

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Sector 16, Chandigarh.
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Sh Surinderpal Singh, S/o Late Sh Babu Singh,
R/o 947, HIG, Jamalpur Colony,
Ludhiana.

... Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer,
O/o Food Safety Officer,
O/o Civil Surgeon,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate authority,
O/o Food Safety officer,
Ludhiana.

...Respondent

Appeal Case No. 5561 of 2021

PRESENT: None for the Appellant
None for the Respondent

ORDER:

The appellant, through an RTI application dated 07.06.2021, has sought information regarding the file related to the sealing of Chandan Chicken Shop on 31.05.2021 in Bhai Randhir Singh Nagar Block after a video got viral – a copy of the registration certificate of Chandan Chicken Shop and other information as enumerated in the RTI application from the office of Civil Surgeon -Ludhiana. The appellant was not provided with the information, after which the appellant filed a first appeal before the First Appellate Authority on 23.07.2021, which did not decide on the appeal.

The case last came up for hearing on 06.06.2022 through video conferencing at DAC Ludhiana. Both parties were absent.

Having gone through the record, the Commission observed that there has been an enormous delay of one year in attending to the RTI application. The Commission having taken a serious view of this, directed the PIO to **show cause why penalty be not imposed on him under section 20 of the RTI Act 2005 for not supplying the information within the statutorily prescribed period of time. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard.** The PIO was again directed to provide information to the appellant as per the RTI application within 15 days of receiving the order with a copy to the Commission.

Hearing dated 03.10.2022:

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

The order dated 06.06.2022 sent to the appellant at the given address has been received back with the remarks of the postal authority "No such person at this address".

The PIO is given one more opportunity to file a reply to the show cause notice and appear personally on the next date of hearing otherwise it will be presumed that the PIO has nothing to say on the matter and the Commission will take an ex-parte decision. The PIO is directed to send the details of PIOs from the date of filing of the RTI application (Name of PIO – Period of stay – present posting).

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The appellant is also directed to appear personally on the next date of the hearing.

To come up for further hearing on **19.12.2022 at 11.00 AM** through video conference facility available in the office of Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.

Chandigarh
Dated: 03.10.2022

Sd/-
(Khushwant Singh)
State Information Commissioner