PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN, SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH. Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - <u>www.infocommpunjab.com</u>, Cisco Webex Code:15857-23975 Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)

Shri Ashok Kumar Watts, H.No.B-V 1534, Street No.1, Lajpat Nagar, Abohar District Fazilka-152116.

Versus

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer

O/o Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab, Punjab Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Government, Punjab, Punjab Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No.5196 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Kuljit Singh, Advocate on behalf of the Appellant. (ii) Smt. Sandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant and Smt. Paramjit Kaur, Clerk, LG-3 Branch, Local Govt. Deptt. on behalf of the PIO/Respondent- in person.

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 04.01.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.

2. The case has been heard today. Shri Kuljit Singh, Advocate comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench on behalf of Ashok Kumar Watts, appellant. He produces before the Bench authority letter to represent the appellant in this appeal case and also requests for fixing the matter for hearing on 01.03.2023 as other appeal cases of the appellant are fixed before this Bench on the same date. He also refers to the letter dated 31.01.2023 whereby the appellant has requested for the transfer of this appeal case to another Bench.

3. Smt. Sandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant and Smt. Paramjit Kaur, Clerk, LG-3 Branch, Local Govt. Deptt. come present in person before the Bench to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO/Respondent. Smt. Sandeep Kaur states that letter containing information has been brought along. On the asking of the Bench, she hands over a copy of the same to the representative of the appellant as also produces a copy before the Bench. She further states that similar information has earlier been supplied to the appellant in Appeal Case No.5142/2021 and Appeal Case No.5148/2021.



AC No.5196/2022

4. The Bench, with regard to letter of appellant dated 31.01.2023 asking for transfer of RTI application in Appeal Case No.5196 of 2002 to another Bench, clarifies to the representative of appellant that from the contents of the transfer application, the appellant alleges partiality in disposal of the appeal cases by this Bench and has also made some allegations that some of the appeal cases have been disposed off without ensuring provision of information to the appellant. The Bench reiterates the contents of the previous order dated 04.01.2023 and does not agree with the request of the appellant for transfer of appeal case to another Bench and the same is turned down.

5. The Bench directs the PIO/Superintendent, Local Government-3 to again supply information to the appellant point-wise before the next hearing, as also clarifying position regarding the information supplied in Appeal Case No.5142/2021 and 5148/2021 in their covering letter and ensure to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing. The appellant is also advised to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on
01.03.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.02.2023 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab