

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.
Ph: 0172-2864116, Helpline No. 0172-2864100
Email: - psic21@punjabmail.gov.in
Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com



Sh. Gurpreet Singh Gill, Advocate,
Chamber No.227-A, District Court,
Amritsar. (M.9780706363)

V/s

....Complainant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ajnala, Amritsar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.64 of 2024

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
(ii) Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 07.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 02.12.2023 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e.26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, files a reply to the Commission's Notice of Hearing, vide letter dated 19.05.2025 mentioning therein that the complainant has sought the information regarding Panchayat Ballarwar Channa but no such Panchayat exists in the Block Ajnala, District Amritsar. Copy of the same is taken on record.
4. The complainant was contacted on telephone. He states that he has not received any reply from the respondent PIO. He is apprised of the version of respondent PIO and is also made to talk to him. The respondent PIO explains to him the position in this regard. On the asking of the Bench, the complainant shows his satisfaction over the reply of the respondent PIO. The respondent PIO is directed to send the copy of reply dated 19.05.2025 to the complainant within two days, by registered post under intimation to the Commission.
5. Keeping in view of the above, the Commission is of the view that no further action is required to be taken in this case. Hence, the case is **disposed of and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Sd/-
(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab



Sh. Gurpreet Singh Gill, Advocate,
Chamber No.227-A, District Court,
Amritsar. (M.9780706363)

V/s

....Complainant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ajnala, Amritsar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.65 of 2024

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
(ii) Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 07.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 02.12.2023 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation. It is also a fact that a copy of Commission's notice of hearing was sent to respondent PIO through registered post even though, he is absent.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, state that they have brought the information to deliver it personally to the complainant today in the Commission, but the complainant is absent.
4. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

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Complaint Case No.65 of 2024

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Sh. Sandeep Malhotra, District Development and Panchayat Officer, Amritsar**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Remanded Back **(Regd. Post)**
Sh. Sandeep Malhotra,
District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Amritsar.

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V/s

....Complainant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ajnala, Amritsar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.66 of 2024

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
(ii) Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 07.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 02.12.2023 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation. It is also a fact that a copy of Commission's notice of hearing was sent to respondent PIO through registered post even though, he is absent.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, state that they have brought the information to deliver it personally to the complainant today in the Commission, but the complainant is absent.
4. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

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Complaint Case No.66 of 2024

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Sh. Sandeep Malhotra, District Development and Panchayat Officer, Amritsar**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Sd/-
(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Remanded Back (Regd. Post)

Sh. Sandeep Malhotra,
District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Amritsar.



Sh. Gurpreet Singh Gill, Advocate,
Chamber No.227-A, District Court,
Amritsar. (M.9780706363)

V/s

....Complainant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ajnala, Amritsar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.67 of 2024

Present:

- (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
- (ii) Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 07.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 02.12.2023 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation. It is also a fact that a copy of Commission's notice of hearing was sent to respondent PIO through registered post even though, he is absent.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, state that they have brought the information to deliver it personally to the complainant today in the Commission, but the complainant is absent.
4. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

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Complaint Case No.67 of 2024

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Sh. Sandeep Malhotra, District Development and Panchayat Officer, Amritsar**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Sd/-
(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Remanded Back (Regd. Post)

Sh. Sandeep Malhotra,
District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Amritsar.



Sh. Gurpreet Singh Gill, Advocate,
Chamber No.227-A, District Court,
Amritsar. (M.9780706363)

V/s

....Complainant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ajnala, Amritsar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.68 of 2024

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
(ii) Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 07.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 02.12.2023 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation. It is also a fact that a copy of Commission's notice of hearing was sent to respondent PIO through registered post even though, he is absent.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Gagandeep Singh, Superintendent along with Sh. Sanjiv Kumar, Panchayat Secretary, state that they have brought the information to deliver it personally to the complainant today in the Commission, but the complainant is absent.
4. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

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Complaint Case No.68 of 2024

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Sh. Sandeep Malhotra, District Development and Panchayat Officer, Amritsar**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Sd/-
(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Remanded Back (Regd. Post)

Sh. Sandeep Malhotra,
District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Amritsar.

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Sh. Makhan Singh, S/o Sh. Jagir Singh,
Village Bika, District Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar,
(M.9915169047)

....Complainant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o District Consumer
Complaint Redressal Commission,
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.

....Respondents

Complaint Case No.71 of 2024

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the complainant.
(ii) Sh. Robbin Bhalla, Jr. Scale Stenographer on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 16.12.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 17.01.2024 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant is absent at today's hearing without intimation.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Robbin Bhalla, Jr. Scale Stenographer, files a reply to the Commission's Notice of hearing vide letter dated 16.06.2025, mentioning therein that point-wise, written reply has already been sent to the complainant vide letter dated 02.01.2024 by registered post. Copy of the same is taken on record.
4. Post deliberations, the Bench observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Information Commissioner and another Versus State of Manipur and another in para 31 whereof, it has been held that while entertaining a complaint case under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information which is as under:-

31. We uphold the said contention and do not find any error in the impugned judgment of the Hon'ble High Court whereby it has been held that the Commissioner while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the said Act has no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for access to the information."

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Complaint Case No.71 of 2024

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

5. Since there is an alternative and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available to the Complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the instant complaint case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order.

6. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. Sh. Naveen Puri, President O/o District Consumer Complaint Redressal Commission, Nawanshahar**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter.

7. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal before Punjab State Information Commission Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Remanded Back (Regd. Post)

Sh. Naveen Puri, President-cum-First Appellate Authority
O/o District Consumer Complaint Redressal Commission,
Shaheed Bhagat Singh Nagar.

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Sh. Prince Kumar, S/o Balbir Singh,
26, Pratap Colony, Ward No 25,
Rajpura, Distt Patiala-140401
(M: 9115910931)

....Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Municipal Council,
Rajpura.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development),
Patiala.

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 2262 of 2025

Present: (i) None is present on behalf of the appellant.
(ii) Sh. Jasbir Singh, C.S.I, on behalf of the respondent PIO.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated 18.11.2024 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 03.01.2025 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 08.03.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The appellant is absent at today's hearing. However, a letter dated 29.04.2025 has been received in the Commission vide diary no. 6270 dated 30.04.2025 mentioning therein that he has received the information to his satisfaction and does not intend to pursue the matter.
3. The respondent PIO, represented by Sh. Jasbir Singh, CSI, files a reply to the Commission's notice of hearing, vide letter dated 12.05.2025, mentioning therein that complete information has already been provided to the appellant.
4. The Commission has examined the reply and is of the considered view that this RTI application has adequately been addressed by the respondent PIO. The Appeal is accordingly, **Disposed of and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 26th June, 2025

Sd/-
(Pooja Gupta)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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