed of."

Contd..p-2

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- 3. The complainant is absent without intimation. It is also a fact that notice of hearing was sent to him through registered post but even though he is absent which appears that his absence is intentional and willful. No doubt, the complainant approached the Commission and has filed the complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 on 20.9.2024 which is within 15 working days from the order of the Hon'ble High Court but the complainant in accordance with the order of the Hon'ble High Court in CWP No. 23355/2024 have to file an appeal case under Section 19 of the RTI Act, 2005. The objective of Section 18 and Section 19 of the RTI Act, 2005 are totally different and as the Commission is ready to abide by the orders of the Hon'ble High Court dated 18.9.2024 in CWP No. 23355/2024 but at this stage Commission cannot adjudicate the present complaint case. As, the Commission is ready to adjudicate as the appeal case, but the complainant has not appeared before the Commission.
- 4. In view of the above the presence of the complainant is very essential to meet the ends of justice as the assistance of the complainant is required to adjudicate the present case. As such, the complainant is awarded <u>one last opportunity</u> to remain present on the next date of hearing, failing which the case will be decided on merit, exparte."
- 2. At today's hearing, the appellant is present along with his proxy Counsel Sh. Narinder Kumar and has requested for an adjournment of this case as his Counsel is unable to attend the hearing. Accordingly, the request of the appellant is accepted and the case is adjourned with the directions to file the written submissions in accordance with the order dated 18.12.2024, mentioned herein, to take the matter to its logical end. Also, the respondent is directed to remain present on the next date of hearing for deliberations.
- 3. With this, the case is adjourned to 30th January, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing.

Sd/-

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner

Punjab

Dated: 08th January, 2025

R.S

CC: (Regd. Post)

Sh. Vishesh Sarangal IAS Deputy Commissioner, Moga.

District Revenue Officer (By Name) O/o Deputy Commissioner, Moga.

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Dr. Kuldeep Singh, (M.9417355095) 198, PUDA Enclave, Nabha Road, Patiala.

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o The Principal Secretary to Govt., of Punjab, Deptt., of Medical Education and Research, (Health-3 Branch), Pb Civil Sectt., Chandigarh.

Public Information Officer.

O/o The Secretary to Govt., of Punjab, Deptt., of Social Welfare (Reservation Cell), Pb Civil Sectt.,-2, Sector:09, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Principal Secretary to Govt., of Punjab, Deptt., of Medical Education and Research, (Health-3 Branch), Pb Civil Sectt., Chandigarh.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 7293 of 2023

Present:

- (i) Dr. Kuldeep Singh, the appellant
- (ii) Sh. Dharminder Singh, Sr. Assistant O/o DRME, on behalf of the respondent. (ii) Sh. Gurjinder Singh, Sr. Assistant along with Sh. Sukhjit Singh, Sr. Assistant O/o

Medical Education and Research, Pb, on behalf of the respondent.

(iii) Smt. Jaswinderjit Walia, Suptd., (Reservation Cell), O/o Social Welfare, Pb, the

respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.11.2024.

- 2. The respondent PIO O/o ACS Social Welfare (Reservation Cell) filed an affidavit that no file was opened in the department, as per the record register to de-reserve the post of Professor Bio Chemistry with regard to the Medical Department. Also, a response has been received from the Director O/o Medical Education Department that a letter was written to the Social Welfare Department (Reservation Cell) to dereserve the post of Professor Bio Chemistry but the record related to the receipt of the said letter i.e.dak book of the year 01.01.1993 to 31.12.2009 including 01.01.06 to 31.12.2006 has been weeded out by the said office and the department shows their inability to provide the receipt of the said letter which was issued to de-reserve the post of Professor Bio Chemistry.
- 3. After hearing both the parties, the respondent PIO O/o Medical Education and Research, Punjab, is directed to submit the complete correspondence vide which the record was destroyed/weeded out and due procedure was adopted. He is also directed to file an affidavit in this regard, along with the documentary evidence to take the matter to its logical ends.

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Appeal Case No. 7293 of 2023

4. With this, the case is adjourned to 20th February, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing.

Sd/-

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner
Punjab

Dated: 08th **January, 2025** R.S

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Sh. Abhishek Duggal, S/o Sh. Jagmohan Duggal, Excise Officer, State of Punjab, R/o D/50, Wave Estate, Sector:85, Mohali. (M.9814082132)

..Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer, O/o Additional Chief Secretary-cum-Financial Comissioner (Taxation), Punjab, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Additional Chief Secretary-cum-Financial Comissioner (Taxation), Punjab, Chandigarh.

