

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.
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Sh. Rakesh Kumar Grover, (M-9872850654)

S/o Sh. Mohan Lal, # 1099 Chhabra Street
Tehsil Jalalabad, Distt.Fazilka- 152024
(RTI application no. 105043)

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o SSP, Tarn Taran

2.Public Information Officer,
O/o SSP, Fazilka

First Appellate Authority
O/o DIGP Ferozepur Range,
Ferozepur

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 3038 of 2024

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 13.08.2026 passed by the Commission vide which the respondent was exempted from today's hearing.

2. Today neither the appellant nor the respondent is present. The appellant has sent his submissions. Copy of the same be sent to the respondent alongwith these orders. Since both the parties are not present hence one last opportunity is given to them to appear before the Commission and state their case. To come up on 29.12.2026 at 11:30AM through CISCO-Webex (video-conferencing application). **The CISCO-Webex meeting ID of this bench is 25154060883 and password is 12345.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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ShRashpal Singh, (M-99143-77466)
S/o ShSatnam Singh,
R/o Village Jeva Arai,
Block/Tehsil Guruharsahai,
Distt Ferozepur-152024

..... Appellant

Public Information Officer,
O/o BDPO, Guruharsahai,
Distt Ferozepur

.Vs

First Appellate Authority
O/o DDPO, Ferozepur

.....Respondent

AC No. 6137 of 2025
Alongwith
AC No. 6135 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh. Hardiyal Singh the appellant alongwith Sh. Mandeep Singh
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2026 and 01.07.2026 passed by the Commission vide which the respondent was not present.

2. There are two appeal cases preferred by Sh.Rashpal Singh against PIO, o/o BDPO, Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur. As a common question of law is involved, these cases have been clubbed together. Today the appellant states that no information has been given to him so far. Respondent is absent today. He has not informed the Commission about his absence for today's hearing.

3. The perusal of the case file shows that the respondent has not attended any hearing in the Commission. A careful perusal of the record reveals that the respondent has persistently failed to participate in the proceedings. The Commission is constrained to observe that the conduct of the respondent is wholly unacceptable. Repeated absence from the proceedings, failure to furnish information, failure to submit any written explanation and continued disregard of the Commission's directions amount to gross negligence in the discharge of statutory duties. Such conduct also results in unnecessary harassment to the appellant, who has been compelled to attend repeated hearings without any fault on his part. The Commission, therefore, takes a serious view of the continued and deliberate non-compliance by the respondent public authority.

4. Looking at the lackadaisical attitude of the respondents, the Commission deem it appropriate to issue show cause notice under section 20 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005, to PIO, o/o BDPO, Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay / denial in providing the information to the RTI applicant. He is directed to file reply to the show cause notice in writing before the next date of hearing.

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AC No. 6137 of 2025

Alongwith

AC No. 6135 of 2025

In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

5. To come up on **22.12.2026 at 11.30AM** for further proceedings through Video Conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozpur. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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ShHardiyal Singh, S/o Sh. Gurjit Singh
R/o Village Jeewa Arai, Block
Tehsil Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur

..... Appellant

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

.Vs

First Appellate Authority
O/o DDPO, Ferozepur

..... Respondent

AC No. 6138 of 2025
Alongwith
AC No. 6139 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh. Hardiyal Singh the appellant alongwith Sh. Mandeep Singh
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 24.02.2026 and 01.07.2026 passed by the Commission vide which the respondent was not present.

2. There are two appeal cases preferred by Sh. Hardiyal Singh against PIO, o/o BDPO, Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur. As a common question of law is involved, these cases have been clubbed together. Today the appellant states that no information has been given to him so far. Respondent is absent today. He has not informed the Commission about his absence for today's hearing.

3. The perusal of the case file shows that the respondent has not attended any hearing in the Commission. A careful perusal of the record reveals that the respondent has persistently failed to participate in the proceedings. The Commission is constrained to observe that the conduct of the respondent is wholly unacceptable. Repeated absence from the proceedings, failure to furnish information, failure to submit any written explanation and continued disregard of the Commission's directions amount to gross negligence in the discharge of statutory duties. Such conduct also results in unnecessary harassment to the appellant, who has been compelled to attend repeated hearings without any fault on his part. The Commission, therefore, takes a serious view of the continued and deliberate non-compliance by the respondent public authority.

4. Looking at the lackadaisical attitude of the respondents, the Commission deem it appropriate to issue show cause notice under section 20 (1) of the RTI Act, 2005, to PIO, o/o BDPO, Guruharsahai, Distt. Ferozepur as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay / denial in providing the information to the RTI applicant. He is directed to file reply to the show cause notice in writing before the next date of hearing.

