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



Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com

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

Ms. Suman Bala, H.No.783, Top Floor Phase-7, Sector:61, Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Director, Land Record, Jalandhar.

Public Information Officer 0/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Deputy Commissioner, Jalandhar.

....Respondents

AC No. 914 of 2023

Present: i) Shri Harvinder Kumar on behalf of the Appellant – in person

ii) None for the Respondent

ORDER:

- 1. The RTI application is dated 20.10.2022 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in her RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 08.12.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 27.01.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
- 2. The case has been heard today. As per representative of appellant, no information has been provided by the PIO so far.
- 3. The respondent is absent nor is represented. The Commission has received a letter dated 15.03.2023 from the office of Deputy Director, Land Records, Pb, Jalandhar stating therein that since the information relates to the office of Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar, the RTI application has been transferred to them under section 6(3) of the RTI Act vide letter dated 10.11.2022.
- 4. None is present from the office of Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar either in person or through cisco-webex. Further there is nothing on record which shows that the RTI application has been attended to by the PIO O/o DC Amritsar within the time prescribed under the RTI Act and there has been an enormous delay of more than five months in providing the information. The Commission has taken a serious view of this and hereby directs the PIO O/o Deputy Commissioner, 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 O/o Deputy Commissioner, Amritsar is directed to call the appellant to his office on any working day and allow her access to the official records. After inspection of records by the appellant, the information as is identified by the appellant be provided to him before the next hearing. 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 O/o DC Amritsar is also directed to come present in person before the Bench to attend the next hearing.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. To come up for hearing on 19.06.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's Office at Chandigarh. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

Chandigarh **25.04.2023**

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