



Sh Tejinder Singh,  
Civil Court, Tehsil Complex,  
Backside Sanjh Kender,  
Phillaur.

... Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Food Safety Officer,  
Amritsar.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o District Health (Designated Officer Food Safety),  
Amritsar

...Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 403 of 2021**

**PRESENT: None for the Appellant**  
**None for the Respondent**

**ORDER:**

The appellant through an RTI application dated 24.04.2020 has sought information regarding notices issued to food business operators from Nov.2019 to March 2020 along with speaking order if any passed – action taken on sellers operating in open places – inspection conducted on food business operators –samples collected and other information as enumerated in the RTI application concerning the office of Food Safety Officer, Amritsar. The appellant was not satisfied with the information provided by the PIO vide letter dated 12.06.2020 after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 03.10.2020 which took no decision on the appeal.

The case first came up for hearing on 14.07.2021 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana/Amritsar. The respondent informed that the information has been provided to the appellant.

The appellant claimed that despite the deposit of requisite fee of Rs.300/-on 21.06.2020 as raised by the PIO vide their letter dated 12.06.2020 relating to information regarding point-4 and pointing out the discrepancies, the PIO had not provided the complete information.

The PIO was given one more opportunity to sort out the discrepancies and provide complete information to the appellant. The PIO was also directed to explain the reasons for the delay in attending the RTI application.

On the date of the hearing on **18.11.2021**, the respondent present pleaded that the discrepancies as pointed out by the appellant have been sorted out and the reply has been sent to the appellant on 10.11.2021 with a copy to the Commission.

The appellant was absent and vide email informed that despite deposit of requisite fee as well as the order of the Commission, the PIO has not supplied the requisite information.

Having gone through the reply, the commission observed that the respondent had sent the following reply:

- Point-1 - No improvement notice issued /speaking order passed from Nov.2019 to March 18, 2003.
- Point-2 - The information relates to 3<sup>rd</sup> party

**Appeal Case No. 403 of 2021**

- Point-4 - Since the postal order received from the appellant on account of the fee raised has not been yet got encashed by the concerned Clerk, the information will be provided after encashment of postal order. Further, since the information is available with Sh.Simranjit Singh, Food Safety Officer, now at Mohali and Smt.Gagandeep Kaur-Food Safety Officer now at Patiala, the designated officer o/o Civil Surgeon, Amritsar has been requested vide letter dated 27.07.2021 to call the information from them.

Having gone through the RTI application and the reply, the commission observed that point-1 of the RTI application has been suitably replied to. However, regarding point-3, the PIO is directed to apply section 10 of the RTI Act and provide information after severing the information that is personal, in this instance the home address.

Regarding point-4, Sh.Simranjit Singh, Food Safety Officer, Mohali and Smt.Gagandeep Kaur-Food Safety Officer Patiala was impleaded in the case and directed to send information to the Food Safety Amritsar immediately and the Food Safety Officer, Amritsar was directed to supply complete information to the appellant with a copy to the Commission.

The case last came up for hearing on 22.03.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana/Amritsar. Both parties were absent. The case was adjourned.

On the date of the last hearing on 10.08.2022, the respondent present pleaded that the information pertaining to Point 4 has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 08.07.2022.

The appellant claimed that the PIO has raised a fee for 132 pages, whereas, despite the deposit of the requisite fee, the PIO has supplied the requisite information containing 16 pages only.

The respondent pleaded that the available information containing 19 No. of pages has been supplied to the appellant.

Hearing both parties, the respondent was directed to file a reply justifying that the fee was correctly raised. The respondent was further directed to file a point-wise affidavit duly attested by the Public Notary in case no more information as per the RTI application is available in their record. The respondent was further directed to send the original affidavit to the appellant by registered post with a copy to the Commission within 15 days.

**Hearing dated 07.12.2022:**

The case has come up for hearing today through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana/Amritsar. Both parties are absent.

The PIO has not filed a reply to the interim order. I am marking this to the Secretary, Department of Food and Civil Supplies, Punjab, Chandigarh, to enquire into the matter and initiate disciplinary proceedings against the officer as per departmental rules and send a compliance report to the Commission.

To come up for further hearing on **28.02.2023 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana. The PIO to appear through VC at DAC Amritsar.

**Chandigarh**  
**Dated: 07.12.2022**

**Sd/-**  
**(Khushwant Singh)**  
**State Information Commissioner**

**CC to:Secretary,**  
**Department of Food & Civil Supplies,**  
**Pb, Sector 39-C,Chandigarh.**