

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - psic23@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com; Helpline No. 0172-2864100



Ms. Gursimran Kaur, (86862 78000)

C/o Shri Harjit Singh Dhillon,

R/o Flat No. 804, Ground Floor,

MIG Jamalpur Colony, Ludhiana-141010

....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,

O/o Executive Officer,

Municipal Council, Phillaur,

District Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner,

Urban Development, Jalandhar.

....Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 1622 OF 2023

Date of RTI Application	Date of Reply, if any of PIO	Date of First Appeal made, if any	Date of Order, if any of FAA	Date of Appeal/ Complaint Filed in Commission
07.11.2022	--	28.12.2022	--	28.02.2023

Appellant: Absent

Respondent: Sh. Jaswant Rai (Jr. Assistant), Sh. Arwind Kumar (Clerk)

FINAL ORDER (4th Hearing):

1. This order is to be read in reference to the previous order of the Commission dated **26.11.2024**, wherein the following proceedings and directions were noted:

2. PROCEEDINGS (26.11.2024)

1. Both parties were present for the hearing.
2. The respondent PIO stated that the sought information had been supplied to the appellant, and no information was pending.
3. The respondent PIO submitted documentation, including a letter demanding a fee, vide letter reference no. **1505 dated 17.11.2022**.
4. The appellant's representative expressed dissatisfaction with the reply/information provided and requested the removal of deficiencies.
5. The respondent PIO assured that he would review the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant and provide an updated reply.

3. COMMISSION'S DIRECTION (26.11.2024)

6. The matter was adjourned to the next date of hearing.
7. The PIO was directed to review the deficiencies pointed out by the appellant and provide an updated reply, if any.

4. CURRENT HEARING

During today's hearing, the appellant is absent. However, an email dated **10.12.2024** is received from the appellant, requesting to transfer the case to another bench, citing reasons that the next hearing date was not communicated and alleging that justice is not being served by this bench, claiming government offices were being given undue preference.

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - psic23@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com; Helpline No. 0172-2864100



APPEAL CASE NO. 1622 OF 2023

The respondents' representatives, **Sh. Jaswant Rai (Jr. Assistant)** and **Sh. Arwind Kumar (Clerk)** from the office of the Executive Officer, MC, Phillaur, are present and stated that **no deficiencies** were pointed out by the appellant regarding the information provided during the last hearing. They reiterated their previous statement that **all information pertaining to the RTI application has been supplied** to the appellant, and **nothing is pending** as per their knowledge.

The Commission notes with concern that this case has already been provided with **four hearings**, despite the fact that there are **over 3,000 pending cases** before this bench. The appellant's unfounded allegation of bias against the undersigned is **deeply regrettable** and demonstrates a **bad intent** on the part of the appellant and her representative to discredit the impartiality of the Commission.

The Commission further clarifies that the **next date of hearing is always intimated** to the parties in the orders, which are dispatched via **registered post** to the address provided by the appellant. Moreover, the orders are uploaded on the Commission's official website (www.infocommpunjab.com) within a week of issuance. The appellant's representative (Adv. Tejinder Singh), being an **RTI activist**, is well aware of this procedure. Therefore, the claim that the next date of hearing was not communicated is baseless and misleading.

Such misuse of the RTI process negatively impacts genuine litigants who are unable to receive timely hearings because of the unnecessary time and resources spent on cases like this.

5. COMMISSION'S OBSERVATION

The concept of "**bench hunting**" — the practice of requesting a change of bench to seek a more favorable outcome — is not permitted, as it undermines the integrity of judicial and quasi-judicial processes. Such requests compromise the impartiality of proceedings and can lead to unnecessary delays and misuse of resources. The appellant's request to transfer the case is therefore **rejected**.

6. FINAL DECISION

Upon review of all facts, submissions, and previous proceedings, the Commission finds that the RTI application has been adequately addressed.

Accordingly, the case is **disposed of** with a **warning to RTI Activist Adv. Tejinder Singh** to refrain from filing appeals with the intent of seeking undue compensation or wasting the time of the Commission and public authorities. Misuse of the RTI process for such purposes will not be tolerated.

(Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal)

State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh

10.12.2024

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,

SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - psic23@punjabmail.gov.in

Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com; Helpline No. 0172-2864100



Shri Kirpal Singh Bhullar, (98147 09187)

S/o Shri Santokh Singh Bhullar,
R/o # BP-47, Main Road,
Bashipura, Jalandhar-144001

....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director,
Technical Education Department, Punjab,
Sector-36, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Director,
Technical Education Department, Punjab,
Sector-36,
....Respondents

Chandigarh.

APPEAL CASE NO. 2675 OF 2023

RTI application filed on	:	03/02/2023
PIO replied on	:	05.03.2023
First appeal filed on	:	05.03.2023
First Appellate Authority order	:	-
Second Appeal dated	:	24/04/2023

Appellant: Absent

Respondent: Sh. Harpreet Singh (Sr. Assistant) 9314843125 (O/o Director Technical Education Department, Punjab)

FINAL ORDER (First Hearing) :

1. The above mentioned Appeal Case was fixed for hearing before the Bench of Hon'ble State Information Commissioner, Punjab Shri Anumit Singh Sodhi. The Registry Branch vide his office order no. PSIC/Legal/2024/480, dated 04.09.2024 has re-allocated the above mentioned case to the undersigned bench. Accordingly, the case is fixed for hearing today.

2. The appellant is absent but has intimated her reason for absence via email dated **10.12.2024**. The respondent PIO's representative, **Sh. Harpreet Singh (Sr. Assistant)**, is present in the Commission with the requisite information sought by the appellant in her RTI application. Since the appellant is not present today, the respondent's representative stated that he will **send the same information to the appellant via registered post tomorrow (i.e. 11.12.2024)**. A copy of the information has also been submitted to the Commission, vide letter reference no. **2675 dated 09.12.2024**, which is taken on record.

3. Keeping in view the facts of the case and the submission made by the respondent, it appears that the requisite information has been duly provided and no deficiencies remain. As no further cause of action is left, the case is hereby **disposed of**.

(Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal)

State Information Commissioner, Punjab.
Chandigarh
10.12.2024