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AC No. 6138 of 2025

Alongwith

AC No. 6139 of 2025

In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

5. To come up on **22.12.2026 at 11.30AM** for further proceedings through Video Conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ferozpur. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Sarbjit Singh, S/o Sh. Jagir Singh
House No. 298, Sector 15, SaiKirpa
Village Sarna, Distt. Pathankot - 145025

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Construction Division,
Pathankot

First Appellate Authority
O/o Chief Engineer PWD B&R,
Patiala

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4837 of 2025

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 01.07.2026 passed by the Commission.

2. Today neither the appellant nor the respondent is present. The appellant has sent his submissions via mail which is taken on record. He has requested for online hearing of his case. Respondent is also absent today. Considering the request of the appellant the above said appeal case is adjourned on 29.12.2026 at 11.30 AM through video conference facility in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Pathankot. Respondent may attend the hearing in the Commission office. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date : 29.09.2026

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

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ShBhushan Jain, (M-8146300392)
#392, Street No. 3,
Nirmal Nagar, Dugri, Ludhiana

..... Appellant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana

.Vs

First Appellate Authority
O/o Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana

.....Respondent

AC No.5501of 2024

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 01.07.2026 passed by the commission vide which the respondent was not present.

2. Today neither the appellant nor the respondent is present. The appellant has sent his submissions via mail that he is unable to attend today's hearing, hence he has sought another date. Respondent has not informed the Commission about his absence for today's hearing. Considering the request of the appellant the above said appeal case is adjourned on 29.12.2026 at 11.30 AM for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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ShriMalkit Singh, (78375 37570)
S/o ShriPiara Singh, Village Lalleh,
P.O Karahewala, Block Makhu,
Tehsil Zira, Distt. Ferozepur.

Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Block Makhu, District Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ferozepur.

Respondents

COMPLAINT CASE NO. 464 OF 2022
(CONVERTED INTO APPEAL CASE)

Present :- (i) Sh.Malkit Singh the appellant
(ii) for the respondent : Sh.Sukhdev Singh, Panchayat Secretary (9814254854),
Sh.Kulwant Singh, Panchayat Secretary (9814607586)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 23.07.2026 passed by the Commission.

2. Today the appellant states that no information has been given to him so far. Respondent states that the penalty of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Thousand only) imposed by the Commission has been deposited. He has submitted the relevant challan/receipt before the Commission. The same is taken on record. Respondent further states that he has brought requisite information/documents duly attested i.e. all resolution copies, cash books, stock register, purchase-item bills, vouchers and other relevant records, duly attested. The same is handed over to the appellant with these directions to point out deficiencies, if any, in the information provided within one month from the receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission. Respondent is directed to remove the same from the next date of hearing.

3. To come up on **30.12.2026 at 11.30 AM** for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh Surat Chander, (M-7009236606)
144, housing Board Colony,
Urban Estate-1, Jalandhar-144005

..... Appellant1

Public Information Officer,
O/o MC, Jalandhar

.Vs

First Appellate Authority
O/o Commissioner, MC, Jalandhar

.....Respondent

AC No. 3584 of 2024
(through VC facility in the O/o DC, Jalandhar)

Present :- (i) Sh Surat Chander, appellant
(ii) For the respondent – Sh Ajay Kumar, Building Inspector (9780443506)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. The appellant states that the information has not been provided to him. He adds that he has brought the copy of the complaints regarding which he has sought information.

3. The respondent states that the information demanded by the appellant relates to different branches of MC Jalandhar. He adds that the information related to their branch will be provided to the appellant before the next date of hearing.

4. After hearing both the parties and perusing the documents placed on record, the appellant is directed to handover the copy of the complaint regarding which he has sought information, to the respondent today. Accordingly, the respondent is directed to provide the information to the appellant before the next date of hearing, under intimation to the Commission office.

5. After hearing the respondent, it has come to the notice of the Commission that Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar functions through multiple zones. However, it has been repeatedly observed in several cases before the Commission that officers representing one zone often disclaim responsibility by stating that the matter pertains to another zone. Such an approach results in unnecessary delay in the disposal of RTI matters and causes avoidable hardship to information seekers.

6. The Commission is of the considered view that internal administrative arrangements of a public authority cannot be permitted to defeat the objective of the RTI Act, 2005. The citizen cannot be expected to identify the exact zone or branch holding the information when the information sought pertains to the affairs of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar. It is the responsibility of the

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AC No. 3584 of 2024

public authority to coordinate internally and furnish an appropriate response in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act.

7. The Commission further notes with concern that, in a number of cases pertaining to Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, effective representation before the Commission is often lacking, resulting in avoidable adjournments and delays in adjudication. In view of the above, the Commission deems it appropriate to involve the highest administrative authority of Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar so that such issues do not recur.

8. Accordingly, a copy of this order is forwarded to the Municipal Corporation Jalandhar with the directions to personally examine the matter and ensure that a comprehensive and coordinated response is furnished in the present case after obtaining inputs, wherever required, from all concerned zones/offices.

9. The Commissioner is further directed to consider designating a suitable senior officer as a Nodal Officer for RTI matters pertaining to Municipal Corporation, Jalandhar, or to establish an appropriate mechanism for coordination amongst all zones, so that citizens are not compelled to suffer on account of inter-departmental or inter-zonal issues and the proceedings before the Commission are conducted efficiently. Both the parties are directed to appear, in person, on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte. To come up on 11.11.2026 at 11:30AM for further proceedings in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Kulbir Pal, S/o Sh. Assa Ram,
R/o Village Kalyanpur,
Jalandhar.M : 9872089251

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director,
Department of Rural Development and Panchayat ,Punjab,
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer
Block Jalandhar West, District Jalandhar.

Public Information Officer,
O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Director,
Department of Rural Development and Panchayat, Punjab,
Vikas Bhawan, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 5608 OF 2023

(Heard through VC in the O/o DC Jalandhar)

Present :- (i) Sh. Kulbir Pal, appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. The appellant states that the information pertaining to point no. 5 has not been provided to him.
3. No one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today.
4. The perusal of the case file shows that on the last date of hearing Sh Sewa Singh, BDPO appeared personally and sought some time to provide the information pertaining to point no. 5 to the appellant. Today neither is the respondent present nor the information stands provided.
5. The Commission is of the view that the conduct of the respondent is highly deplorable. The RTI Act 2005 casts a statutory duty upon every Public Information Officer to deal with RTI applications diligently and within the prescribed time. The continued default on the part of the respondent not only defeats the very object of the Act but also undermines the principles of



APPEAL CASE NO. 5608 OF 2023

transparency, accountability and good governance. Such conduct cannot be permitted to go unchecked and deserves to be viewed seriously.

6. In view of the above, ***PIO- O/o BDPO, Block Jalandhar West, District Jalandhar is directed*** to show cause in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/ denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the complainant under Section 19 (8)(b) of the Act for detriment suffered.

In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso, thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

7. Both the parties are directed to appear, in person, on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing this, the Commission shall proceed to decide the matter on the basis of the material available on record and may issue appropriate directions in accordance with law. To come up on 11.11.2026 at 11:30AM through **Video-conferencing facility in the O/o DC, Jalandhar.** Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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ShVinod Kumar, (M-99149-32811)
S/o ShRanjitkumar, ChakRadheWala,
Village ModiKhera, Tehsil Abohar,
Distt Fazilka-152116
(RTI application no. 173303)

..... Appellant

Public Information Officer,
O/o ADC (D) Fazilka

.Vs

First Appellate Authority
O/o ADC (D) Fazilka

.....Respondent

AC No.3285of 2025

Present :- (i) ShVinod Kumar, appellant
(ii) For the respondent – None

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. The appellant states that no information has been provided to him.
3. The respondent is not present today. However, he has sought time telephonically.
4. In view of the above, the request of the respondent is accepted and he is given an opportunity to provide complete information to the appellant, and also file his reply on the next date of hearing. Both the parties are directed to remain present on the next date of hearing, for deliberations, failing which, the decision will be taken on merit, ex parte. To come up on 11.11.2026 at 11:30 AM in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Karan Preet Singh, S/o Sh
Prem Kumar, House No. Es 316, Abadpura
Tehsil and Distt. Jalandhar

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Jalandhar Drainage cum
Mining and Geology Division
Jalandhar

First Appellate Authority
O/o SE, Jalandhar Drainage cum Mining
and Geology Division, Jalandhar

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4512 OF 2025

(Heard through VC facility in the O/o DC, Jalandhar)

Present :- None for the parties.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. Today neither the appellant nor the respondent is present. However, the appellant has sent an e-mail through which he has filed the copy of the deficiencies.

