

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

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocompunjab.com, Cisco Webex Code:15857-23975

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



Shri Lajpat Rai
S/o Shri Harbans Lal,
House No.B-3/287,
Romana Street, Jaito,
District Faridkot.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Chief Director,
Vigilance Bureau, Punjab,
Mohali.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Director,
Vigilance Bureau, Punjab,
Mohali.

....Respondents

AC No.4173 of 2019

Present:

- (i) Shri Lajpat Rai, Appellant in person before the Bench.
- (ii) Shri Sukhminder Singh, Inspector, O/o Chief Director, Vigilance Bureau, Punjab, Mohali on behalf of the PIO.

ORDER:

(Heard through Cisco Webex)

1. The case was initially heard by Shri N.S. Brar, the then Ld. State Information Commissioner on 04.02.2020.
2. This case was subsequently heard by Division Bench consisting of Ld. State Information Commissioner Hem Inder Singh and Ld. State Information Commissioner Shri Avtar Singh Kaler on 07.04.2021. However, on the request of the appellant for transfer of case to another Bench, the Hon'ble Division Bench had sent the case to Deputy Registrar for placing it before another Bench after approval from the Hon'ble CIC. Vide order No.PSIC/Legal/DB/2021/158, dated 08 June, 2021, the instant appeal case has been re-allocated to the Division Bench consisting of Ld. State Information Commissioner, Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma and Ld. State Information Commission, Shri Maninder Singh Patti.
3. The case has been heard today by the Division Bench consisting of Lt Gen. Ajae Kumar Sharma, and Shri Maninder Singh Patti. Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma is physically present at the Commission's office for the hearing and the Ld. State Information Commissioner Shri Maninder Singh Patti is available

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for hearing the case through Cisco Webex. Shri Lajpat Raj, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person at PSIC. He states that the RTI application filed by him is of 20.09.2019 vintage. However, in spite of lapse of considerable period, the information in the instant appeal case has not been supplied to him.

4. Shri Sukhminder Singh, Sub Inspector O/o Chief Director, Vigilance Bureau comes present to attend the hearing through Cisco Webex.

5. The Division Bench, post deliberations, deems it appropriate that the appellant and the PIO are heard in person along with the relevant records to take the instant appeal case to a logical end. The Bench is further of the view that either the PIO himself should come present or a senior ranking officer should appear before the Bench. The representative of the PIO is made aware of the observations of the Bench very clearly.

6. The appellant makes a request to the Bench to fix the hearing for tomorrow i.e. 20.07.2021 as coming again from Jaito (District Faridkot) which is approximately 300 kilometers from Chandigarh is quite a herculean task. The request of the appellant is acceded to.

7. The Bench directs the PIO to come present before the Bench and bring along all the relevant official records and produce the same before the Bench.

8. In view of the above, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 20.07.2021 at 02.00 PM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

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

(Maninder Singh Patti)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Chandigarh
Dated:19.07.2021

