

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 04.00PM on working days))



Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, Advocate,
8 / 237, Jagraon Road,
Mandi Mullanpur,
District Ludhiana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

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

First Appellate Authority

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

Public Information Officer

O/o Chief Vigilance Officer,
Directorate of Local Govt., Punjab,
Municipal Bhawan, Sector-35,
Chandigarh

....Respondents

AC No. 685 of 2021

Present:

- (i) The appellant is absent for today's hearing.
- (ii) Smt. Sandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt., Punjab- in person.
- (iii) Shri Navdeep Sharma, Vigilance Officer along with Shri Rajiv Saggur, Suptd Vigilance Cell, O/o Director, Local Govt., Punjab, Chandigarh- in person.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with the reference of the order dated 30.01.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Rakesh Kumar Gupta, appellant has not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex.
3. Shri Navdeep Sharma, Vigilance Officer along with Shri Rajiv Saggur, Suptd. O/o Vigilance Cell, Director Local Govt., Punjab attends the hearing in person on behalf of the impleaded Respondent No.2 and reiterates his statement made during the previous hearing that reply has already been given to the appellant vide letter dated 19.04.2021 but the appellant has pointed out that partial information has been given and no status has been given on his rest 93 complaints. He clarifies that some the complaints are clubbed together and hence the observation made by the appellant.
4. Smt. Sandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant, Local Govt.-3 Branch comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and requests that some additional time be given to her to provide the information to the appellant as they are currently busy with vidhan sabha session.
5. The appellant is contacted on phone. He states that that due to ill health, he cannot attend today's hearing and reiterates his statement that partial information has been supplied to him. Post deliberations, it emerges that the respondent has made evasive statements which shows lack of interest in addressing the RTI applications. The request of the respondent is acceded to. The Bench directs the PIO Local Govt.-3 Branch to supply point-wise information to the appellant clarifying therein the specific reply with reference to each point and copy of the same be also sent to the Commission also The appellant is also advised to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing failing which the case may be decided based on documents available on file.
6. Shri Navdeep Sharma, Vigilance Officer along with Shri Rajiv Saggur, Suptd. O/o Vigilance Cell, Director Local Govt., are exempted from further appearances in this case as the information on their part has been supplied to the appellant.
7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 10.05.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Sd/-

(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Chandigarh
07.03.2023