PUBLIC GRIEVANCES COMMISSION

(Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi)

APPELLATE AUTHORITY

[Under Section 7, Delhi Right to Information Act, 2001]

Appeal No. 641/2018/PGC/DRTI/ DM (NW) dated 15.1.2019

Date of Hearing: 20.6.2019

Appellant: Sh. Inderjeet Singh

Competent Authority: District Magistrate (North-West)

Revenue Department

Application under DRTI: 10.12.2018

1 Background:

The appellant vide DRTI application dated 10.12.2018 has sought information on total 04 points. Aggrieved by non receipt of any information from the Competent Authority he filed this appeal.

2 Proceedings

The appellant is present. Sh. Prem Chand, Tehsildar (SV), is present on behalf of the department. The representative of the department informed that point-wise information has already been supplied to the appellant vide letter dated. 17.1.2019. A copy of the same was submitted in the hearing today.

The reply of the department has been perused. It is observed that the department has provided the information under the RTI Act 2005, under the signature of the PIO/SDM (Saraswati Vihar). It is further observed that Sh. Inderjeet Singh had sought information under DRTI Act 2001 and not under RTI Act 2005. It has further been mentioned in the letter that Sh. Inderjeet Singh may prefer his appeal before the First Appellate Authority /ADM (N-W).

The Competent Authority under the DRTI Act is the District Magistrate (N-W) and not the SDM. Under the DRTI Act 2001 only the Competent Authority is authorised to provide information to an applicant and PGC is the only Appellate Authority under the Act. Thus the reply dt. 17.1.2019 is not only improper and irregular but also not in conformity with the provision of the DRTI Act 2001. A copy of the letter dt. 17.1.2019 is being enclosed alongwith this hearing order for perusal of D.M. (N-W).

During the course of hearing today, Sh. Prem Chand , Tehsildar (S.V.) informed that the payment to Sh. Inderjeet Singh could not be processed earlier due to some deficiencies in the documents. Sh. Inderjeet Singh has now submitted all the requisite documents and the department shall make the payment to the appellant within 02 weeks.

3 Decision

The matter is brought to the personal attention of the Competent Authority i.e. the District Magistrate (North-West), Revenue Department with the direction to ensure that the pending payment to Sh. Inderjeet Singh is released within 02 weeks of receipt of this order. An Action Taken report shall be submitted in the Commission for information.

However, the DM (N-W) is advised to organise a familiarisation course for the staff posted in the office of the DM (N-W), to make them aware of the provisions of the DRTI Act 2001 so that they are able to handle applications under the Act as per the provisions of the Act.

With the above direction, the present appeal case is ordered to be closed in the Commission.

(ASHOK KUMAR)

Chairman, Public Grievances Commission

Copy to:-

- 1 Sh. S.S. Dursawat, District Magistrate, (North-West), Revenue Department, GNCT of Delhi, Village Kanjhawala, Delhi-110 081
- 2 Sh. Inderjeet Singh