

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.**

Ph: 0172-2864116, Email: - psic26@punjabmail.gov.in

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Helpline NO.0172-2864100 (10.00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days)



Shri Runish Dhiman, Advocate,
#437, Sector-3A,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
Tehsil Amloh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Environment Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
Sr. Environmental Engineer,
O/o Zonal Office-II,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.2903 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Runish Dhiman, Appellant.**
(ii) **Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, District Fatehgarh Sahib, on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 14.12.2020 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 28.02.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Fatehgarh Sahib. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Runish Dhiman, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant had filed RTI application dated

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2903/2021

14.12.2020 to which reply was given on 12.01.2021 vide ordinary post. Then he filed First Appeal on 28.02.2021 and hearing before First Appellate Authority was held on 16.03.2021 and during the hearing, the appellant had denied receipt of information and accordingly, he was given a copy of the information supplied earlier by hand during the hearing itself and also states that the information as available in the official records has been provided to the appellant. He further states that the appellant had sought one week time to go through the information. Since no deficiency was received from the appellant, the appeal was disposed off by the First Appellate Authority.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he has not been provided complete information. The representative of the PIO explains to him the position regarding the NOC issued to a person for establishing an industry as also regarding the action taken on such complaints received by PPCB. He states that such information is available on the website of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is in the public domain. As per directions of the Bench, the representative of PIO explains the complete procedure for accessing the website of the PPCB to the appellant and also demonstrates to him the process on his mobile phone.

5. The appellant states that he was not explained in this amount of detail regarding the information supplied and the manner of accessing the information from the official website during the hearing of appeal before First Appellate Authority. He, however, expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied as well as on the feedback given by the PIO's representative and gives his consent to close the case.

6. In view of the above, no further intervention of the Bench is required. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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District Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Environment Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
Sr. Environmental Engineer,
O/o Zonal Office-II,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.2904 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Runish Dhiman, Appellant.**
(ii) **Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, District Fatehgarh Sahib, on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 14.12.2020 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 28.02.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Fatehgarh Sahib. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Runish Dhiman, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant had filed RTI application dated

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2904/2021

14.12.2020 to which reply was given on 12.01.2021 vide ordinary post. Then he filed First Appeal on 28.02.2021 and hearing before First Appellate Authority was held on 16.03.2021 and during the hearing, the appellant had denied receipt of information and accordingly, he was given a copy of the information supplied earlier by hand during the hearing itself and also states that the information as available in the official records has been provided to the appellant. He further states that the appellant had sought one week time to go through the information. Since no deficiency was received from the appellant, the appeal was disposed off by the First Appellate Authority.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he has not been provided complete information. The representative of the PIO explains to him the position regarding the NOC issued to a person for establishing an industry as also regarding the action taken on such complaints received by PPCB. He states that such information is available on the website of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is in the public domain. As per directions of the Bench, the representative of PIO explains the complete procedure for accessing the website of the PPCB to the appellant and also demonstrates to him the process on his mobile phone.

5. The appellant states that he was not explained in this amount of detail regarding the information supplied and the manner of accessing the information from the official website during the hearing of appeal before First Appellate Authority. He, however, expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied as well as on the feedback given by the PIO's representative and gives his consent to close the case.

6. In view of the above, no further intervention of the Bench is required. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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Shri Runish Dhiman, Advocate,
#437, Sector-3A,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
Tehsil Amloh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Environment Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
Sr. Environmental Engineer,
O/o Zonal Office-II,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.2905 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Runish Dhiman, Appellant.**
(ii) **Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, District Fatehgarh Sahib, on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 14.12.2020 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 28.02.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Fatehgarh Sahib. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Runish Dhiman, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Rubal Goyal, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant had filed RTI application dated

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2905/2021

14.12.2020 to which reply was given on 12.01.2021 vide ordinary post. Then he filed First Appeal on 28.02.2021 and hearing before First Appellate Authority was held on 16.03.2021 and during the hearing, the appellant had denied receipt of information and accordingly, he was given a copy of the information supplied earlier by hand during the hearing itself and also states that the information as available in the official records has been provided to the appellant. He further states that the appellant had sought one week time to go through the information. Since no deficiency was received from the appellant, the appeal was disposed off by the First Appellate Authority.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he has not been provided complete information. The representative of the PIO explains to him the position regarding the NOC issued to a person for establishing an industry as also regarding the action taken on such complaints received by PPCB. He states that such information is available on the website of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is in the public domain. As per directions of the Bench, the representative of PIO explains the complete procedure for accessing the website of the PPCB to the appellant and also demonstrates to him the process on his mobile phone.

5. The appellant states that he was not explained in this amount of detail regarding the information supplied and the manner of accessing the information from the official website during the hearing of appeal before First Appellate Authority. He, however, expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied as well as on the feedback given by the PIO's representative and gives his consent to close the case.

6. In view of the above, no further intervention of the Bench is required. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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Shri Runish Dhiman, Advocate,
#437, Sector-3A,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
Tehsil Amloh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Environment Engineer
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Mandi Gobindgarh,
District Fatehgarh Sahib.

First Appellate Authority
Sr. Environmental Engineer,
O/o Zonal Office-II,
Punjab Pollution Control Board,
Patiala.

....Respondents

AC No.2906 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Runish Dhiman, Appellant.**
(ii) **Shri Mohit Singla, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, District Fatehgarh Sahib, on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 14.12.2020 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 28.02.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 25.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Fatehgarh Sahib. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Runish Dhiman, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Mohit Singla, Assistant Environmental Engineer, PPCB, Mandi Gobindgarh, comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant had filed RTI application dated

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2906/2021

14.12.2020 to which reply was given on 12.01.2021 vide ordinary post. Then he filed First Appeal on 28.02.2021 and hearing before First Appellate Authority was held on 16.03.2021 and during the hearing, the appellant had denied receipt of information and accordingly, he was given a copy of the information supplied earlier by hand during the hearing itself and also states that the information as available in the official records has been provided to the appellant. He further states that the appellant had sought one week time to go through the information. Since no deficiency was received from the appellant, the appeal was disposed off by the First Appellate Authority.

4. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant states that he has not been provided complete information. The representative of the PIO explains to him the position regarding the NOC issued to a person for establishing an industry as also regarding the action taken on such complaints received by PPCB. He states that such information is available on the website of Punjab Pollution Control Board and is in the public domain. As per directions of the Bench, the representative of PIO explains the complete procedure for accessing the website of the PPCB to the appellant and also demonstrates to him the process on his mobile phone.

5. The appellant states that he was not explained in this amount of detail regarding the information supplied and the manner of accessing the information from the official website during the hearing of appeal before First Appellate Authority. He, however, expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied as well as on the feedback given by the PIO's representative and gives his consent to close the case.

6. In view of the above, no further intervention of the Bench is required. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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Shri Jatinder Kumar Sharma,
S/o Shri Mahinder Mohan
H. No.56-B, Street No.O,
Avtar Nagar, Jalandhar.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority-cum-
O/o Jalandhar Development Authority,
Jalandhar.

....Respondents

AC No.2876 of 2021

Present: (i) **Shri Jatinder Kumar, Appellant.**
(ii) **Shri Sanjeev Sharma, Sub Divisional Officer, J.D.A. Jalandhar**
PIO/respondent.

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 16.03.2020 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 29.04.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 22.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Jalandhar. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Jatinder Kumar, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.

3. Shri Sanjeev Sharma, SDO O/o J.D.A. Jalandhar comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that RTI application was received through the First Appellate Authority on 19.05.2021 and the same was then transferred under Section 5(4) of RTI Act to the Additional Chief Administrator and the Estate Officer. The PIO O/o Addl.C.A. JDA informed that the information is not

Cont..P-2



-2-

AC No.2876/2021

related to his office. In addition, the PIO O/o Estate Officer, JDA informed that the information has been sought by the appellant in respect of one Shri Harkesh Kumar, Bill Clerk and accordingly, his consent was asked for vide letter dated 02.06.2021, but he has denied consent to share his information with the appellant stating that his personal information sought by the appellant he denied under Section 8(1)(j) of RTI Act. The APIO O/o Estate Officer, Jalandhar Development Authority has also cited the Govt. of Punjab, Department of Governance Reforms & Public Grievances letter dated 09.08.2021 in support of his contention to deny information to the appellant on the grounds of being personal and third party information.

4. On the asking of the Bench as to why he is seeking information about an individual, the appellant states that he wants to know whether the said Bill Clerk Shri Harkesh Kumar is competent enough to handle a public dealing seat or not.

5. The Bench, after going through the contents of RTI application, hearing the version of the appellant and perusing the letter dated 09.08.2021, is convinced that the appellant has not been able to establish any public cause or larger public interest in the information sought by him. As such, the Bench agrees with the contention of the PIO and denies the same to the appellant.

6. In view of the above, the Bench does not feel that any further intervention of the Bench is required. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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Shri Hardeep Singh,
No.29/2C, Opp. Bobby Karyana Store,
Shaheed Baba Deep Singh Nagar,
Pathankot Road Bye Pass,
Jalandhar-144012.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Addl. Superintending Engineer,DS
Model Town Division,
PSPCL, Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Chief Engineer, DS
North Zone, PSPCL, Jalandhar

....Respondents

AC No.2872 of 2021

Present:

- (i) **Shri Hardeep Singh, Appellant.**
- (ii) **Shri Joginder Singh, XEN, PSPCL, Model Town, Jalandhar/APIO,
on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 17.02.2021 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 15.05.2021 and the second appeal was filed in the Commission on 21.06.2021 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 05.10.2021 through V.C. in DC Office, Jalandhar. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. Shri Hardeep Singh, appellant attends the hearing through V.C.
3. Shri Joginder Singh, XEN, PSPCL, Model Town, Jalandhar comes present to attend the hearing through V.C. He states that the appellant was supplied information vide letter dated 30.07.2021, but the appellant vide letter 24.08.2021 replied that the information is not complete and is unsatisfactory. The appellant is provided another set of documents by the respondent during the hearing itself and explained the details elaborately.

Cont..P-2



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AC No.2872/2021

4. The Bench on perusing the RTI application observes that the appellant has sought details regarding the TDS deducted from his salary and deposited with the Income Tax Authorities for the period 01.06.2011 to 28.06.2012. On the asking of the Bench, the APIO shows him the photocopies of the information supplied and says that all issues raised now have been addressed.

5. On the asking of the Bench, the appellant Shri Hardeep Singh expresses his satisfaction over the information supplied and also gives his consent to close the case.

6. In view of the above, no further cause of action is left in the matter. **The appeal case is disposed off and closed.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

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RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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Shri Rohit,
S/o Shri Guljar,
VPO Nurpur Setha,
Tehsil & Distt. Ferozepur
Pin-152004.

.....Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o PSPCL
Ferozepur.

Remanded Back
First Appellate Authority
Dy.Chief Engineer,
PSPCL, Ferozepur.

...Respondents

CC No.813/2021

Present: (i) **Shri Rohit, Complainant**
(ii) **Shri S.S. Sodhi, XEN, PSPCL, Ferozepur on behalf of the PIO.**

ORDER

(Heard through V.C.)

1. The RTI application is dated 10.02.2021 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on 25.06.2021 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties through V.C. in DC Office, Ferozepur. Accordingly, the case has been heard today. The Complainant comes present to attend the hearing and states that he has not received any information so far.
3. Shri S.S.Sodhi, XEN O/o PCPCL Ferozepur comes present to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO. He states that the complainant had wrongly addressed his RTI application and hence, the RTI application was returned to the appellant unactioned. Thereafter, he had filed three similar applications, reply to which was sent to him.

Cont..P-2



-2-

CC No.813/2021

4. The Bench observes that the complainant has not been supplied any information by the PIO. The Bench also observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant.

5. It must be noted that there is an alternate and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act. It appears that the complainant has failed to avail the same in the instant complaint case. The Bench observes that the complainant must be given an opportunity to avail of the above said remedy.

6. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority i.e. **Shri Damanjit Singh Toor, Dy. Chief Engineer, PSPCL, Ferozepur**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal with Punjab State Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

7. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

**First Appellate Authority
Shri Damanjit Singh Toor,
Deputy Chief Engineer, PSPCL,
Ferozepur.**

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RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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Shri BittuS/o Shri Om Kumar,
Village Bholapur,PO Sahibana,
Chandigarh Road,
District Ludhiana.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

Chief Administrator,
GLADA, Ludhiana

Remanded Back

First Appellate Authority

Estate Officer,
GLADA,Ludhiana.

