

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Sector 16, Chandigarh.  
Ph: 0172-2864115, Email: - [psic25@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psic25@punjabmail.gov.in)  
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Helpline No. 0172-2864100



**Bhagwant Rai**

S/o Sh. Lachhmi Narain,  
H. No B/XI A 3764,  
Corner Backside Dr. Harvinder Homeopathy ,  
New Bus Stand Road,  
Barnala-148101 (Punjab)  
(M : 9815275300)

....Appellant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o The Executive Officer,  
Nagar Council,  
Barnala (Punjab)

**First Appellate Authority,**  
O/o The Addl. Deputy Commissioner( Urban),  
Barnala (Punjab)

...Respondents

**Appeal Case No. 202 of 2023**

Present : None on behalf of the appellant.  
Sh. Lakhwinder Singh, Building Inspector(M.-9501618259), for the respondent.

**ORDER**

Heard in the Commission.

2. The RTI request is dated 01.07.2022. First appeal is dated 18.08.2022. Second appeal has been received in the Commission on 02.01.2023.
3. The appellant, Sh. Bhagwant Rai, is not present in today's hearing but through a letter dated 20.02.2023(received in the Commission vide Diary no. 5029 dated 22.02.2023), he has intimated that he is unable to attend today's hearing and also has requested to hear this case through Video Conference Facility. It is taken on record.
4. Sh. Lakhwinder Singh, Building Inspector, who appeared on behalf of the respondent PIO in today's hearing, states that a reply vide letter no. 374 dated 07.09.2022 has been given to the appellant, intimating that part information is not available in the official record and for part information, Rupees forty is to be deposited by the appellant and also submit a copy of reply to the Commission vide letter no. 92 dated 23.02.2023 It is taken on record.

**Contd...2/-**

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**-2-**

5. After examining the documents placed on record, it is found that the RTI request is dated 01.07.2022 and the respondent PIO has demanded the required fee from the appellant vide letter dated 07.09.2022, which is not within the stipulated time as per rules of the Right to Information Act and at this stage, the respondent PIO is bound to supply the requisite information to the appellant 'free of cost'.

6. Hence, the respondent PIO is directed to supply the certified copies of the required information as per queries raised through RTI request 'free of cost' to the appellant under intimation to the Commission.

7. With the above-announced directions, the case is **disposed and closed.**

Copies of the orders be sent to the parties.

**Date :28<sup>th</sup> February, 2023**

Sd/-  
**(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)**  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab