

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



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

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com, Cisco Webex Code:15857-23975

Helpline NO.0172-2864100 (10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill,
S/o Shri Jagjit Singh
#329, VPO Doda Baja Patti,
Village Doda, Sri Muktsar Sahib.
Mobile No.8146007472

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Sri Muktsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Sri Muktsar Sahib.

...Respondents

AC No.1953/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent and Shri Vishal Kumar, Junior Assistant, O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib, on behalf of PIO/Respondent-cisco webex.**

ORDER:

(Heard through Cisco Webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 18.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
3. Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent and Shri Vishal Kumar, Junior Assistant, O/o D.C. Sri Muktsar Sahib also come present to attend the hearing on behalf of PIO/Respondent through cisco webex. Shri Bhupinder Singh, Superintendent states that the appellant has been sent information by e.mail on 11.07.2022 and that the NIC has also uploaded the related information on the website of the department.
4. The appellant Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill admits receipt of information by e.mail. He, however, still expresses dis-satisfaction over the functioning of the officials of D.C. Office, Sri Muktsar and alleges that they do not follow the provisions of the RTI Act and that the information supplied is at variance from what has been sought.

Cont....P-2

5. Post deliberations with the appellant and the respondent, the Bench directs that the public authority must ensure that digitization of RTI related issues is implemented on priority and information is uploaded on the departmental website for the convenience of public. The officials dealing with the RTI matters, should use the official e.mail Ids. and not their private e.mail Ids. for official correspondence. The PIO is also directed to ensure that the officials in the correspondence relating to RTI matters should put their full names, designations, e.mail Id. etc. wherever they affix their signatures.

6. As per the version put forth by the appellant, the Bench takes serious note of the highhanded behavior of Government officials of D.C. Office, Sri Muktsar Sahib when dealing with the public at large, since the office of D.C. is a public dealing office and as such, it is essential that their dealing with the public should be courteous and prompt.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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

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Mobile No.8146007472

.....Appellant

Versus

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

First Appellate Authority
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
Fazilka.

...Respondents

AC No.1954/2022

Present: (i) **Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, Appellant- cisco webex.**
(ii) **Shri Amanpal Singh, D.R.O./PIO O/o D.C. Fazilka, on behalf of PIO/Respondent, in person.**

ORDER:

(Heard in person/through cisco webex)

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 18.07.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex.
3. Shri Amanpal Singh, D.R.O./PIO O/o Deputy Commissioner, District Fazilka comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that the appellant was called to the office to show him the related records, however, the appellant refused to visit their office. He states that point-wise information on seven issued raised by the appellant has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 12.08.2022 and also by e.mail on 22.08.2022 and related information has been uploaded on the departmental website. He further states that regarding the application of appellant with regard to compliance of Govt. orders, web guidelines, publishing of citizen charter and suo moto disclosures, was got enquired into from Superintendent of Police (S)-cum-CAW, C.P. & Special Branch, Fazilka and the report vide letter dated 04.07.2022 has been sent on 05.07.2022 to the appellant.

Cont....P-2

4. The appellant admits receipt of information and states that the PIO has not complied with the directions of the Commission in totality and also questions the authority of the PIO to call him to visit his office. He observes that it is the right of a citizen to demand information from Public Authority and the Public Authority is duty bound to respond within the stipulated timeline. Shri Prabhjot Singh Gill further observes that the Departmental Website of the Public Authority must be totally updated so that the public at large can access the information without taking the RTI route. The appellant also states that the Government officials are shy of using digitization when dealing with RTI applications. Further some officials are not using their official e.mail Ids and instead, use their private e.mail Ids. for official correspondence which is incorrect.

5. The appellant remarks that he will honour the decision of the Bench on this Appeal Case.

6. The Bench, post deliberations, directs the PIO to ensure that the maximum information is uploaded on the departmental website, the officials dealing with the RTI matters be encouraged to use digitization when dealing with RTI related issues as also use of official e.mail Ids. be made for official correspondence. The PIO is also directed to ensure that the officials in the correspondence relating to RTI matters should put their full names, designations, e.mail Id. etc. wherever they affix their signatures.

7. With the aforesaid directions, **the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
24.08.2022**

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