PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh. Ph: 0172-2864115, Email: - psic25@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com Helpline No. 0172-2864100



Sh. Lajpat Rai Garg, S/o Sh. Harbans Lal Romana Street, Jaito, Distt Faridkot (9814230616)

.Vs

..... Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o EO, Nagar Council, Jaito Distt. Faridkot

First appellate Authority O/o ADC (Urban Development), Faridkot

.....Respondent

AC No. 1373 of 2023

Present: (i) Sh. Lajpat Rai Garg the appellant

(ii) for the Respondent: None is present on behalf of the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 31.03.2023 vide which neither the appellant nor the respondent was present.

2. Today, the appellant Sh. Lajpat Rai Garg states that no information has been given to him so far.

3. The respondent is again absent today.

4. The perusal of the file shows that the appellant filed RTI with the PIO, o/o EO Nagar Council, Jaito, Distt. Faridkot. But till today no information has been given to him. Even notice of the hearing sent to the respondent received back with the endorsement of the postal authorities that the recipient refused to accept the same. This shows that the respondent has no regard for RTI regime. This is indeed a serious matter.

5. In view of the above, **PIO- EO, Nagar Council, Jaito is directed** to show cause in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/ denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the complainant under Section 19 (8)(b) of the Act for detriment suffered.

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In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso, thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

6. To come up on **31.07.2023 at 11.00 AM** for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Dated :03.05.2023

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon) State Information Commissioner Punjab

CC: Director Rural Development and Panchayats, Sarovar Path, Phase 8, Sector 62, SAS Nagar -160062 (to take necessary action against the PIO, o/o EO, Nagar Council, Jaito, Distt. Faridkot)