

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.**

Ph: 0172-2864113, Helpline No. 0172-2864100

Email: - psic22@punjabmail.gov.in

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Sh. Harmilap Singh Grewal (9356200018)

H.No.22173, Street No.12/2,
Power House Road, Bathinda

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Pb.,
Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,

O/o State Transport Commissioner, Pb.,
Chandigarh

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 3960 of 2022
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present:

(i) Appellant: Shri Harmilap Singh

(ii) For the respondent: Shri Darshan Singh, Senior Assistant (99152-15275) from O/o Director State Transport and Shri Sher Singh, APIO from O/o STC (98760-24728) is present.

ORDER

1. The RTI application is dated 29.4.2022 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 31.5.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 30.8.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing through CISCO WEBEX on 20.12.2022 i.e. today
2. In today's hearing, both the parties are present.
3. The appellant states that after filings second appeal, he has received a reply but not satisfactory.
4. The respondent, Sh. Darshan Singh states that the RTI was filed to the PIO O/o STC, Punjab Chandigarh and it was transferred to Director Office. He adds that reply was sent to the appellant stating therein that information relate with 18 depots and each and every depot has separate PIOs and he can approach directly to the concerned depots. He further mentions about a letter dated 06.12.2022 which was sent to the appellant as well as to the undersigned Bench, which is received vide diary no. 28342 dated 09.12.2022 and taken on record.
5. After having the point wise discussion with the present parties, I am of the view that the concerned PIO is directed to supply an affidavit in original in connection with point number 01 and supply the amount details in connection with point number 02 to the appellant through registered post or by hand with a copy to the Commission within a weeks' time. The appellant is advised
6. As per observations made above, is of the view that the appellant cannot seek information on single RTI application from multiple authorities. A full Bench of State Information Commission, Punjab in Complaint Case No. 2903 of 2011 has decided on 13.01.2012, which is as under:-
"We hold that under Section (3) of the Act ibid, the legal obligation of a PIO who receives a request for information under Section 6(1) of the Act is limited to transfer this request to only one public authority that holds the information. This obligation does not extend to transfer to multiple authorities.
7. The Bench advises the appellant to go for seeking information by filing RTI application before a specific public authority that has separate PIO.
8. With the aforesaid directions, this case is adjourned. To come up on **28.03.2023 at 11:00 A.M.** through CISCO-Webex (Video Conferencing application). Copy of the order be sent to the parties.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632.

Dated: 20.12.2022

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab