PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN, SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH. Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - <u>www.infocommpunjab.com</u>, Cisco Webex Code:15857-23975 Helpline No.: 0172-2864100 (From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Hardev Singh Retired Addl. Chief Administrator, PUDA, R/o Flat BoB-7, Dolphin Towers, Sector-78, Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Punjab Urban Planning and Development Authority (PUDA) Mohali.

First Appellate Authority O/o Assistant Estate Officer Jalandhar Development Authority (JDA) SCO 41, PUDA Complex, Ladowali Road, Jalandhar.

...Respondents

CC No.224/2022 converted into AC No.224/2022

Present:(i)Shri Hardev Singh, Appellant- in person.(ii)Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO (PH), Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar,
PIO/Respondent- in person.

<u>ORDER</u>

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 29.11.2022 passed by this Bench during the previous hearing.

2. The case has been heard today. Shri Hardev Singh, appellant comes present in person before the Bench. He states that he had received the information and he had also pointed out deficiencies in the information supplied.

3. Shri Pawan Kumar, SDO (PH)/PIO, Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar, comes present in person before the Bench and reiterates his statement made during the previous hearing that pointwise information has been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated 28.10.2022 and nothing beyond the information given is available in official records. The PIO is apprised that the appellant had pointed out deficiencies in the information supplied, however, no rectified information, after removing the deficiencies has been provided. The PIO clarifies that the appellant had asked for information relating to the year 1999, whereas the information supplied also includes the information relating to the year 1999.

4. The appellant expresses dis-satisfaction over the supply of information and also contends the version of PIO that the information as available has been supplied. He alleges that the PIO is working as a



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post office and just forwarding documents received from dealing staff without analysing the material being forwarded. The appellant also raises issues regarding delayed supply of information and pleads imposition of penalty on the PIO under the RTI Act.

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5. The PIO O/o Jalandhar Development Authority, Jalandhar clarifies that the entire information is not held by the PIO and is collected from different Branches, that is why the term ' as received' has been used in the forwarding letter. The Bench agrees with the contention of PIO.

6. With regard to the contentions raised by the appellant, the Bench observes that the appellant had filed Complaint Case to the PUDA, Mohali which transferred the same to J.D.A. Jalandhar. The Bench on considering that First Appellate Authority had not heard the complainant after the case was remanded back to the First Appellate Authority vide order dated 30.06.2022. Later on, on the request of the appellant dated 09.08.2022, the case was re-opened. The Bench also takes into consideration that the RTI application involved collection of information from other Branches of J.D.A. and the PIO has been attending the hearings and intimating the progress of the case from time to time. In view of this, the Bench is not inclined to agree with the contentions of the appellant for imposing penalty on the PIO.

7. In view of the above, the instant appeal case is disposed off and closed. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 31.01.2023

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