

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.
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Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Gurmej Lal, RTI Activist,
Whistle Blower, VP, NCAG Office,
Street NO. 5, # 1331-5, Vishawkarma Bhawan,
Down Canal Road, Simlapuri, Ludhaina.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o EO, Nagar Council,
Gidderbaba, Distt.Sri Mukatsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
O/o EO, Nagar Council,
Gidderbaba, Distt.Sri Mukatsar Sahib.

....Respondents

AC No. 1140 of 2023

Present: i) Shri Gurmej Lal - Appellant – in person
ii) None for the Respondent

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 25.10.2022 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 28.11.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 06.02.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The case has been heard today. As per appellant, he has not been provided any information so far.
3. The respondent is absent nor is represented. There is nothing on record which shows that the RTI application has been attended to within the time prescribed under the RTI Act and there has been an enormous delay of more than six months in providing the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.
4. The PIO is directed to call the appellant to his office on any working day and allow him access to the official records. After inspection of records by the appellant, the information as is identified by the appellant be provided to him before the next hearing. The PIO is directed to ensure that official records related to RTI application of the appellant are presented for examination and documents as identified are given duly attested by the PIO. The PIO is also directed to come present in person before the Bench to attend the next hearing.
5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 28.06.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

Chandigarh
02.05.2023

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