

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sh. Jagdev Kumar (9417065979)

S/o Sh. Puran Chand,

R/o Street No.7, Vill. Danger Khera,

Tehsil Abohar, Distt. Fazilka

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o BDPO, Block Khuia Sarwar at Abohar,

Distt. Fazilka

First Appellate Authority

O/o DDPO, Fazilka

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 430 of 2023
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present:

Appellant: Sh. Jagdev Kumar

Respondent: Sh. Harmeet Singh, Panchayat Officer.

ORDER

1. The RTI application is dated 23.7.2022 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 21.09.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 06.01.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for 30.5.2023 through CISCO WEBEX application.
3. In today's hearing both the parties are present.
4. The appellant states that he has been asked for depositing Rs.6000/- as documentation fee after the stipulated time period as per RTI Act as letter dated was received on 24.08.2022 through registered post from Sh. Ashok Kumar, Panchayat Secretary.
5. The respondent, Sh. Harmeet Singh states that the RTI was transferred from office of BDPO, Khuia Sarwar at Abohar to the concerned office/persons i.e. Sh. Ashok Kumar, Panchayat Secretary-cum-PIO, Gram Panchayat Dangar Khera and Sh. Richhpal, JE, Block Khuia Sarwar
6. After hearing both the parties in detail and examining the case file, it is observed that RTI application was filed to the respondent PIO on 23.07.2022 and RTI application was transferred under Section 6(3) on 29.07.2022 to the concerned office. It is also observed that documentation fee Rs. 6,000/- was demanded within stipulated time period as per RTI act, 2005 as letter regarding fee was received by the appellant on 24.08.2022 through registered post as per the letter of the appellant dated 27.08.2022, which is on record in the case file.
7. Accordingly, appellant is directed to deposit the documentation fee amounting Rs. 6,000/- within ten days after receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission, failing which case will be decided on merit basis.
8. Respondent PIO is directed to supply information as per RTI application within fifteen days after receipt of documentation fee from the appellant. He is also directed to refund the excess money, if any, against the requisite information.
9. Both the parties are directed to attend the next date of hearing through cisco webex software positively.
10. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned for further hearing on **06.09.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO Webex 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).

Date: 30.5.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab