

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864110, Helpline 0172-2864100

Email: [pcic20@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:pcic20@punjabmail.gov.in) Visit us: [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com)

Whatsapp No. 62848-20189



Sh. Parmjit Singh Bharaj  
# 1711/15, Street No. 3,  
Shimlapuri  
Ludhiana 141003

.. appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer  
o/o Deputy Commissioner,  
Ludhiana

.. Respondents

Complaint Case No. 527 of 2022  
(Video Conference Proceedings)

Present:- None on behalf of the complainant.  
Sh. Manjinder Singh, Sr. Asstt on behalf of the respondents.

## ORDER

The RTI Application is dated 19.7.2022 vide which the complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI Application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on 22.8.2022 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 3.10.2022 but the case could not be heard on the said date and further adjourned for today i.e. 4.10.2022 and the parties were informed telephonically.

2. The complainant requested that the directions may be issued to the respondent- Public Information Officer to provide the complete information.

3. It is appropriate to mention that Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in its order rendered on 12.12.2011 in Civil Appeal Nos.10787 – 10788 of 2011 (arising out of SLP © No.32768-32769/2010) has held that while entertaining a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, the Commissioners have no jurisdiction to pass an order providing for an access to the information. Since the complainant has approached the Commission under the provisions of Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005, no directions for providing further information can be given by the Commission.

An alternative and efficacious remedy of first appeal is available to the complainant under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 which has not been availed in the

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instant case. Since the complainant is interested in getting the information, therefore, the matter is remanded back to Sh. Rahul Chabba, PCS, First Appellate Authority-cum-Addl. Deputy Commissioner (General), Ludhiana to take appropriate decision in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act within the prescribed timeline, after giving opportunity of hearing to all concerned by passing a speaking order. A copy of this complaint filed by the complainant is also **being sent** to him along with this order with the directions that the same may be treated as first appeal.

4. With these directions the case is disposed of and closed. However, the liberty is granted to the complainant to file the 2<sup>nd</sup> appeal in this case, if he is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority.

Dated:4.10.2022

(Suresh Arora)  
Chief Information Commissioner,  
Punjab.

Sh. Rahul Chabba, PCS

Addl. Deputy Commissioner (General)

Ludhiana