

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,**  
**Sector 16, Chandigarh.**  
**Ph: 0172-2864116, Helpline No. 0172-2864100**  
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**Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com)**



**Sh. Sukhmander Singh**, Ex Sarpanch,  
Village Burj Masta, S/o Sh. Darbara Singh,  
R/o Village Burj Masta, Tehsil and District  
Faridkot. (M.9646418170)

....Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
**O/o** Block Development and Panchayat Officer,  
Faridkot.

...Respondents

**Complaint Case No.47 of 2025**

**Present:** (i) Sh. Sukhmander Singh, the complainant.  
(ii) Sh. Nirmal Singh, Assistant Research Officer on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

The RTI application is dated 23.01.2024 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 19.02.2025 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.27.04.2026 by the Commission.

2. At today's hearing, the complainant states that he has received a reply pertaining to point no.1 and rest of two points have still not been addressed by the public authority.

3. The respondent PIO represented by Sh. Nirmal Singh, Assistant Research Officer submits that information pertaining to point no.1 was related with their respective department which has already been furnished to the complainant vide letter dated 08.02.2024 and rest two points are related with the O/o BDPO, Faridkot. An RTI application of the complainant has already been transferred to the concerned authority vide letter 08.02.2024 dated under Section 6(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

4. Since, the subject matter is related with the **respondent PIO O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Faridkot. I accordingly, order that the respondent PIO O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Faridkot** be impleaded as necessary party in this case.

5. 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:-

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**Complaint Case No.47 of 2025**

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."

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.

6. 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.

7. The instant matter is remanded back to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. District Development and Panchayat Officer, Faridkot**. 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.

8. 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. **The respondent PIO O/o Deputy Economic and Statistical Adviser, Faridkot is exempted from further appearances in the complaint case.**

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

**Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

Sd/-  
**(Pooja Gupta)**  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Enclosed: RTI Application dated 23.01.2024**

**(Regd.Post)**

**Remanded Back to**

**First Appellate Authority i.e DDPO, Faridkot**

**(For compliance)**

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**Sh. Vinod Kumar**, S/o Sh. Baldev Singh,  
R/ H.No.336, Mohalla Brahampuri,  
Tehsil Khanna, District Ludhiana.

...Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Executive Officer,  
Nagar Council, Khanna,  
District Ludhiana.

...Respondents

**Complaint Case No.41 of 2025**

**Present:** (i) The complainant is absent.  
(ii) Advocate Gulshan Mehta on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

The RTI application is dated 01.07.2024 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 30.01.2025 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.27.04.2026 by the Commission.

2. At today's hearing, the complainant is absent, without intimation.

3. The respondent PIO represented by Advocate Gulshan Mehta files a reply sent to the complainant vide letter dated 23.04.2026 by hand, which 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.41 of 2025**

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. Additional Deputy Commissioner (Urban Development), Ludhiana**. 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: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

Sd/-  
**(Pooja Gupta)**  
**State Information Commissioner**  
**Punjab**

**Enclosed: RTI Application dated 01.07.2024**

**(Regd.Post)**

**Remanded Back to**

**First Appellate Authority i.e. Additional Deputy Commissioner (UD), Ludhiana (For compliance)**  
**O/o ADC (UD), Ludhiana.**

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**Sh. Vinod Kumar**, S/o Sh. Satpal,  
Ward No.12, GOyal Street, Tibba Basti,  
Patran, District Patiala. (M.9815092369)

...Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate,  
Patran, District Patiala.

...Respondents

**Complaint Case No.46 of 2025**

**Present:** (i) Sh. Vinod Kumar, the complainant.  
(ii) Sh. Ashwani Kumar, Sr. Assistant on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

The RTI application is dated 23.12.2024 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 18.02.2025 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.27.04.2026 by the Commission.

2. At today's hearing, the complainant states that he has received a reply from the respondent PIO with which he is not satisfied.

3. The respondent PIO represented by Ashwani Kumar, Sr. Assistant files a reply sent to the complainant vide letter dated 20.01.2025, which 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."

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.

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**Complaint Case No.46 of 2025**

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-cum-Sub Divisional Magistrate Sh. Kala Ram Kansal (PCS) O/o SDM, Patran, District Patiala**. 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: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

**Enclosed: RTI Application dated 23.12.2024**

**(Regd.Post)**

**Remanded Back to**

**First Appellate Authority -cum-Sub Divisional Magistrate  
Sh. Kala Ram Kansal (PCS)  
O/o SDM, Patran, District Patiala**

**(For compliance)**

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**Sh. Makhan Singh**, S/o Sh. Jagshir Singh,  
Village Bika, SBS Nagar. (M.9915169047)

....Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
**O/o** Deputy Commissioner,  
SBS Nagar.

...Respondents

**Complaint Case No.17 of 2025**

**Present:** (i) The complainant is absent.  
(ii) Sh. Amnesh Kumar, Jr. Assistant on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

The RTI application is dated 12.12.2024 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 16.01.2025 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.27.04.2026 by the Commission.

2. At today's hearing, the complainant is absent. However, a notice of hearing has been received back from the postal authorities with the remarks i.e. 'Deceased'.

3. The respondent PIO represented by Sh. Amnesh Kumar, Jr. Assistant submitted a Death Certificate of Sh.Makhan Singh, during the course hearing, which is taken on record.

4. In view of the above and as no further proceedings can be continued in the absence of the complainant, the case is hereby **disposed of and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

**Sd/-**  
**(Pooja Gupta)**  
**State Information Commissioner**  
**Punjab**

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**Sh. Makhan Singh**, S/o Sh. Jagshir Singh,  
Village Bika, SBS Nagar. (M.9915169047)

....Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
**O/o** Deputy Commissioner,  
SBS Nagar.

...Respondents

**Complaint Case No.18 of 2025**

**Present:** (i) The complainant is absent.  
(ii) Sh. Amnesh Kumar, Jr. Assistant on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

The RTI application is dated 19.11.2024 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 16.01.2025 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.27.04.2026 by the Commission.

2. At today's hearing, the complainant is absent. However, a notice of hearing has been received back from the postal authorities with the remarks i.e. 'Deased'.

3. The respondent PIO represented by Sh. Amnesh Kumar, Jr. Assistant submitted a Death Certificate of Sh.Makhan Singh, during the hearing, which is taken on record.

4. In view of the above and as no further proceedings can be continued in the absence of the complainant, the case is hereby **disposed of and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Dated: 27<sup>th</sup> April, 2026**

**Sd/-**  
**(Pooja Gupta)**  
**State Information Commissioner**  
**Punjab**