

OFFICE OF THE APPELLATE AUTHORITY
DELHI RIGHT TO INFORMATION ACT 2001

PUBLIC GRIEVANCES COMMISSION
Govt. of National Capital Territory of Delhi

Date of hearing: 8th January, 2018

Appellant : **Shri R.L. Makhija**

Competent Authority : **Addl. CEO Admn./Competent Authority under DRTI**
Delhi Jal Board
Room No. 315-B, Varunalaya Phase-II,
Karol Bagh, New Delhi – 110005.

Appeal No. : 70/2017/PGC/DRI/DJB
Application filed on : 28/03/2017
Response of Competent Authority : No response received
Appeal filed on : 08/05/2017
First hearing in PGC on : 11/09/2017

Ref. No. of Appellant : RLM 2016-17/202 dated 26.03.2017

1. Brief facts of the Appeal

Shri R.L. Makhija sought information, during March, 2017, from the Competent Authority under Delhi RTI Act, 2001, i.e Addl. CEO (Admn.), Delhi Jal Board, seeking information on total 8 queries.

Shri R.L. Makhija did not receive a reply from the Office of Addl. CEO (Admn.), Delhi Jal Board, hence, he filed an Appeal during May, 2017, before the Appellate Authority / PGC, under Section 7 of the Delhi Right to Information Act, 2001.

2. Proceedings in the Public Grievances Commission

The PGC has so far convened three hearings on 11.09.2017, 18.09.2017 and 8th January, 2018. At the hearing on 08.01.2018, the attendance was as follows :

Appellant : Present
Respondent : Absent

3. Relevant facts emerging during the hearing

3.1 At hearing on 11.09.2017, directions issued by PGC are as under:

“It is surprising that the DJB fails to distinguish the difference between RTI Act- 2005 and DRTI Act-2001. Under Delhi Right to Information Act-2001, replies have to be signed by the Competent Authority, duly notified by the A.R. Department, Government of NCT of Delhi and not to be signed by any Nodal Officer or PIO or some other authority. In the case of Delhi Jal Board, the notified Competent Authority is Addl. C.E.O. (Admn.). In case the DJB feels that there should be more Competent Authorities in the Department, it is on their part to move to the Administrative Reforms Department of Govt. of NCT of Delhi for declaring more officers, specifying their jurisdiction within the DJB as Competent Authority. Appellate Authority / Chairman (PGC) have ‘No Objection’ for declaring more officers, specifying their jurisdiction within the DJB as Competent Authority

The Competent Authority i.e. Addl. Chief Executive Officer, Delhi Jal Board is directed to furnish a point wise comprehensive reply in respect of queries raised by the appellant in his DRTI application (in duplicate) before the next date of hearing.

The reply should be furnished to the appellant under the signatures of Competent Authority, properly stamped, having the name of the Competent Authority (documents, if any, appended with the reply should be certified either by the Competent Authority or an official deputed by the Competent Authority).

A senior representative shall be deputed to attend the next hearing in this appeal case, with a reply (in duplicate)”.

3.2 At today’s hearing on 08.01.2018, though the respondent were not present, appellant submitted that he had received satisfactory reply from the Competent Authority and request that the case may be closed. He filed written information in respect of the same before the Appellate Authority (copy placed in the file).

4. Directions of the Appellate Authority / PGC

4.1 **Since the appellant had submitted a written request to close the present appeal case, the request is allowed. Accordingly the present appeal case is ordered to be disposed off before the Appellate Authority / Member (PGC).**

**(SUDHIR YADAV)
APPELLATE AUTHORITY / MEMBER (PGC)**

Copy to:

1. The Addl. CEO (Admn.), Delhi Jal Board, Room No. 315-B, Varunalaya Phase-II, New Delhi – 110 005.
2. Shri R.L. Makhija