PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Tejinder Singh, Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside SanjhKender, Phillaur.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer, O/o Principal. Secy, Health Department, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Principal Secy, Health Department, Sector-34-A, Chandigarh.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 5359 of 2021

PRESENT: None for the Appellant

None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 02.07.2021 has sought information regarding copies of property returns filed/uploaded by all Assistant Commissioners Food and Food Safety Officers under section 44(2) (3) of Lokpal Act 2014 for the years 2018-19 to 2020-21 and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Principal Secretary, Health Department Pb Chandigarh. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the first appellate authority on 18.08.2021, which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 25.05.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. As per the appellant, the PIO had not supplied the information.

The respondent was absent nor was represented. The PIO was directed to provide information and if the information has been uploaded on the website of the department, to provide the web address of the website to the appellant. The information be provided within 15 days of the receipt of the order.

On the date of hearing on 01.08.2022, both the parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

Hearing dated 10.10.2022:

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. Both the parties are absent.

There is nothing on record which shows that the RTI application has been attended to by the PIO within time. There has been an enormous delay of more than one year in providing the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO to show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. The PIO should file an affidavit in this regard. If there are other persons/PIOs responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

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The PIO is further directed to supply the information to the appellant within 15 days of the receipt of the Commission with a copy to the Commission.

To come up for compliance **on** 30.01.2023 **at 11.00 AM** through video conference acility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh Dated 10.10.2022 Sd/(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner