

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
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Sh Sandeep Jindal, (M-9888530601)
S/o ShInderjeet Jindal,
Shanker Shaw Mill,
Jawaharke Road, Mansa-151505

.....Appellant

.Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa

First Appellate Authority
O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa

.....Respondent

APPEAL CASE NO. 616 OF 2024

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 18.12.2025 vide which an opportunity was given to both the parties to appear before the Commission and state their case. Accordingly, the case was adjourned to be heard on 25.03.2026. However, on 25.03.2026 the case could not be heard and hence, was postponed to be heard on 28.04.2026, ie. today.

2. Today again neither the appellant nor the respondent is present. They have even not informed the Commission about their absence for today's hearing. It is also a fact that a notice of hearing and the last order dated 18.12.2025 sent to them through registered post but even though they are absent and no submissions have been received from the appellant, which appears that he has nothing to say in this regard in this case and/or he does not intend to pursue the case.

3. In the aforementioned circumstances, the Commission is of the considered view that no useful purpose would be served by prolonging this matter any further. Hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

sd/-

Date :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg, C/o
Police Public Diary 15 A, Shastari Nagar
Model Town, Ludhiana

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Electrical Division
PWD B&R, Bathinda

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE, Electrical Circle, PWD
B&R, Bathinda

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO.4948 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg the appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 23.12.2024 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.08.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The appellant Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg states that he has received the information and is satisfied. He has also sent an email stating the same.
4. Since the appellant has received the information and is satisfied, no further cause of action is left, hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg, C/o
Police Public Diary 15 A, Shastari Nagar
Model Town, Ludhiana

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Construction Division no. 2,
PWD B&R, Hoshiarpur

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE, PWD B&R,
Construction Circle, Hoshiarpur

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO.4949 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg the appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 23.12.2024 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.08.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The appellant Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg states that he has received the information and satisfied. He has also sent an email stating the same.
4. Since the appellant has received the information and is satisfied, no further cause of action is left, hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg, C/o
Police Public Diary 15 A, Shastari Nagar
Model Town, Ludhiana

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Provincial Division
PWD B&R, Hoshiarpur

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE Construction Circle
PWD B&R, Hoshiarpur

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4950 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.Nitin Kumr Garg the appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 23.12.2024 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.08.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The appellant Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg states that he has received the information and satisfied. He has also sent an email stating the same.
4. Since the appellant has received the information and is satisfied, no further cause of action is left, hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Bath)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg, C/o
Police Public Diary 15 A, Shastari Nagar
Model Town, Ludhiana

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Central Division No. 2,
PWD B&R, Amritsar

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE PWD, B&R, Construction Circle
Amritsar

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4954 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg the appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 10.05.2025 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.08.2025 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.

3. The appellant Sh.Nitin Kumar Garg states that he has received the information and satisfied. He has also sent an email stating the same.

4. Since the appellant has received the information and is satisfied, no further cause of action is left, hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Jasmeet Singh,
S/o Sh. Nachattar Singh,
Village Dan Singh Wala, Bathinda

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o DDPO, Bathinda

First Appellate Authority,
O/o DC, Bathinda

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 5586 OF 2023

Present :- None for the parties

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 28.01.2026 vide which neither the appellant nor the respondent was present.

2. Today again both the parties are not present. The appellant has not informed the Commission about his absence for today's hearing. Respondent has sent his reply alongwith information today in the Commission. It is also a fact that the last order dated 28.01.2026 was sent to them through registered post but even though they are absent and no submissions have been received from the appellant, which appears that he has nothing to say in this regard in this case and/or he does not intend to pursue the case. ***Copy of the reply alongwith information as submitted by the respondent be sent to the appellant alongwith this order.***

3. In the aforementioned circumstances, the Commission is of the considered view that no useful purpose would be served by prolonging this matter any further. Hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is disposed of and closed. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

sd/-

Date: 28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh. Nitin Kumar Garg,
C/o Police Public Diary, 15 A, Shastri Nagar
Model Town, Ludhiana - 7814322100

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Provincial Division
PWD (B&R), Gurdaspur

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE, PWD, B&R, Construction Circle
Pathankot

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 2269 of 2023

Present :- (i) Sh. Nitin Kumar Garg the appellant
(ii) For the Respondent: Sh. Amanjot, Junior Assistant, (988404662)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 10.03.2026 passed by the Commission.

2. The appellant Sh. Nitin Kumar Garg states that he has received the information and compensation amount. He further states that he is satisfied with the same.
3. Since the appellant has received the information and is satisfied, no further cause of action is left hence the above said appeal case filed by the appellant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Date :28.04.2026

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Sh. Paramjeet Singh, S/o Sh
Joginder Singh R/o B/32/3394, Main Gali
Kailash Nagar, Near BastiJodhewal, Ludhiana

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Commissioner MC Ludhiana

First Appellate Authority
O/o Commissioner MC Ludhiana

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.255 of 2025

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 15.04.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 12.09.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.

3. Today neither the complainant nor the respondent is present. They have even not informed the Commission about their absence for today's hearing. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 – 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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).



COMPLAINT CASE NO. 255 of 2025

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

4. 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

5. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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.

6. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

7. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post.** **Sd/-**

Dated :28.04.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Remanded back to
First Appellate Authority
o/o Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana

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Sh.Surinder Singh, S/o Sh. Balvir Singh
R/o Village LakheKeYttar
POMandiLadhuka, Tehsil and Distt.Fazilka

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o DFO, Sri Mukatsar Sahib

First Appellate Authority
O/o DFO, Sri Mukatsar Sahib

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.244 of 2025

Present :- (i) None for the complainant
(ii) For the respondent : Sh.Lovepreet Kamboj, Forest Guard (9872310025)

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 05.06.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 03.09.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.

3. Complainant is absent today. The Respondent states that the required information has already been given to the Complainant and has shown the acknowledgment given by the Complainant in token of having received the information.

4. Since the complainant has received the information, no further cause of action is left, hence the above said complaint case filed by the complainant is **disposed of and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Dated :28.04.2026

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Sector 16, Chandigarh.
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Sh. Harsharnjeet Singh, S/o Sh.
Harchand Singh, Village Khera Block Dehlon
Distt.Ludhiana

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o BDPO, Dehlon, Distt. Ludhiana

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.149 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh. Harsharnjeet Singh the complainant
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 10.01.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 04.06.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.

3. The Complainant Sh. Harsharnjeet Singh states that no information has been given to him so far. Respondent is absent today. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 – 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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).



COMPLAINT CASE NO. 149 of 2025

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

4. 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

5. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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.

6. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

7. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

Sd/-

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Dated :28.04.2026

*Remanded back to
First Appellate Authority
o/o DDPO, Ludhiana*

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Sh.Sanjay Kumar, S/o Sh.Des Raj,
#678-1, BRS Nagar, Ferozepur Road,
Ludhiana

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Tehsildar (East)
Ludhiana

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.192 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.Sanjay Kumar, complainant
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 20.03.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 15.07.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The complainant states that no information has been provided to him.
4. No one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today.
5. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 - 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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 provision of Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.



COMPLAINT CASE NO.192 of 2025

4. 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

5. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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.

6. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

7. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

Date :28.04.2026

**Sd/-
(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner**

Remanded back to

First Appellate Authority
O/o DC, Ludhiana

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Sh. Bhupindersingh, S/o Sh. Sohan Singh
R/o 10, Hiltop colony, BhamiaKhurd,
Distt.Ludhiana

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o DC, Ludhiana

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.187 of 2025

Present :- (i) None for the complainant
(ii) For the respondent :-ShKamlesh Rani, SrAsstt.

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 16.05.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 08.07.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The complainant is not present today.
4. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 - 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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 provision of Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.



COMPLAINT CASE NO.187 of 2025

4. 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

5. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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.

6. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

7. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

Date :28.04.2026

Sd/-
(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner

Remanded back to

First Appellate Authority
O/o DC, Ludhiana

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Sh.Swaran SinghWalia,
S/o Sh. SarwanSingh,Kothi No.101,
Ward No. 2, Samrala Road, Model Town
Khanna, Distt. Ludhiana - 141401

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Tehsildar, Samrala
Distt.Ludhiana

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.173 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh.SwaransinghWalia, Complainant along with ShAmrinder Singh
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 16.05.2025 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 30.06.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The complainant states that no information has been provided to him.
4. No one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today.
5. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 – 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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).



COMPLAINT CASE NO. 173 of 2025

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provision of Section 18 of the RTI Act, 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

7. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

9. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

Date :28.04.2026

Remanded back to
First Appellate Authority
O/o DC, Ludhiana

Sd/-
(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.
Ph: 0172-2864120



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Sh. Harmesh Lal, S/o Sh.Karnail Singh
Village Ali KeJhugia, Block Mamdot,
Tehsil and Distt.Ferozepur - 152002

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o BDPO, Mamdot,
Distt.Ferozepur

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO.158 of 2025

Present :- (i) None for the Complainant

(ii) For the respondent :- ShNishan Singh, Panchayat Secretary (82849-54255)

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 20.12.2024 whereby the information-seeker has sought information as mentioned in his RTI application. He filed complaint in the Commission on 10.06.2025 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. Notice was issued to the parties for hearing for 28.04.2026 in the Commission.
3. The Complainant is not present today.
4. The respondent states that the information has been sent to the Complainant.
5. After going through the file, it is observed that this is the complaint case. The attention of the Complainant is drawn to the decision of the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos. Nos.10787 – 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010)- Chief Information Commissioner and another Vs. 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 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).



COMPLAINT CASE NO.158 of 2025

As such, since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provision of Section 18 of the RTI Act, 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 case and the First Appellate Authority has not had the occasion to review the decision of the PIO, as envisaged under the RTI Act by passing a detailed well reasoned speaking order. In case the complainant has any grouse, he is advised to challenge the response of the PIO before the designated First Appellate Authority, as envisaged under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, who will decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed time limit, after giving an opportunity of hearing to all concerned, by passing a speaking order.

7. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority. The commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the complaint (copy enclosed) 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. If, however, the complainant does not feel satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority, he will be at liberty to file a Second Appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the RTI Act, 2005.

9. In view of the observations noted above, the instant case is **disposed of**. Copies of this decision be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

Date :28.04.2026

Remanded back to
First Appellate Authority
o/o DDPO, Ferozepur

Sd/-
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State Information Commissioner
Punjab