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



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

Shri Amit Kumar
R/o H.No.636, Street No.5,
Tripri Town, Patiala.

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Dy. Chief Engineer, HRD, PSPCL, Patiala.

First Appellate Authority O/o Chief Engineer, HRD, PSPCL, Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.4425 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Amit Kumar, Appellant- in person.

(ii) Shri Kamaljot Singh, Addl.SE/Joint Secretary and Mrs. Ravinder Kaur, Superintendent Grade-2, Services-2 Branch, PSPCL Patiala, on behalf behalf of PIO/Respondent- In person.

Versus

ORDER:

- 1. The RTI application is dated 29.03.2022 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 01.09.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.09.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 15.11.2022. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Amit Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that he has not been provided any information.
- 3. Shri Kamaljot Singh, Addl.SE/Joint Secretary and Mrs. Ravinder Kaur, Superintendent Grade-2, Services-2 Branch, PSPCL, Patiala, come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. The respondent states that the appellant has sought copy of the minutes of DPC meeting and vacancy position of the post of Accounts Officer. He further states that the DPC meeting's proceedings, being confidential cannot be provided and that the information regarding vacancy position as sought by the appellant does not exist in the official records in the form asked for by the appellant.
- 4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant clarifies his necessity for seeking the aforesaid information.

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5. Post deliberations, the Bench does not agree with the contention of the respondents that the information sought is confidential and directs the PIO to call the appellant to his office and allow him access to the relevant official records. The appellant, on inspection of records, will identify the information as per his RTI application and the same will be provided by the PIO point-wise to the appellant before the next hearing. The Bench, however, clarifies that in case the PIO deems any document to be confidential, the same be withheld and not disclosed.

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6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 07.12.2022 at 11.30 AM in Commission's office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.11.2022 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma(Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab