PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Satnam Singh Buk, Village – Sadakwala, 2 FDM Post Office – 3, FDM, Tehsil – Suratgarh, Distt. – Sri Ganga Nagar - 335702(Punjab)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer, O/o The Director General of Police, Pb., Punjab Police Head Quarter, Sector - 9, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority, O/o The Director General of Police, Pb., Punjab Police Head Quarter, Sector - 9, Chandigarh

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5796 of 2022

V/s

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

Sh. Sh. Purshotam Kumar, A. S. I.(94171-31510), on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

Heard in the Commission.

- 2. The RTI request is dated 02.09.2022. First appeal is dated 06.10.2022. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 22.11.2022.
- 3. This case was earlier fixed for hearing on 20.01.2023 and was preponed for today i. e. 17.01.2023 for hearing.
- 4. The appellant, Sh. Satnam Singh Buk, is not present in today's hearing.
- 5. Sh. Purshotam Kumar, A. S. I., who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply has already been given to the appellant vide letter dated 22.12.2022 intimating that the information demanded through RTI request relates with various departments i. e. office of Home affairs and Justice (Home 1 Branch); ii) District Attorney, Ferozepur and iii) Director, Prosecution & Litigation.
- 6. From the perusal of the information, it is clear that the information demanded by the information seeker relates to different PIOs. Each of these authorities has also separate PIOs. Under-section 6(1)(a) a person seeking information has to apply to the concerned public authority. It is not the job of one PIO to collect and thereafter collate this information from different PIOs of different Public Authorities and then supply the same to the appellant. Appellant may note that there is a clear mention in the orders of former CIC in CC: 05 of 2010 which is reproduced as under:-

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Date: 17th January, 2023



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"that this obligation under Section 6 of the Act is to transfer the application to 'that other public authority' and not to public ' authorities'. The expression used in Section 6 is 'authority' and not 'authorities'. Simply put, the PIO is expected to transfer a request which does not relate to him but has nevertheless been received by him, one identifiable authority. He is not expected to transfer such a request if information is held by many or a number of authorities. The rational is that a PIO is not a post office or a coordinator for forwarding requests from information seekers to various departments. Legislature has merely facilitated the information seekers by empowering PIO who inadvertently receives request pertaining to another PIO to forward it to the concerned PIO".

- 7. In view of all the above, the appellant is advised to file a fresh a fresh application by seeking specific information from the concerned respondent PIO.
- 8. With this, the case is **disposed and closed.** Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Puniab