

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
**RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,**  
**SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**  
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**Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)**  
Shri Surinder Singh, S/o Shri Ram Bilas,  
R/o Machhana, Distt:Bathinda.  
RTI application No. 38010.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer**

O/o XEN,  
PPCB, Bathinda

**First Appellate Authority**

O/o Sr. Environmental Engineer,  
PPCB, Zonal Office, Bathinda.

....Respondents

**AC No. 1510 of 2023**

**Present:** (i) Shri Surinder Singh, the appellant- in person.  
(ii) Shri Gurmeet Singh, Environmental Engineer-cum-PIO, Regional office O/o PPCB,  
Bathinda-in person.

**ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 28.10.2022 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 04.01.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 17.02.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The case has been heard today. The appellant comes present for today's hearing before the Bench in person and states that he has not received any information from the respondent till date.
3. **Shri Gurmeet Singh, Environmental Engineer-cum-PIO, Regional office O/o PPCB, Bathinda** comes present for today's hearing before the Bench in person and states that he has brought the information to deliver it personally to the appellant. Copy of the same is handed over to the appellant for his perusal. The PIO further adds that due to the shortage of the clerical staff in their department, the delay has occurred in supplying the information.
4. After going through the reply, the appellant states that he is satisfied with the same but it has been supplied after a lapse of six months. He requests that he should be compensated for the mental and physical harassment and respondent should be penalized for the delay in supplying the information.
5. After hearing the verbal submissions made by the PIO during the proceedings and scrutiny of the materials on record, the respondent has submitted that there is no deliberate or willful delay caused by him in the supply of information to the appellant. Keeping in view the explanation offered by the Respondent for the delay, and his overall demeanor, I do not deem it a fit case for the imposition of penalty upon the Respondent PIO or for the award of compensation under Section 19(8)(b) RTI Act 2005. However, the PIO is warned to be careful in future while dealing with the RTI applications.
6. Since, the information as sought by the appellant has been provided, no further cause of action is left in the instant Appeal case. The case is **disposed off and closed**. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**17.05.2023**

**Sd/-**  
**(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))**  
**State Information Commissioner**