..Respondent(s)

Appeal Case No. 7458 of 2024

Present: Sh. Abhishek Duggal, the appellant along with his Counsel, Sh. Ajay Jagga

(9814082132)

Sh. Mohan Singh, Superintendent (M.9872179338) along with Sh. Makhan Singh, Senior

Assistant (M.8196097263) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 02.01.2025.

- 2. The appellant submits that he has received the complete information from the o/o Financial Commissioner (Taxation) and nothing more is required from the said department. He further submits that with regard to the information pertain to point no. 1 nothing has been received from the Vigilance Bureau, Mohali. With regard to point no. 8, he submits that the response of the respondent has been received which is not in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005. The information pertaining to point no. 8 relates to the name and duration of the posting of Financial Commissioners, (Taxation) Punjab who have been posted in the department from 21.08.2020 to till date. The relevant portion of the response sent by the respondent is as follows:-
 - 2. ਆਪ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਹਵਾਲੇ ਅਧੀਨ ਪ੍ਰਤੀਬੇਨਤੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਲੜੀ ਨੰ: 8 ਤੇ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਸਬੰਧੀ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਅਜਿਹੀ ਕੋਈ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਦਫਤਰ ਦੇ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਪ੍ਰਮਾਨਿਤ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ੀ ਰੂਪ ਵਿੱਚ ਉਪਲਬਧ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਇਹ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਵੱਖ-ਵੱਖ ਰਿਕਾਰਡਾਂ ਵਿਚੋਂ ਇਕੱਤਰ ਕਰਦੇ ਹੋਏ extract/create ਕਰਨੀ ਪਵੇਗੀ, ਜੋ ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਆਈ. ਐਕਟ ਦੀ .ਧਾਰਾ 7(9) ਨੂੰ ਆਕਰਸ਼ਿਤ ਕਰਦੀ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਭਾਰਤ ਸਰਕਾਰ ਦੀਆਂ ਗਾਇਡਲਾਈਨਜ਼ ਮਿਤੀ 28-11-2013 ਦੇ ਪੈਰਾ ਨੰ: 10 ਅਨੁਸਾਰ ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਆਈ. ਐਕਟ, 2005 ਤਹਿਤ ਸੂਚਨਾ extract/create ਕਰਕੇ ਮੁਹੱਇਆ ਕਰਵਾਉਣ ਦਾ ਕੋਈ ਉਪਬੰਧ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ। ਇਸ ਤੋਂ ਇਲਾਵਾ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਇਹ ਵੀ ਲਿਖਿਆ ਜਾਂਦਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਜੇਕਰ ਆਪ ਨੂੰ ਕਿਸੇ ਅਧਿਕਾਰੀ ਦੀ ਤੈਨਾਤੀ ਦਰਸਾਉਂਦੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਵਿਸ਼ੇਸ਼ ਹੁਕਮਾਂ ਦੀ ਕਾਪੀ ਲੋੜੀਂਦੀ ਹੈ, ਤਾਂ ਉਸ ਦਾ ਸਪੱਸ਼ਟ ਵੇਰਵਾ ਦਿੰਦੇ ਹੋਏ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਨੂੰ ਪਹੁੰਚ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਵੇ।

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- 3. It is also a fact that the IAS Branch is issuing the posting and transfer order of the IAS officers and the joining report/charge relinquished report, so submitted by them, is also being received by the said Branch. The respondent issued a letter to the appellant rejecting the request of the appellant instead they can supply the posting order related to the posting of Financial Commissioner (Taxation) which is in their custody, as such, there is no question that the information has to be extracted/created and necessary steps are required can be taken by the concerned office in this regard.
- 4. Since, none is present on behalf of the Vigilance Bureau, Punjab. One more opportunity is granted to remain present on the next date of hearing, to file a reply/supply the information with regard to point no.1 of the RTI application, failing which punitive action will be taken on the next date of hearing. So far as the PIO O/o Financial Commissioner, (Taxation) is concerned, he is exempted from further appearances in this case, as the appellant is satisfied with the information supplied by them.
- With this, the case is adjourned to 30th January, 2025 at 11:30 A. M. for hearing at 5. Chandigarh.

Sd/-(Inderpal Singh) **Chief Information Commissioner** Punjab

Dated: 08th January, 2025