

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864112, Email: - psic23@punjabmail.gov.in
Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com Helpline no. 0172-2864100



Sh. Kuldeep Sharma, S/o Sh. KedarNath,
Village Kalwan, Tehsil Sri Anandpur Sahib,
Distt.Rupnagar (M: 9417408001)

....Appellant
V/s

Public Information Officer,
O/o Executive Officer,
Nagar Council, Zirakpur,
DisttSAS Nagar (Mohali)

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (General),
SAS Nagar (Mohali).

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 4244 of 2024

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Date of RTI Application	Date of Reply, if any of SPIO	Date of First Appeal made, if any	Date of decision/reply, if any of FAA	Date of Second Appeal received in the Commission
16.07.2023	--	17.08.2023		26.10.2023

ORDER:

1. The matter was last taken up for fifth hearing on **16.07.2026**, when the appellant, **Sh. Kuldeep Sharma**, and the respondents, **Sh. Gulshan Mehta, Advocate**, on behalf of Municipal Council, Zirakpur, and **Sh. PankajSingla, Draftsman**, were present. Both parties were heard at length. The written submissions and the material available on the case file were duly considered and **the order was reserved.**
2. This order may be read with reference to the Commission's previous order dated **22.12.2025**, whereby the respondent PIO was directed to file a detailed reply to the rejoinder submitted by the appellant.
3. The appellant had sought certified copies of:
 - all work orders issued during **01.04.2021 to 31.03.2022**;
 - estimates and technical sanctions for works above **₹50 lakh**;
 - comparative statements/vetting of tender rates for works above **₹25 lakh**;
 - measurement book bills for all such works;
 - final bills along with sanction letters for works above **₹25 lakh**; and
 - material testing reports relating to the said works.

In his rejoinder (Diary No. **20439 dated 03.12.2025**), the appellant contended that the information sought is specific and relates to public works executed from public funds. He submitted that denial on the ground of voluminous information is contrary to the RTI Act and that, at the minimum, inspection of records ought to have been offered. He further relied upon **Section 6(2)** of the RTI Act to contend that an applicant is not required to disclose reasons for seeking information and asserted

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that the information sought is intrinsically connected with transparency and accountability in execution of public works.

4. The respondent, through written submissions dated **15.07.2026**, reiterated that the RTI application seeks an extremely voluminous record covering numerous public works over an entire financial year and that the appellant has failed to establish any larger public interest warranting such indiscriminate disclosure. Reliance has been placed upon the judgments of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in **CBSE v. AdityaBandopadhyay** and **GirishRamchandraDeshpande v. CIC**, as well as other judicial precedents, to submit that the RTI Act does not oblige a public authority to undertake extensive compilation or collation of records beyond what is reasonably available and that the Act should not be misused in a manner which disproportionately diverts the resources of the public authority.
5. The Commission has carefully considered the rival submissions and perused the material available on record. The Commission is conscious that under Section 6(2) of the RTI Act, an applicant is not required to furnish reasons for seeking information. At the same time, the Act confers a right to access information as available on record and does not cast an obligation upon the public authority to create, compile or collate information in a manner that disproportionately diverts its resources. The records sought by the appellant relate to virtually all works executed during a full financial year, together with connected estimates, technical sanctions, comparative statements, measurement books, final bills and testing reports, which constitute a voluminous body of records.
6. The Commission further observes that the appellant's grievance essentially pertains to the manner in which the request has been dealt with on the ground of volume of records. However, from the material placed before the Commission, no case of deliberate suppression or malafide denial of any specifically identifiable record is made out. The Commission finds no sufficient ground to interfere with the stand taken by the respondent. If the appellant requires inspection of any particular record or seeks copies of specifically identified documents, he is at liberty to avail such remedy by making an appropriately narrowed request in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act.
7. In view of the above facts and circumstances, no further intervention is called for by this Commission. Accordingly, the present appeal is **DISPOSED OF**.

Sd/-

Chandigarh
07.09.2026

(Sandeep Singh Dhaliwal)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.