

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Ms Neelam Sharma, Asstt. Professor (Education),
Mehsampur Road, VPO Rurka Kalan,
Tehsil Phillaur, Distt Jalandhar-144031
(M-9878205000)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Ramgarhia College of Education, Phagwara
Distt Kapurthala

First Appellate Authority,
O/o DPI (colleges) Punjab, Mohali

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5316 of 2022

Present : (i) Ms Neelam Sharma, Appellant.

(ii) For the Respondent: Dr Neeru Sharma, Associate Professor (PIO) and Ms Ruchi Joshi, Sr Asstt. O/o FAA (89687-96315)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 11.01.2023.

2. The Appellant – Ms. Neelam Sharma states that she has not received the information till date.

3. Dr Neeru Sharma, Associate Professor states that the information has already been provided to the Appellant. She has also filed an affidavit today.

4. I have gone through the affidavit filed by the Respondent-PIO and do not agree with it as the same is neither notarized nor the same is correct. Further, Dr Neeru Sharma is appearing as PIO O/o Ramgarhia College of Education, Phagwara. She states that the record pertaining to the RTI of the Appellant is in the possession of the Principal, Ramgarhia College of Education, Phagwara. It is ascertained that, the departmental officials are not properly sensitized and trained to discharge their functions under the RTI Act 2005.



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The Commission observed that there is complete negligence and laxity in the public authority in dealing with the RTI application. It is abundantly clear that such matters are being ignored and set aside without application of mind which reflects disrespect towards that RTI act 2005 itself. The Commission expressed its displeasure on the casual and callous approach adopted by the Respondent in responding to the RTI application. It was felt that conduct of Respondent was against the spirit of the RTI Act 2005, which was enacted to ensure greater transparency and effective access to the information.

5. Submissions made by the respondent are not convincing, therefore the respondent is directed to bring complete file in the Commission office on the next date of hearing, failing which action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act 2005 will be initiated.

6. In view of the foregoing, the Respondent-PIO is directed to be present on the next date of hearing along with the complete original record, pertaining to the RTI of the Appellant. Further, the Respondent-PIO is also directed to file their reply on affidavit, duly notarized on the next date of hearing. *Further DPI(C) is exempted from further hearings.*

7. To come up on **07.03.2023 at 12:00PM** in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Dated: 01.02.2023

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab