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

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Shri Gurnoor Singh Gill, S/o Shri Gurinderpal Singh Gill, 4, Suraj Avenue CHurian Road, By Pass Gumtala, Sub Urban, Amritsar-11. RTI application No.38185.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,** 

**O/o** XEN, Irrigation, Punjab, Chandigarh.

**Public Information Officer** 

0/o XEN, Amritsar Water Drainage-cum-Geology Circle, Water Resource Department Punjab Aamritsar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Engineer, Irrigation, Punjab, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 792 of 2023

Present: i) Appellant - Absent

ii) None for the Respondent

## **ORDER:**

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 19.04.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
- 2. The case has been heard today. Both the parties are absent. At the previous hearing, PIO-O/o XEN, Amritsar Water Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Circle, Water Resource Department, Amritsar was impleaded in the case and directed to provide point-wise information to the appellant.
- 3. The PIO-O/o XEN, Amritsar Water Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Circle, Water Resource Department, Amritsar is absent nor is represented. There is nothing on record which shows that the RTI application has been attended to within the time prescribed under the RTI Act and there has been an enormous delay of more than seven months in providing the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO-O/o XEN, Amritsar Water Drainage-cum-Mining and Geology Circle, Water Resource Department, Amritsar 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. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard. If there are other persons 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.
- 4. The PIO is directed to call the appellant to his office and allow him access to the official records. After inspection of records by the appellant, the information as is identified by the appellant be provided to him duly attested by the PIO. The PIO is directed to ensure that official records related to RTI application of the appellant are presented for examination and documents as identified are given duly attested by the PIO. The PIO is also directed to come present in person before the Bench to attend the

PSIC Committee

next hearing. The appellant is also directed to come present in person before the Bench on the next date of hearing failing which the Bench may be constrained to decide the case based on the documents available on file.

5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 31.07.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh 15.06.2023 Sd/-(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd)) State Information Commissioner, Punjab