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

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Appellant

Sh. Jaswant Sarpal (9465477771)

(Regd. Post) s/o Sh. Darbari Lal Sarpal, H.No.2220/2, Arian Street,

I/s Mahan Singh Gate,

Amritsar

Versus

Show-Cause

Public Information Officer

(Regd. Post) O/o The Commissioner, MC, Amritsar

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority

(Regd. Post) O/o The Commissioner, MC, Amritsar

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 1074 of 2022 Hearing through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Jaswant Sarpal

Respondent: Absent

Order

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 04.05.2023.
- 2. In today's hearing the appellant is present but an email received from the respondent department dated 17.5.2023 requesting therein for an adjournment citing reason that they have been deputed for some task with NIA team, which is taken on record.
- 3. The appellant pleads that suitable directions be given so that he may get the requisite information.
- 4. After hearing the appellant in detail and examining the case file, it is observed that appellant field RTI application on 28.09.2021 and still he is struggling to collect the information but respondent PIO did not bother to pay heed towards the directions of the Commission time and again.
- 5. In view of the foregoing, respondent PIO, O/o The Commissioner, MC, Amritsar is directed to show cause in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/ denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the complainant under Section 19 (8)(b) of the Act for detriment suffered.

In addition to his submission, the PIO is also hereby given an opportunity under Section 20(1) proviso, thereto, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may note that in case he does not file his submission and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date fixed, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission shall proceed to take further proceedings against him ex-parte.

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6. Respondent PIO is directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing along with

directions to bring the relevant record and list of PIOs, failing which stern action will be

initiated against the concerned respondent PIO.

7. Both the parties are directed to come up for hearing on 31.5.2023 at 11:00 AM before the

undersigned Bench at Punjab State Information Commission office, Chandigarh, failing

which case will be decided on merit basis. Copies of the order be sent to the concerned

parties through registered post.

Date: 17.5.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi) State Information Commissioner Punjab

Note: After the court, Sh. Pardeep Chauhan, Nodal Officer, MC, Amritsar is conveyed about the

proceeding of the case along with directions given on phone.

(Anumit Singh Sodhi) Date: 17.5.2023 State Information Commissioner

Punjab