

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,

Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Email: pcic20@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: www.infocommpunjab.com



Sh. Bhagwant Rai

S/o Sh. Lachmi Narain,
R/o H. No. BXI-3764, Corner Backside
De. Harvinder homeopathy,
New Bus Stand Road, Barnala-148101

.....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Tehsildar, Barnala

First Appellate Authority,
O/o SDM, Barnala

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2844 of 2023 Heard Through Video Conference

Present: Sh. Bhagwant Rai, the appellant through VC
Adv. Ankush Aggarwal (9646000141) at PSIC office, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 11.11.2025 vide which the case was fixed for hearing on 17.12.2025 but the case was not heard due to administrative reasons. Accordingly, a notice of hearing was sent to the parties for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. The Counsel submitted an affidavit on behalf of M/s. Barnala Builders & Developers Pvt. Ltd., which is taken on record. Further, he submits that annexures will be submitted by today, within working hours. Also, he submits that after the hearing, a copy of the said affidavit along with annexures will be sent to the appellant through WhatsApp. But after the hearing is over, the respondent requested to grant seven days to send the annexures to the appellant and also assured that a copy of the same will be sent to the Commission for record.

Accordingly, the appellant is directed to file the counter submissions/replication, if any, well before the next date of hearing on receipt of the submissions made by third party i.e. M/s Barnala Builders & Developers Pvt. Ltd.

3. To come up on **18.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab

Dated: 21.01.2026

CC:

Sh. Ankush Aggarwal, Advocate
H. No. 476, IAS Judge Society,
New Chandigarh, Mohali

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Sh. Varun Malhotra

S/o Sh. Yashpal Malhotra,
H.No. 3601/2, Sirhind Bazar,
Tehsil & Distt.- Patiala
M: 9814246368

RTI Application No. 130929

.....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Senior Superintendent of Police,
Patiala

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Inspector General of Police,
Patiala Range, Patiala

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 6250 of 2024

Present: Sh. Varun Malhotra, the appellant.

Sh. Hakam Singh, ASI, RTI O/o SSP, Patiala (9464392733) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 02.07.2024 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 09.08.2024 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 16.10.2024 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. The respondent submits that the licensing of immigration and visa offices are being issued by the District Magistrate, Patiala and the appellant be directed to get the information from the said offices. They have also filed the written submissions in this regard, which is taken on record.

3. However, the appellant contended that for the issuance of such licenses the police authority are submitting the requisite inquiries to the District Magistrate.

4. After hearing both the parties, the PIO, O/o Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala is directed to file an undertaking that no document/photocopy is being retained in respect of inquiries made regarding the issuance of the licenses for immigration and visa offices. Also, the PIO, O/o the Deputy Commissioner, Patiala is impleaded as a necessary party in this case. A copy of RTI application is also **being sent** along with this order.

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Appeal Case No. 6250 of 2024

5. To come up on **12.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

Dated: 21.01.2026

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

CC:

Public Information Officer,
Deputy Commissioner,
Patiala

Encl. RTI application

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sh. Sanjeev Minhas, Advocate

S/o Sh. Swaran Singh Minhas,
Village- Nihalput,
Tehsil & Distt.- Pathankot-145023
M: 9417500807

RTI Application No. 143571

.....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Assistant Inspector General of Police, PB.,
(Personnel-II)
Punjab Police Head Quarter,
Sector-9, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Inspector General of Police, PB.,
(Personnel), Punjab Police Head Quarter,
Sector-9, Chandigarh

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 6246 of 2024

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

Ms. Sarjeet Kaur, Senior Assistant O/o DGP, Punjab (9592487249) and Ms. Jaspreet Kaur, Clerk (9914581849) on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 09.09.2024 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 18.09.2024 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 16.10.2024 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. The respondent submits that the sought information pertains to all District SSPs/DCP in Commissionerate, Punjab and the appellant can collect the information by filing separate RTI applications to the concerned offices. Also, he submits that reply in this regard has already been sent to the appellant. Further, he submits a reply, which is taken on record.

3. However, the appellant is absent without intimation. It is also a fact that a notice of hearings was sent to him through registered post but even though he is absent. Accordingly, **last opportunity** is given to him to remain present on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which, the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte.

4. To come up on **15.04.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

Dated: 21.01.2026

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Sh. Harinder Singh Sidhu,
S/o Late Sh. Jagdev Singh,
R/o #236, Sector 21-A,
Chandigarh
M: 9815355655

Encl.

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Secretary Personnel,
Punjab Civil Secretariat,
Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Secretary Personnel,
Govt of Punjab (PP-2),
Punjab Civil Secretariat,
Chandigarh

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 5731 of 2024

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

Ms. Gagandeep Kaur, Senior Assistant, Pb., Civil Secretariat-1, Chandigarh (8556849806) on behalf of the respondent.

Adv. Esh Gupta (7986062364) on behalf of Sh. B.C. Gupta, Additional District & Session Judge (Retd.).

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.12.2025.

2. The Counsel of Sh. B.C. Gupta made the written/counter/replication, which are taken on record. And also a copy of the same is handed over to the respondent during the course of hearing and also a copy of the same is **being sent** to the appellant along with this order to make their final counter submission, if any, well before the next date of hearing. Also, in the interest of natural justice, Sh. B.C. Gupta is at liberty to send his additional submissions, if any.

3. To come up on **11.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)

**Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.**

CC:

Sh. B.C Gupta

Additional District & Session Judge (Retd.)
House No.601, Phase-2
Ajitgarh, Mohali

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Sh. Anil Bali

S/o Sh. Bhagwan Dass Bali,

R/o Village Bajwara Kalan,

Distt. Hoshiarpur

.....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Senior Superintendent of Police,

Hoshiarpur

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Deputy Inspector General of Police,

Jalandhar Range,

Jalandhar

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2598 of 2025

Present: None on behalf of the appellant.

None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 04.02.2025 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 08.03.2025 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 22.04.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. The appellant is absent but he has sent written submissions to adjourn the case and also informed that the respondent has not supplied the information and requested for the same. However, the written response has already been received from the respondent, mentioning therein that the record concerning the application filed by the appellant, action taken of which has been sought, has not been handed by ASI, Sh. Raj Kumar (Retd.). The relevant portion of the written response filed by the respondent is reproduced below:

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Appeal Case No. 2598 of 2025

ਨੰਬਰ:- 105854

ਵਿਸ਼:-

ਜਾਦ ਪੱਤਰ

ਦੇ ਸਥਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ।

ਜਾਦ ਪੱਤਰ

ਮਿਤੀ: ੦੧/੦੨/੨੦੨੫

ਸੂਚਨਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਐਕਟ-2005 ਤਹਿਤ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਜਾਰੀ ਕਰਨ ਸਥਾਂ ਅਪੀਲ ਕੇਸ ਨੰਬਰ 2598-ਆਫ 2025
ਮਿਤੀ 22.04.2025 ਦੇ ਸਥਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ।

ਹਵਾਲਾ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ PSIC/LEGAL/2025/AC:2598/20230 ਮਿਤੀ 18.11.2025

ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਵਿਸ਼ੇ ਦੇ ਸਥਾਂ ਵਿੱਚ ਬੋਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਅਨਿਲ ਬਾਲੀ ਪੁੱਤਰ ਸ੍ਰੀ ਭਗਵਾਨ ਦਾਸ ਵਾਸੀ ਸਾਹਮਣੇ ਮੰਦਿਰ,ਪਿੰਡ ਬਜ਼ਾਰਾਂ ਤਾਂ ਤੇ ਸਿਲ੍ਹੇ ਗੁਪਤਿਆਗੁਪਤ ਨੇ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਸੂਚਨਾ ਅਧਿਕਾਰ ਐਕਟ-2005 ਤਹਿਤ ਆਪਣੀ ਆਨਲਾਈਨ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਨੰਬਰ 142999 ਭੇਜ ਕੇ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਵਿੱਚ ਦਰਸਾਈ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਨੰਬਰ 873-ਦਸਤੀ ਮਿਤੀ 10.10.22 ਬਾਣਾ ਸਦਰ ਚੀ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਲੈਣ ਦੀ ਸੰਗ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਸੀ। ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਨਾ ਮਿਲਣ ਕਰਕੇ ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਇੱਕ ਇਨਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਪੁਲਿਸ ਕਮ-ਅਪੀਲੀ ਪ੍ਰਿਵਾਰੀ,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਰੋਜ਼,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਪੀਲ ਦਾਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਸੀ,ਅਪੀਲ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਹੋਣ ਉਪਰੰਤ ਮੁੱਖ ਅਫਸਰ ਬਾਣਾ ਸਦਰ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਦਰਸਾਉਣ ਦੀ ਵਿਧੇਤਾ ਮੁਤਾਬਿਕ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਸਥਾਂ ਅਪੀਲ ਨੰਬਰੀ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਦਾ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਟਰੇਸ ਨਹੀਂ ਦੇ ਰਿਹਾ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਮਿਲਣ ਪਾਰ ਹੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਨੂੰ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਮੁਹੱਤਿਆ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕੀ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਨੇ ਅਪੀਲ ਦੇ ਸਬੰਧ ਵਿੱਚ ਆਪਣਾ ਲਿਖਤੀ ਬਿਆਨ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਕਿ ਸੈਨ੍ਟੂ ਮੇਂਡੇ ਵਲੋਂ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਉਪਰੋਕਤ ਨੰਬਰੀ ਦੀ ਅੱਜ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਨਹੀਂ ਹੈ ਅਤੇ ਜਦੋਂ ਵੀ ਸੈਨ੍ਟੂ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਜ਼ਰੂਰਤ ਹੋਵੇਗੀ ਤਾਂ ਮੈਂ ਦੌਬਾਰਾ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਦੇ ਕੇ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਹਾਸਲ ਕਰ ਲਵਾਂਗਾ। ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਦੇ ਪੱਤਰ ਨੰਬਰ 101326 ਮਿਤੀ 28-11-2024 ਰਾਂਗੀ ਜਲਾਖ ਭੇਜ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਸੀ। ਜਿਸ ਸਥਾਂ ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਇੱਪਟੀ ਇਨਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਪੁਲਿਸ ਕਮ-ਅਪੀਲੀ ਪ੍ਰਿਵਾਰੀ,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਰੋਜ਼,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਦੇ ਹੁਕਮ ਨੰਬਰ 43094/ਜੇ.ਆਰ.ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਆਈ ਮਿਤੀ 30.11.2024 ਰਾਹੀਂ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਦਾਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਅਪੀਲ ਦਾਖਲ ਦਫਤਰ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਗਈ ਸੀ। ਪੁੱਤ੍ਰ ਹੁਣ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਨੇ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਨਾ ਮਿਲਣ ਕਰਕੇ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਅਪੀਲ ਦਾਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ,ਅਪੀਲ ਇਸ ਦਫਤਰ ਵਿੱਚ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਹੋਈ ਹੈ ਜਿਸ ਦੀ ਸੂਚਵਾਈ ਮਿਤੀ 17.12.2025 ਨੂੰ ਹੋਣੀ ਹੈ। ਹੁਣ ਦਿਰ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਸਥਾਂ ਵਿੱਚੋਂ ਮੁਖ ਅਫਸਰ ਬਾਣਾ ਸਦਰ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਹਾਸਲ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ। ਜਿਹਨਾਂ ਦੀ ਰਿਧੋਰਟ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਦਾ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਸਿਲ ਨਹੀਂ ਰਿਹਾ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਮੁਤਾਬਕ ਰਿਕਾਰਡ ਬਾਣਾ ਸਹਾਇਕ ਸਬ ਇੰਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਰਾਜ ਕੁਮਾਰ (ਸੇਵਾ ਮੁਕਤ) ਨੂੰ ਮਾਰਕ ਹੋਈ ਸੀ। ਇਸ ਮਾਮੂਲੀ ਵਿੱਚ ਸਬ ਇੰਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਰਾਜ ਕੁਮਾਰ (ਸੇਵਾ ਮੁਕਤ) ਦੀ ਵਿਡਾਰੀ ਪਤਤਾਲ ਚਲ ਰਹੀ ਹੈ। ਫਿਰ ਦੀ ਮੁੱਖ ਅਫਸਰ ਬਾਣਾ ਸਦਰ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਨੂੰ ਹਦਾਇਤ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਆਪ ਖੁਦ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਨੂੰ ਲੱਭਣ ਦਾ ਧਨ ਕਰਨਗੇ ਤਾਂ ਜੋ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਮੰਗੀ ਗਈ ਦਰਖਾਸਤ ਦੀ ਸੂਚਨਾਂ ਮੁਹੱਤਿਆ ਕਰਵਾਈ ਜਾ ਸਕੇ। ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਸਥਾਂ ਜਲਾਖ ਭੇਜ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਹੈ। ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵੱਲੋਂ ਪਹਿਲਾਂ ਦਿੱਤਾ ਗਿਆ ਬਿਆਨ,ਮੁੱਖ ਅਫਸਰ ਬਾਣਾ ਸਦਰ ਪਾਸੋਂ ਹਾਸਲ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਸੀ,ਅਪੀਲ ਦੇ ਵਿੱਚ ਕੋਝੇ ਗਏ ਜਲਾਖ ਦੀ ਫੋਟੋ ਕਾਪੀ,ਮਾਣਯੋਗ ਇੱਪਟੀ ਇਨਸਪੈਕਟਰ ਜਨਰਲ ਪੁਲਿਸ ਕਮ-ਅਪੀਲੀ ਪ੍ਰਿਵਾਰੀ,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਰੋਜ਼,ਜਲੰਧਰ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਦਫਤਰ ਅਪੀਲ ਦਾਖਲ ਦਫਤਰ ਕਰਨ ਦੇ ਹੁਕਮ ਨੰਬਰ 43094/ਜੇ.ਆਰ.ਆਰ.ਟੀ.ਆਈ ਮਿਤੀ 30.11.2024 ਦੀ ਫੋਟੋ ਕਾਪੀ ਅਤੇ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਨੂੰ ਕੋਝੇ ਗਏ ਜਲਾਖ ਦੀ ਫੋਟੋ ਕਾਪੀ ਆਪ ਜੀ ਦੇ ਵਾਚਣ ਵਿੱਚ ਲਾ ਪੱਤਰ ਕਰਕੇ ਬੋਨਤੀ ਕੀਤੀ ਜਾਂਦੀ ਹੈ ਕਿ ਪ੍ਰਾਰਥੀ ਵਲੋਂ ਦਾਇਰ ਕੀਤੀ ਗਈ ਅਪੀਲ ਦਾਖਲ ਦਫਤਰ ਕਰ ਦਿੱਤੀ ਜਾਵੇ ਜੀ।

3. The missing record is not an exemption rather an appropriate action to lodge an FIR/DDR and/or to initiate disciplinary proceedings and/or to recover the record has to be taken by the Head of the office i.e. Senior Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur as per the procedure established by Law. As such, a copy of this order is **being** sent to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Hoshiarpur to look into the matter personally and an appropriate action taken in this regard be placed on record and also the fact knowing officer/official be sent to the Commission on the next date of hearing.

3 To come up on **05.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

Dated: 21.01.2026

Sh. Sandeep Kumar Malik, IPS
Senior Superintendent of Police,
Hoshiarpur

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Advocate Sh. Ishan Kaushal

Chamber No. 210,

District Court, Hoshiarpur

M: 9417758559

....Complainant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Municipal Corporation,

Jalandhar

....Respondents

Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

Present: None on behalf of the complainant.

Ms. Kanchan (9888908445) on behalf of Sr. Advocate Promila Nain, on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 09.10.2025 and the relevant portion of the same is as follows:

“This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 06.08.2025 and the relevant portion of which is as follows:

2. *The Counsel of the respondent submits that an inquiry has already been conducted by the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, a copy of which has already been received through email and also reiterated the same. Also, a copy of the inquiry report has already been provided to the complainant. However, the complainant contended that he has already received the information from the Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Company (PMIDC) and requested that he has filed the case under section 18 and requested that an appropriate action be taken against the PIO, O/o the Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar who has not dealt the RTI application in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.*
3. *It is appropriate to mention that Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar was directed under Section 25 (5) of the RTI Act, 2005 to conduct an inquiry. Accordingly, he has sent the report, the relevant portion of which is as follows:*

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864101, Helpline 0172-2864100

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

Subject: *Inquiry Report regarding delay in furnishing information under the RTI Act, 2005, pertaining to RTI Application dated 21.03.2025 filed by Sh. Ishan Kaushal, Advocate, as per the directions of Hon'ble Punjab State Information Commission in Complaint No. 123 of 2025.*

In compliance with the directions issued by the Hon'ble Punjab State Information Commission during the hearing of Complaint No. 123 of 2025 filed by Sh. Ishan Kaushal, Advocate under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, an inquiry has been ordered to be conducted by the Commission to fix responsibility for the delay in providing information pertaining to the RTI application dated 21.03.2025 and the Joint Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar was deputed to hold the inquiry and to submit factual report.

As per preliminary inquiry report, the original RTI application dated 21.03.2025 was received in the office of the Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar on 26.03.2025 which was got delivered to the concerned branches within corporation 2.05.2025 and on 5.05.2025. The application comprised twenty-four (24) separate points seeking information from different wings of the Corporation and two other offices out of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar which are not directly under the supervision/ administration of corporation Jalandhar.

The RTI application consisting of 24 points and out of which points 1 to 12 pertained to Jalandhar Smart City Limited (JSCL), points 13 to 15 related to Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Corporation (PMIDC), JSCL and PMIDC is not directly under the supervision and administration control of corporation Jalandhar and points 16 to 21 pertained to the Workshop Wing of the Corporation, and points 22 to 24 were related to the RTI Branch itself. During the course of the inquiry, statements of the concerned Public Information Officers

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

(Os) and departmental officials were recorded and the relevant record was examined.

After examining the inquiry report and record it has been observed that the application dated 21.3.2025 comprised queries spanning multiple departments including JSCL, PMIDC, Workshop Wing and the RTI Branch itself, and that the nature of the queries was complex and confusing, making it difficult to ascertain the correct departments to which each query related, therefore the then Superintendent RTI Smt. Rajni Bala could not get the application dated 21.3.2025 delivered within time. She has since been transferred to another branch. From the statements and record, it emerges that the initial delay occurred at the stage of internal routing and processing of the application within the RTI Branch, before it was forwarded to the concerned departments.

It is pertinent to mention that the complete information sought by the applicant in his original RTI application has eventually been furnished in totality both to the Hon'ble Commission and to the applicant. There is no evidence of deliberate or malafide intention on the part of any of the concerned departments to withhold information. The delay was essentially procedural, arising from the complex and composite nature of the queries and the lack of timely internal coordination at the RTI Branch level. JSCL, Workshop Wing provided the information within reasonable time from the date of actual receipt of the application, and there was no lapse on their part.

From the above facts and findings, it is concluded that the delay in supplying information occurred primarily due to the failure of the then Superintendent, RTI Branch, to promptly and effectively route the RTI application to the concerned departments and to escalate procedural difficulties to higher authorities. However, the lapse was not intentional, but arose out of administrative confusion and the composite nature of the application involving multiple departments.

The preliminary enquiry report is being submitted for your information, please.

4. *It is also appropriate to mention that the respondent has to deal with the RTI application within 30 days as per the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005 and in case the part of the information relates to other Public authority then the RTI application has to be transferred under section 6 (3) of the RTI Act, 2005 to other public authority. It is also clarified that the respondent has to transfer the RTI application under section 6 (3) to only one public authority and not to multiple public authorities as the singular word has been used in the said section.*

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

5. *From the inquiry report, it is ascertained that the information sought pertaining to Point No. 1 to 12 relates to Jalandhar Smart City Ltd, Point No. 13 to 15 related to Punjab Municipal Infrastructure Development Company (PMIDC), and Point No. 16 to 21 pertaining to the Workshop Wing and Point No. 22 to 24 related to the RTI Branch, O/o Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar. So far as the information is concerned, no directions can be given to the respondent, Public Authority under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005.*
6. *It is also a fact that earlier, Sh. Rajesh Khokhar, Assistant Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar was present from Jalandhar but neither he gave any satisfactory reply with regard to the RTI application nor it appeared that he has consulted his counter parts before came to the Commission at Chandigarh. It is also mentioned in the previous order dated 03.07.2025, that such a Senior Level Officer was present all the way from Jalandhar but he was unable to give any satisfactory reply. Since, then a copy of the order is **being sent** to Sh. Rajesh Khokhar to remain present on the next date of hearing but neither he is present nor any written submissions have been received from him which appears that his non-responsive attitude is willful and intentional. In the interest of natural justice, he is given a **last opportunity** to remain present on the next date of hearing and is at liberty to file the written submissions, if any, failing it will be presumed that he has nothing to say in this case and the decision will be taken in this regard as per the procedure established by Law.*
7. *After perusal of the inquiry report submitted by Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, mentioned herein, Smt. Rajni Bala, Superintendent-RTI has delayed the matter. In the interest of natural justice, a copy of this order is **being sent** to Smt. Rajni Bala, Superintendent, O/o Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar to make her submissions, if any that why an appropriate action may not be taken against her as per the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.*

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

8. Also, an inquiry report is silent about who has been posted as the PIO in place of Smt. Rajni Bala who is said to be transferred to another Branch. Accordingly, the Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar is directed to ensure the presence of the concerned PIO on the next date of hearing along with the case file related to the RTI application in which the titled complaint has been filed for the perusal of the Commission. Also, whosoever is the custodian of the record related to the Workshop Wing be directed to file the written submissions when the said Workshop Wing received the RTI application and also to bring the original file related to the RTI application for the perusal of the Commission and ensure the presence of the concerned.
9. In addition to the above, the Commissioner, MC, Jalandhar is also directed to submit:-
 - i. Names and designations of all the officials/officers of RTI Branch O/o MC, Jalandhar up to Commissioner, MC, Jalandhar under whom the work of the RTI Branch was being supervised on the date of RTI application i.e. 21.03.2025.
 - a. If there is a change/reallocation of work from 21.3.2025 to date then the same be specifically mentioned and submitted separately.
 - ii. Names and designations of all the officials/officers of Workshop Wing, O/o MC, Jalandhar up to Commissioner, MC, Jalandhar under whom the work of the workshop wing was being supervised on the date of RTI application i.e. 21.03.2025.
 - a. If there is a change/reallocation of work from 21.3.2025 to date then the same be specifically mentioned and submitted separately.

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

10. *The Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar is at liberty to appoint a Senior Level Officer as PIO and FAA as in an inquiry report, mentioned herein, it is submitted that the lapse was not intentional but arose out of administrative conclusion and the composite nature of the application involved in multiple departments.*
11. *Response has already been received from PMIDC, accordingly, the said office is exempted from further hearings in this case at this stage.”*

Earlier, this case was fixed for hearing on 11.11.2025, and thereafter, this case was adjourned for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. At the outset, Ms. Kanchan, Advocate requested for an adjournment on behalf of the respondent. Also, a similar request has been received from Rajni Bala Sharma, Superintendent, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar. Accordingly, the case is adjourned and the respondents are directed to file the reply/submissions at least five days prior to the date of hearing, failing which it will be presumed that the respondent has nothing to say in this case, and the case will be proceeded as per the procedure established by law. Also, a reply has been received from the Assistant Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar through his Advocates, Sh. Amit Thakur and Ms. Promila Nain, but the name of the Assistant Commissioner has not mentioned in the said submissions. Therefore, he is given **an opportunity** to file his submissions, mentioning the name and designation.

