

**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 Manjit Singh  
S/o Shri Gurcharan Singh,  
R/o Village Manemajra.  
Tehsil Chamkaur Sahib,  
District Ropar.

.....Complainant

Versus

**Public Information Officer**  
O/o General Manager,  
Punjab Roadways,  
Ludhiana.

**Remanded Back**

**First Appellate Authority**  
General Manager,  
Punjab Roadways, Ludhiana

....Respondent

**CC No.771 of 2020**

**Present:** (i) Complainant- absent  
(ii) Shri Rajnish Bansal, Superintendent O/o G.M. Punjab Roadways,  
Ludhiana/APIO.

**ORDER:**

**(Heard through Cisco Webex/ on Mobile Phone)**

1. The RTI application is dated 04.08.2020 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 08.10.2020 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act).
2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 08.03.2021 by the Commission through Cisco Webex. Shri Manjit Singh, complainant has not come present to attend the hearing through Cisco Wbex.
3. Shri Rajnish Bansal, Superintendent/APIO O/o General Manager, Punjab Roadways, Ludhiana comes present to attend the hearing through Cisco Webex. He states that the information has been sent to the complainant vide letter dated 23.10.2020 by registered post and again on 12.01.2021.

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4. The complainant Shri Manjit Singh is contacted on mobile phone. He states that he has not received any information in spite of the fact that he has deposited Rs.460/- as fee for supply of information. On the asking of the Bench, the APIO present denies the demand of any fee from the complainant.

5. The Bench further 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. Post deliberations with the complainant and the representative of PIO, the instant matter is remanded back to the First Appellate Authority i.e. Shri Rachhpal Singh, General Manager, Punjab Roadways, 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.

Sd/-

**Chandigarh  
08.03.2021**

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

**Copy to (By Regd. Post):**

**Shri Rachhpal Singh,  
First Appellate Authority  
General Manager,  
Punjab Roadways,  
Ludhiana**