PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh Ranjeet Kumar, S/o Sh Rajender Kumar, R/o Old Sabzi Mandi, Ekta Chowk, 1st Floor, Grover Lifafa, Sirsa, Distt Haryana.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Food Safety Officer, O/o Civil Surgeon, Sri Mukatsar Sahib.

First Appellate Authority,O/o Food Safety Commissioner,
Kharar, Distt Mohali.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 3200 of 2021

PRESENT: None is present on behalf of the appellant.

None is present on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 07.01.2021 has sought information on 09 points regarding a copy of the notice sent to Ved Parkash – a copy of the application of Ved Parkash requesting for getting the sample tested from private labs – a copy of test report of the sample by Gaziabad lab – a copy of sample report of Chandigarh and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Food Safety Officer O/o Civil Surgeon, Sri Mukatsar Sahib. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 24.03.2,021, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 12.07.2022 in Commission's office at Chandigarh. As per the appellant, the PIO had not supplied the information. The appellant further stated that he had also sent a reminder on 05.04.2021 to Food Safety Officer Sri Muktsar Sahib.

The PIO was absent nor represented. However, a copy of the letter dated 11.07.2022 was received from the office of the Commissioner of Food and Drugs Administration, Punjab, Kharar, stating therein that Civil Surgeon, Sri Muktsar Sahib, has provided the information by hand to the appellant on 10.01.2022.

Having gone through the RTI application, prima-facie, it was evident that information had not been supplied, and the letter of the respondent stating that information had been supplied by hand to the appellant appeared incorrect. A show cause notice under section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, was issued to PIO O/o Civil Surgeon Sri Muktsar Sahib as to why penalty be not imposed upon him/her for willful delay and denial in providing the information to the appellant. The PIO was directed to file his /her reply to the show cause notice in writing before the next date of hearing.

Hearing dated 23.11.2022 :

The appellant is absent and, vide email has sought adjournment.

The respondent is also absent and vide email has sought an exemption.

Accordingly, the case is adjourned at the request of the parties.

Both parties to be present at the next date of hearing

To come up for further hearing on **01.03.2023 at 11.00** AM.

Chandigarh Dated: 23.11.2022

Sd/-(Khushwant Singh) State Information Commissioner