



Sh D.R Singla, (M-7087079234)
H.N 4961, Sector 38 (West)
Chandigarh

.....Appellant

.Vs

Public Information Officer,
O/o The Sub Divisional Magistrate,
Kharar

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Deputy Commissioner,
SAS Nagar, Mohali, Punjab

.....Respondent

AC No. 2511 of 2022

PRESENT: (i) Sh D R Singla, appellant
(ii) For the Respondent: Ms Rajni Bala, Sr Asstt. (88472-77054) and Sh Rajan Paul, Reader to SDM (98884-52078)

ORDER:

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 14.11.2022 vide which the Appeal case was adjourned to be heard on 12.12.2022. However, on 12.12.2022 the abovementioned case could not be heard and was postponed to be heard on 18.01.2023, i.e today.

2. The Appellant states that the information has not been provided to him so far.
3. The Respondent states that they have got the copy of information which is handed over to the Appellant. The Appellant has gone through the same and states that he is not satisfied with the same.
4. After hearing both the parties and perusing the case file, it is ascertained that the Appellant had filed his RTI application on 29.10.2021 through which he has sought the relevant information. A period of more than 12 months has passed but the information has not been provided to the Appellant. The Respondent has filed their reply to the show-cause notice today. I gone through the same and do not agree with it. Hence, the same is returned to the Respondent.



AC No. 2511 of 2022

5. It is, thus apparent from the response of the PIO that there has been delay in providing the information. Appellant had also suffered financial loss in getting the information. There are systemic deficiencies in the manner of receiving and disposing of applications. The department still does not appear to be properly tuned to the performance of its obligations enshrined under the RTI Act. The departmental officials are not properly sensitized and trained to discharge their functions under the RTI Act 2005.

6. I am, therefore, of the view that the Appellant deserves to be awarded compensation under Section 19(8)(b) of RTI Act 2005 for the loss and detriment suffered by him on account of delayed supply of information.

7. I am of the view that ends of justice would be met by awarding a sum of Rs. **10,000/- (Rupees Ten Thousand only)** by way of compensation to the Appellant. This amount shall be payable by State Exchequer within fifteen days.

8. Further the Respondent-PIO is directed to file their specific point-wise reply, on affidavit on the next date of hearing.

9. To come up on **21.02.2023 at 12:00PM** in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Chandigarh
18.01.2023

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