

**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 Kuldeep Singh  
S/o Shri Piara Singh  
R/o Village Bhateri,  
Tehsil Bassi Pathana,  
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

.....Appellant

Versus

**Public Information Officer**

O/o Sub Divisional Officer,  
Sub Division, Rural, PSPCL,  
Morinda, District Ropar.

**First Appellate Authority**

O/o Executive Engineer (Rural)  
PSPCL, Kharar, Distt. Mohali.

....Respondents

**AC No.6046/2022**

**Present:** (i) **Shri Kuldeep Singh, Appellant- in person.**  
(ii) **Shri Navjot Singh, SDO, Sub Division, PSPCL, Kharar, Distt. Mohali,**  
**on behalf of the PIO/Respondent- in person.**

**ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 15.06.2022 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 30.09.2022 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 01.12.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 08.02.2023. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Kuldeep Singh, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and states that he has been denied information by PIO, Sub Urban Sub Division, PSPCL, Morinda on the pleas that information sought is third party information.

3. Shri Navjot Singh, Assistant Engineer, Operation Division, PSPCL, Kharar comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench and produces authority letter before the Bench to attend the hearing. He also produces before the Bench letter dated 07.02.2023 that information has been sent to the appellant vide letter dated 19.01.2023.

4. The Bench, on perusal of the reply, observes that the appellant has been denied information under Section 8 (1)(j) of RTI Act being third party information as the party concerned has refused to give permission for sharing their information with the appellant.

5. Though, prima-facie, on perusal of RTI application, the information seems to be personal and third party information. However, post deliberations with the appellant, it emerges that the factory which is being set up is in the proximity of village Bhateri, the village of appellant entails serious environmental hazards and noise pollution. The issue raised by the appellant is, thus, in the larger public interest. As such, the Bench over-rules the contention of the PIO regarding denying the same under Section 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act.

6. In view of the above, the PIO is directed to supply point out information to the appellant. However, any document which is construed to contain personal information, can be withheld and rest of the documents be provided to the appellant before the next date of hearing.

7. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 03.04.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh**  
**08.02.2023**

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