....Respondents

CC No.823/2021

Present:

- (i) Complainant -absent
- (ii) Shri Ashok Kumar, Assistant Estate Officer/APIO, GLADA, Ludhiana
on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C./on mobile phone)

1. The RTI application is dated 28.04.2021 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on 28.06.2021 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. Accordingly, the case has been heard today in Commission's office. The Complainant has not come present to attend the hearing before the Bench.
3. Shri Ashok Kumar, Assistant Estate Officer/APIO, GLADA, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing. He states that he is not fully aware of the facts of the case and that he will ensure that information is supplied to the complainant at the earliest.
4. In view of the absence of the complainant and non-receipt of any feedback from the office of PIO, the Bench is not in a position to proceed further in the matter and deems it appropriate that at first, the First Appellate Authority should hear the complainant to resolve the issue and provide information.

Cont..P-2



-2-

CC No.823/2021

5. The Bench also observes that the complainant is not satisfied with the information supplied to him. The Bench also observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant.

6. It must be noted that there is an alternate and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act. It appears that the complainant has failed to avail the same in the instant complaint case. The Bench observes that the complainant must be given an opportunity to avail of the above said remedy.

7. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority i.e. **Shri Gulshan Kumar, Estate Officer, GLADA, Ludhiana**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal with Punjab State Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

**First Appellate Authority
Shri Gulshan Kumar
Estate Officer, GLADA,
Ludhiana**

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
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Shri Bittu S/o Shri Om Kumar,
Village Bholapur, PO Sahibana,
Chandigarh Road,
District Ludhiana.

...Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

Chief Administrator,
GLADA, Ludhiana

Remanded Back

First Appellate Authority

Estate Officer,
GLADA, Ludhiana.

....Respondents

CC No.831/2021

Present:

- (i) Complainant -absent
- (ii) Shri Ashok Kumar, Assistant Estate Officer/APIO, GLADA, Ludhiana
on behalf of the PIO/respondent.

ORDER:

(Heard through V.C./on mobile phone)

1. The RTI application is dated 26.04.2021 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on 23.06.2021 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).
2. The notice of hearing was issued to the parties through V.C. in DC Office, Ludhiana. Accordingly, the case has been heard today in Commission's office. The Complainant has not come present to attend the hearing before the Bench.
3. Shri Ashok Kumar, Assistant Estate Officer/APIO, GLADA, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing. He states that he is not fully aware of the facts of the case and that he will ensure that information is supplied to the complainant at the earliest.
4. In view of the absence of the complainant and non-receipt of any feedback from the office of PIO, the Bench is not in a position to proceed further in the matter and deems it appropriate that at first, the First Appellate Authority should hear the complainant to resolve the issue and provide information.

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5. The Bench also observes that the complainant is not satisfied with the information supplied to him. The Bench also observes that the complainant has not availed the provision of the Section 19(1) of the RTI Act by filing an appeal with the First Appellate Authority (FAA). As such, the FAA has not been able to address the grievances of the complainant.

6. It must be noted that there is an alternate and efficacious remedy of First Appeal available under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act. It appears that the complainant has failed to avail the same in the instant complaint case. The Bench observes that the complainant must be given an opportunity to avail of the above said remedy.

7. The instant matter is now remanded back to the First Appellate Authority i.e. **Shri Gulshan Kumar, Estate Officer, GLADA, Ludhiana**. The Commission hereby directs the FAA to treat the copy of the Complaint (enclosed herewith) as the First Appeal and decide the matter in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act after giving all concerned parties an opportunity to be heard. He is directed to give an early date to hear the complainant and decide the matter. In case, the complainant is not satisfied with the decision of the First Appellate Authority (FAA), he is at liberty to file second appeal with Punjab State Information Commission in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.

8. In view of the above, **the case is disposed off and closed**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Chandigarh
05.10.2021**

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

Copy to (By Regd. Post):

**First Appellate Authority
Shri Gulshan Kumar
Estate Officer, GLADA,
Ludhiana.**