

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Shri Devinder Kumar Sharma, (99885-51616)

Advocate, # 5264 - A,
Sector - 38 West, Chandigarh.

....Complainant

Versus

Shri Angrej Singh (82888-07286),
Public Information Officer-cum-Deputy DEO,
O/o DEO (SE),
Mohali.

....Respondent

Complaint CASE NO. 38 OF 2025

PRESENT: Complainant: Shri Devinder Kumar Sharma, (99885-51616)
Respondent: Shri Rajinder Kumar, Legal Assistant (98765-52300)

ORDER:

The application dated **08.01.2025** vide which the complainant had sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. Complaint was filed in the Commission on **07.02.2025** under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. **03.03.2026**.

2. The complainant states that he has not received any reply / information from the respondent till date. Further, he desires penal action against the respondent PIO as per the RTI Act, 2005, for the long delay in providing the information.

3. The respondent states that the concerned dealing hand of the office is on medical leave and requested for an adjournment.

4. After hearing both the parties and going through the case file, it is observed that this is the complaint case and the only question before the Commission is to determine whether there was any malafide intention on the part of PIO to delay / deny the information. The Commission notes that the respondent PIO O/o DEO (SE), Mohali, has failed to provide any reply / information to the complainant within the stipulated 30 days period.

“Such kind of behavior of a Government servant needs to be condemned and such employees need to be taught a lesson and in my view, they are unfit to hold the post of Public Information Officer or any other post in connection with the discharge of duties under RTI Act and they should be shown the doors, so that it will be a lesson for other Officers to act in accordance with the terms of the Act, falling which they may also face the similar or more consequences.”

5. Keeping in view of the above, the respondent **PIO-cum-Deputy DEO, Shri Angrej Singh**, is further directed to be present in person along with written explanation for the long delay in addressing this RTI application. This must be done in 10 working days of this hearing.

6. **To come up on 26.05.2026 at 11.00 A.M. at Chandigarh.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date: 03.03.2026

Sd/-
(Virinderjit Singh Billing)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab