

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 D.R. Singla, (70870 79234),
R/o # 1610 B (EWS)
Dhanas, Chandigarh.

....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate,
Kharar, District S.A.S Nagar (Mohali).

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Deputy Commissioner,
S.A.S Nagar (Mohali).

....Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 2511 OF 2022

PRESENT:

Appellant: Shri D.R. Singla
Respondent: Absent

(To be read in continuity with order dated 15.7.2022, 12.8.2022, 9.9.2022, 19.10.2022, 14.11.2022, 18.1.2023, 21.2.2023, 17.3.2023, 22.3.2023, 19.6.2023, 21.8.2023, 11.12.2023, 18.03.2024 and 27.03.2024)

ORDER:

1. The above mentioned Complaint Case was earlier heard by the Double Bench of Ld. State Information Commissioners, Punjab Shri Asit Jolly and Shri Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon. After demitted office by the above said Ld. Commissioners, now the new Double Bench has been constituted to hear this case consisting of Ld. State Information Commissioners, Punjab **SHRI SANDEEP SINGH DHALIWAL** and **DR. BHUPINDER SINGH BATTI**. Accordingly, the case is fixed for hearing before the above said Double Bench today.

2. The RTI application dated 29.10.2021 pertains to information regarding **unauthorized colonies in Kharar City**, as specified by the appellant. The First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on Nil, and the Second Appeal was filed before the Commission on 23.05.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on 18.03.2024.

3. During the last hearing, the respondent PIO, O/o SDM Kharar, represented by Sh. Surinder Pal (Building Inspector, Nagar Council Kharar) and Sh. Vivek (Clerk), was directed to provide a point-wise reply to the RTI application. Additionally, the Commission had awarded compensation of Rs. 10,000/- to the appellant, Sh. D.R. Singla, vide its order dated 18.01.2023. However, compliance with this order has not been made till date. The PIO, O/o SDM Kharar, was instructed to ensure payment of the compensation amount through a crossed cheque/demand draft within 15 days of receiving the order and to submit proof of payment to the Commission.

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4. Despite these directions, the respondent PIO remains absent today without any prior intimation. Notably, this marks the 15th hearing in this case, and the PIO has failed to comply with the last order of the Commission dated 27.03.2024.

5. In light of this continued non-compliance, a **strict warning** is issued to the PIO to ensure his presence at the next hearing with full compliance of the previous orders, including the payment of Rs. 10,000/- compensation to the appellant. Failure to comply with these directions will result in **penal action** against the PIO under the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

Furthermore, considering the appellant's ill health and old age, he is exempted from attending the next hearing. If he has any further submissions, he may send them via email or post.

6. Next hearing on 05.03.2025 at 11.00 AM at Punjab State Information Commission, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh

Chandigarh
22.01.2025

(Dr. Bhupinder Singh Batth)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

(Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab

Copy to:

PS/Dr. Bhupinder Singh Batth, Ld. State Information Commissioner, Punjab