

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Rajni Bala,
W/o Ritin Shahi, Advocate,
104, Golden City, Khanna, District Ludhiana.

Versus

Public Information officer,
o/o Secretary, District Legal Services Authority,
Fatehgarh Sahib.

Complaint Case No. 1308 of 2021 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:
(Complainant) Absent
Balraj Singh, JA (for the Respondent) 98729-90651

ORDER:
(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on **17.3.2022 and 24.6.2022**)

1. The complainant, **Rajni Bala**, filed this RTI application dated **7.10.2021** and sought information **regarding Surprise checking of One Stop Centre Fatehgarh Sahib**, from the PIO o/o **Secretary, District Legal Service Authority, Fatehgarh Sahib**. When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **3.12.2021**. The case was last heard on **24.6.2022**.

2. The complainant is absent. However, as directed by the Commission on 24.6.2022, the complainant has submitted all documents pertaining to her second RTI filed on 1.2.2022, which as per the complainant, is currently being heard by the First Appellate Authority. The documents produced by the complainant, evidently belie the contention made by the respondent PIO, represented at the last hearing Sh. Balraj Singh, JA, wherein he had stated that the complainant's RTI application Dated 7.10.2021, which is before this Commission as the present Complaint Case No 1308 / 2021, was also being heard as a First Appeal by the First Appellate Authority-cum-Additional Secretary, Punjab, State Legal Services Authority. It is very clear now that the appeal before the FAA pertains to a separate RTI application filed by Smt. Rajni Bala on 1.2.2022. On being queried about this, the respondent PIO's representative at today's hearing, Sh. Balraj Singh, JA, only states that the subject matter of both RTI applications is the same. Sh. Balraj Singh's contention is hereby rejected.

3. Meanwhile, the PIO-cum-Secretary, District Legal Services Authority, Smt. Manpreet Kaur, has made a detailed written submission vide Letter No. 2619 Dated 2.11.2022, to explain the delay in addressing the RTI application Dated 7.10.2021. The Commission has examined the PIO's reply and herewith directs her to submit the same along with any additional submission by way of a duly notarized affidavit, to the Commission. This must be done within 10 days of receipt of this Order.

4. Next hearing on 9.12.2022 at 11.30 am at Punjab State Information Commission, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh

Sd/-
(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.
Chandigarh
4.11.2022