

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com

Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Lajpat Rai Garg
S/o Shri Hasbans Lal
R/o Romana Street, Jaito
Tehsil Jaito, District Faridkot.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Addl.Chief Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Addl.Chief Secretary,
Local Govt., Punjab,
Sector-35, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.4292 of 2022

Present: (i) Appellant-absent.
(ii) None for the respondent.

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 15.02.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Lajpat Rai, appellant has neither come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webex. However, a letter dated 03.04.2023 has been received from him stating that due to his personal hearing in the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court, he is unable to attend today's hearing and has sought an adjournment.
3. Neither the PIO O/o Additional Chief Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab, Chandigarh has come present in person nor through cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing nor any information has been supplied to the appellant.
4. The Bench observes that the appellant has addressed RTI Application to the Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Punjab, Department of Local Government, and this is sixth consecutive hearing. However, none of the official has put in appearance before the Commission. During the hearing on 15.02.2023, Smt. Sandeep Kaur, Sr. Assistant O/o Pr. Secy., Local Govt. Punjab, Local Govt.-3 had come present to represent the PIO but was not aware of the details of the case. In today's hearing, neither the PIO from the Local Govt.-3 has come present nor has sent any intimation in this regard to the Commission. This lackadaisical attitude on the part of the respondent is viewed adversely.

Contd...p-2

5. In the absence of appellant and the PIO, the Bench is unable to proceed further in the matter and deems it appropriate to adjourn the matter. The Bench, however, directs the PIOs of all the branches i.e General Branch, Establishment Branch and Local Govt. -3 O/o Local Govt. Punjab to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing along with the relevant reply as per RTI application of the appellant, failing which the Bench will be constrained to issue BAILABLE WARRANT to ensure their presence before the Bench.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 15.06.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
20.04.2023**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

**Public Information Officer
O/o General Branch O/o Director, Local Govt. Pb,**

**Public Information Officer
O/o Establishment Branch O/o Director, Local Govt. Pb,**

**Public Information Officer
O/o Local Govt.-3 O/o Director, Local Govt. Pb,**