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Sh. Surinder Kumar, S/o Lt Sh Kashmiri Lal, R/o H No-4004, Mohalla Patel Nagar, Jandiala Guru, Distt Amritsar.

... Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o SSP, Amritsar. .

Respondent

Complaint Case No. 182 of 2021 PRESENT: None on behalf of the Appellant Sh. Manjit Singh on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER:

The complainant, through an RTI application dated 05.10.2020 has sought information regarding action taken on the complainant dated 04.04.2020 filed online against Jasdev Singh, Gurbhagat Singh, inspectors food supply department Jandiala Guru and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of DGP Pb Chandigarh which transferred the same to SSP Amritsar u/s 6(3) of the RTI Act. The complainant was not provided with the information after which the appellant filed a complaint in the Commission on 05.02.2021.

The case first came up for hearing on 13.07.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar. As per the complaint, the PIO had not provided the information.

Since it was a complaint case and the complainant had come to the Commission without going to the First Appellate Authority, the case was remanded back to the First Appellate Authority with the direction to consider this as an appeal case and dispose of the same within a period of 30 days as per the RTI Act.

The Commission, however, observed that the RTI application was filed on 05.12.2020 but the PIO had chosen not to reply to the RTI application. As per section 7 (2) of the RTI Act, if the PIO fails to give information within thirty days, the PIO shall be deemed to have refused the information. The PIO-SSP Amritsar was directed to explain the reasons for not attending to the RTI application within the time prescribed under the RTI Act and be present on the next date of hearing.

On the date of the hearing on 09.11.2021, the appellant informed that despite the directions of the First Appellate Authority, the PIO has not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent as well as not sent an explanation for not attending to the RTI application within the time prescribed under the RTI Act. The PIO was afforded one more opportunity to explain the reasons for not attending the RTI application on time, as prescribed under section 7 of the RTI Act.

On the date of the hearing on 16.03.2022, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

On the date of last hearing on 06.07.2022, the Commission received a reply from the PIO through email stating that the case relates to the complaint filed by Sh.Surinder Kumar with DGP Punjab against Sh.Jasdev Singh, Gurbhagat Singh, Inspector Food Supply, Jandiala Guru and since the complaint is pending investigation in Police Station Jandiala Guru, the information cannot be provided. A copy of the statement of Sh.Surinder Kumar was being attached. The appellant was absent. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 23.11.2022 :

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Amritsar. The representative of the respondents states that the information has been provided to the appellant on 7.9.2022. He further states that the complaint of the complainant is pending with Police Station, Jandiala Guru. As per the respondent, the complaint of the complainant was marked to Sh. Charan Singh 347, Incharge Chownki Town, Jandiala Guru, who has since retired but did not hand over the complete charge to his predecessor due to which the complaint could not be dealt and no information was provided to the appellant. The PIO has sent a letter bearing no. 440/RTI dated 22.11.2022 along with the acknowledgement of the complainant which is taken on record.

The complainant is absent nor represented.

Since an appropriate reply has been sent to the complainant and the complainant is absent for three consecutive hearings to pursue the case, no more cause of action is required in this case. Hence this case **is disposed of and closed.**

Chandigarh Dated: 23.11.2022 Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner

CC to First Appellate Authority-cum-Inspector-General of Police (Border Range) Amritsar.