3. After going through the copy of deficiencies, as filed by the appellant it has been ascertained that the deficiencies pointed out by the Appellant is beyond the scope of originally sought information under the RTI Application.

4. Accordingly, the respondent is directed to remove only those deficiencies which are relevant to and concerned with the information sought under the RTI application, and no information beyond the scope of the original RTI application is required to be furnished. To come up on **29.12.2026 at 11.30 AM** for further proceedings in the commissions. ***Copy of the deficiencies as sent by the appellant be sent to the respondent alongwith these orders.*** Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Bharat Bhushan, S/o Sh. Raj Kumar (8360294870)
R/o House No. 30, Gali No. 2, Ward No. 30,
Indra Colony, Tehsil and Distt. Pathankot

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Canal And Ground Water Division,
Water Resource Department, Gurdaspur

First Appellate Authority,
O/o SE, Canal and Ground Water circle,
Water Resources Department, Amritsar

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 75 OF 2025

Present: (i) Sh. Bharat Bhushan, appellant
(ii) For the respondent: Ms Rekha, Clerk (84379-26184) and Sh. Manpreet Singh, Clerk (8872006026)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.08.2026 passed by the Commission in his case.

2. The appellant states that the information provided to him is not complete.
3. The respondent states that she has brought some additional information today, pertaining to the RTI of the appellant, to be provided to him. Copy of the same is handed over to the appellant.
4. In view of the above, the appellant is given an opportunity to point out deficiencies, if any in the information provided, to the respondent before the next date of hearing with a copy to the Commission. On receipt of the deficiencies, the respondents are directed to remove the same before the next date of hearing. Both the parties are directed to appear, in person, on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte. To come up on **08.12.2026 at 11:30 AM** for further proceedings in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Bharat Bhushan, S/o Sh. Raj Kumar (8360294870)
R/o House No. 30, Gali No. 2, Ward No. 30,
Indra Colony, Tehsil and Distt. Pathankot

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o XEN, Canal And Ground Water Division,
Water Resource Department
Gurdaspur
First Appellate Authority
O/o SE, Canal and Ground Water circle,
Water Resources Department, Amritsar

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 78 OF 2025

Present: (i) Sh Bharat Bhushan, appellant
(ii) For the respondent: Ms Rekha, Clerk (84379-26184) and Sh Manpreet Singh, clerk (8872006026)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.08.2026 passed by the Commission in his case.

2. The appellant states that the information provided to him is not complete.
3. The respondent states that she has brought some additional information today, pertaining to the RTI of the appellant, to be provided to him. Copy of the same is handed over to the appellant.
4. In view of the above, the appellant is given an opportunity to point out deficiencies, if any in the information provided, to the respondent before the next date of hearing with a copy to the Commission. On receipt of the deficiencies, the respondents are directed to remove the same before the next date of hearing. Both the parties are directed to appear, in person, on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing which the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte. To come up on **08.12.2026 at 11:30AM** for further proceedings in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date : 29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Jaspal Singh (Driver)(8968063191)
#2160, Sector 21C, Chandigarh-160022

Vs

.....Appellant

Public Information Officer,
O/o Schedule Caste Land Development
and Finance Corporation, Punjab Sector 17C, Chandigarh

First Appellate Authority
O/o Schedule Caste Land Development
and Finance Corporation, Punjab Sector 17C, Chandigarh

.....Respondent

APPEAL CASE NO. 5429 of 2024

Present :- (i) ShAbhishek Sharma, Counsel for the appellant
(ii) For the respondent- Sh. Harpreet Singh, Dy. Ad(95928-30300) and
and Sh. Davinder Singh, APIO (9855770987)

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.08.2026 vide which the appellant was given an opportunity to file his rejoinder in response to the reply of the respondent.

2. The respondent states that they have already provided their reply but as directed, the appellant has not filed any rejoinder.

3. The Counsel for the appellant has requested that two weeks time be given to them to file their rejoinder.

4. In view of the above, the request of the counsel for the appellant is acceded and he is given two weeks time to file his rejoinder to the respondent, with a copy to the Commission office. Both the parties are directed to remain present on the next date of hearing, for deliberations, failing which, the decision will be taken on merit, ex parte. To come up on **08.12.2026 at 11:30 AM** in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Date :29.09.2026

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

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Sh. Baljot Singh Gill, (M-9463883029)
S/o Sh. Iqbal Singh, # 202, Street No. 11
Baba Deep Singh, Village Gill,
Tehsil and Distt. Ludhiana (west)- 141006
(RTI Application no. 168206)

Appellant
Versus

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

First Appellate Authority
O/o SDM Ludhiana (west)

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4899 of 2025

Present :- (i) Sh. Baljot Singh Gill, appellant
(ii) None for the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.08.2026 vide which a show cause notice was issued to the respondent-PIO.