3. The complainant is absent but he informed the Commission telephonically that he is unable to attend hearing and requested for an adjournment. Accordingly, **one opportunity** is given to him to represent his case on the next date of hearing. Also, the respondent, whosoever is concerned in this case are directed to ensure the compliance of the order already passed and in case of defiance, a stringent action will be taken as per the procedure established by Law.

4. To come up on **12.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)

**Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.**

CC:

Sh. Gautam Jain, IAS
Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Jalandhar

Sh. Rajesh Khokhar
Assistant Commissioner,
Municipal Corporation,
Jalandhar

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Complaint Case No. 123 of 2025

Smt. Rajni Bala

Superintendent,

O/o Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar

Public Information Officer

O/o Punjab Municipal Infrastructure

Development Company (PMIDC),

Punjab Municipal Bhawan,

5th Floor, Plot No. 3,

Sector-35 A, Chandigarh

Public Information Officer,

O/o Jalandhar Smart City Limited,

Midland Financial Centre,

Plot No. 21-22, 2nd Floor,

GT Road, Jalandhar

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Sh. Vijay Kumar Verma,

R/o H. No. 5521/3,
MHC, Sector-13,
Chandigarh
M: 9876962400

.....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o Additional Inspector General of Police,
Complaint Cell, Punjab Police HQ,
Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority,

O/o Director General of Police, PB.,
Punjab Police Head Quarter,
Sector-9, Chandigarh

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 677 of 2026

Present: Sh. Vijay Kumar Verma, the appellant.
None on behalf of the respondent.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 24.12.2025 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 03.01.2026 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 12.01.2026 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for today i.e. 21.01.2026.

2. The appellant submits that the directions may be issued to the respondent PIO to supply the sought information. However, the respondent PIO is absent without intimation. It is also a fact that a notice of hearing was sent to him through registered post but even though he is absent.

3. In the interest of natural justice, **one opportunity** is given to the respondent to file the reply/supply the information, failing which a disciplinary action may be recommended to the competent authority i.e. Additional Chief Secretary, Home Affairs, Punjab.

4. A copy of this order is **being sent** to the Senior Superintendent of Police, Patiala to ensure the presence of the concerned official to take the matter to its logical end, failing which, his presence will be procured by issuing **Bailable Warrants**.

5. To come up on **05.03.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

(Inderpal Singh)

Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.

CC:

Sh. Varun Sharma, IPS
Senior Superintendent of Police,
Patiala

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Sh. Sanjeev Kumar,
S/o Sh. Joginder Singh,
Village Rahimapur,
PO-Mohingarwal, Distt Hoshiarpur-146024
M: 9478247010

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Divisional Forest Officer
Hoshiarpur

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Conservator of Forests, Punjab,
North Circle, Hoshiarpur

....Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2899 of 2023

Present: S. Sanjeev Kumar, the appellant

Sh. Ravinder Singh, Supdt (988871532) on behalf of the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 17.07.2025.

2. The appellant made the written submissions that the information so supplied by the respondent is incomplete. He has also filed the written submissions in this regard, which are taken on record and also a copy of the same is handed over to the respondent during the course of hearing.
3. After going through the same, the respondent placed on record, the written submissions, vide which, it has intimated that the complete information as available on record had already been supplied except the information related to third parties. He further submits that a response/written submissions were received from the third parties, who have categorically made the submissions that their personal information may not be supplied. Furthermore, he made the submissions that the appellant who is filing number of RTI applications to harass the public authority although he is an employee of the respondent's office and also requested that the compensation amounting to Rs. 10,000/- already awarded in this case be reconsidered on merit and also reiterated the submissions already made in this regard.

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Appeal Case No. 2899 of 2023

4. After hearing both the parties, the appellant is directed to file the deficiency, if any, in an annotated form (point-wise) viz.a.viz. information supplied and a copy of the same be sent to the respondent within 30 days from the issue of this order. Accordingly, both the parties are directed to remain present for deliberations. It is further clarified that in case of absence of any party the case may be decided on merit, ex-parte.

5. To come up on **15.04.2026 at 11:30 A. M. at Chandigarh.**

Dated: 21.01.2026

**(Inderpal Singh)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.**