

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH**

(114)

CWP-2209-2017

Decided on: February 07, 2017.

Jaanpal Singh

.... Petitioner

Versus

State Information Commission, Punjab and others

..... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE M.M.S. BEDI

Present: Mr. D.P.S. Bajwa, Advocate, for the petitioner.

M.M.S. BEDI, J (ORAL)

The petitioner had sought verification of Scheduled Caste certificate of one Karam Chand, resident of New Yadvindera Colony, Serhind Road, Patiala who is serving as Sub Inspector in Punjab Roadways Transport Corporation.

Under the orders of State Information Commissioner, Punjab Annexure P-5 dated 24.06.2014 despite the information having been supplied to him, the petitioner had claimed that he was not satisfied with the information provided and expressed desire that he wanted to visit the office to P.R.T.C. and inspect the record on any working day. A direction was issued to the Public Information Officer of P.R.T.C., Patiala that if the information is not available on record, the Public Information Officer shall file an affidavit on oath stating the same. It is apparent from the order Annexure P-5 that after disposal of the appeal, a liberty had been given to the petitioner that if he was not satisfied with the directions given, he was free to approach the Commission after one month.

The petitioner has challenged the order dated 24.06.2014 claiming that inspection had not been allowed to the petitioner and the order dated 24.06.2014 disposing of the second appeal of the petitioner under

Section 19 (3) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 is wrong.

I have heard learned counsel for the petitioner and considered the information sought for by the petitioner which pertains to an employee in the office of P.R.T.C which falls under Section 8 (1) (j) of the Act and it is not made out as to how it is related to any public activity or interest and is not an invasion to the privacy of the individual.

Since no objection had been taken and the information had been supplied, there does not appear to be any reason to pass any further direction.

In view of the judgment in **Girish Ramchandra Deshpande Vs. Central Information Commissioner and others, 2012 (5) Recent Apex Judgment, 205** in the absence of any public interest justifying the disclosure of such information, I do not find any ground to interfere in the order passed by the State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Besides this, the petition deserves to be dismissed on account of inordinate delay on part of the petitioner in having approached this Court to challenge the order dated 24.06.2014 without approaching the Commission despite a liberty having been given to him, within reasonable time.

The petition is dismissed on account of delay and latches without prejudice to his legal right, if any, in accordance with law.

(M.M.S. BEDI)
JUDGE

February 07, 2017
harsha

Whether speaking/reasoned:
Whether reportable:

Yes/No
Yes/No