2. The appellant states that he has neither received the information nor any reply from the respondent.
3. The respondent is not present today.
4. The Commission has carefully perused the record available on file. It is observed that this is the fourth hearing in the matter. Not only has the respondent remained absent, but no explanation has been offered for such continued default.

5. The record further reveals that a Show Cause Notice has already been issued to the concerned respondent requiring him to explain why action under Section 20 of the Right to Information Act, 2005, should not be initiated against him but the respondent is again not present today. Neither they have bothered to inform the Commission about their absence nor they have filed any reply. Despite repeated directions, the Respondent-PIO is not appearing before the Commission. Hence, bailable warrant be issued to him through Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana so that he should appear before the Commission to present his case personally. To come up on **29.12.2026 at 11:30 AM** in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Date : 29.09.2026

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

Email: psic25@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: www.infocommpunjab.com



Sh. Gurcharan Singh,
133-L, Chandigarh Road,
NamdevMandir Road, Khanna.
M: 9876400267

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director Public Instructions (SE)
PSEB Complex, Director Public Instructions
(DPI, near Mohali Old Bus Stand, Sector 62, Colleges,
SahibzadaAjit Singh Nagar, Punjab 160062

First Appellate Authority
O/o Director School Education,
PSEB Complex, Director Public Instructions
(DPI, near Mohali Old Bus Stand, Sector 62, Colleges,
SahibzadaAjit Singh Nagar, Punjab 160062

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 614 OF 2024

Present :- (i) Sh. Gurcharan Singh, appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. The appellant states that the complete information has not been provided to him. He has filed his written submission today.

3. No one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today.

4. It is observed that despite an opportunity granted to the respondent vide previous order, no one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today, nor has any request for adjournment or intimation been received by the Commission. The conduct of the respondent reflects a casual and negligent approach towards the proceedings of the Commission. However, the copy of the submissions, as filed by the appellant is sent to the respondent along with these orders, with directions to file their reply on the next date of hearing, after considering the submissions of the appellant, failing which the matter shall be proceeded with ex-parte on the basis of the available record and appropriate action, as deemed fit under the provisions of the RTI Act, may be considered for non-compliance of the directions of the Commission.

5. To come up on 08.12.2026 at 11:30AM in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.
sd/-

Date :29.09.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

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Sh. Kulbir Pal, S/o Sh. Assa Ram,
R/o Village Kalyanpur,
Jalandhar.M : 9872089251

appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Director,
Department of Rural Development and Panchayat ,Punjab,
VikasBhawan, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer
Block Jalandhar West, District Jalandhar.

Public Information Officer,
O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Director,
Department of Rural Development and Panchayat, Punjab,
VikasBhawan, Sector 62, S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).

Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 5609 OF 2023

Present :- (i) ShKulbir Pal, appellant
(ii) For the respondent- None

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 20.08.2026 passed by the Commission in this case.

2. The appellant states that the information pertaining to point no. 4 has not been provided to him.
3. No one has appeared on behalf of the respondent today.
4. The perusal of the case file shows that on the last date of hearing Sh Sewa Singh, BDPO appeared personally and sought some time to provide the information pertaining to point no. 4 to the appellant. Today neither is the respondent present nor the information stands provided.
5. The Commission is of the view that the conduct of the respondent is highly deplorable. The RTI Act 2005 casts a statutory duty upon every Public Information Officer to deal with RTI applications diligently and within the prescribed time. The continued default on the part of the respondent not only defeats the very object of the Act but also undermines the principles of



APPEAL CASE NO. 5609 OF 2023

transparency, accountability and good governance. Such conduct cannot be permitted to go unchecked and deserves to be viewed seriously.

In view of the above, **PIO- O/o BDPO, Block Jalandhar West, District Jalandhar** to show cause in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/ denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the appellant under Section 19 (8)(b) of the Act for detriment suffered.

In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso, thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

6. Both the parties are directed to appear, in person, on the next date of hearing for deliberations, failing this, the Commission shall proceed to decide the matter on the basis of the material available on record and may issue appropriate directions in accordance with law. To come up on **11.11.2026 at 11:30AM** through **Video-conferencing facility in the O/o DC, Jalandhar.** Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :29.09.2026

(Dr. Bhupinder S Batth)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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