

**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 Rajesh Kumar,
S/o Shri Kewal Kumar
Flat No.11/A, Srideva Ji Residency,
Krishanpura, Dhakoli, Zirakpur,
District Mohali.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Greater Mohali Area Development
Authority(GMADA), Mohali.

Public Information Officer

Sub Divisional Officer,(Regulatory Branch),
Greater Mohali Area Development
Authority(GMADA), Mohali.

Public Information Officer

Executive Officer,
Municipal Council, Zirakpur,
District S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali)

First Appellate Authority

O/o Greater Mohali Area Development
Authority(GMADA),
Mohali.

....Respondents

AC No. 1364 of 2022

Present: (i) **Shri Rajesh Kumar, Appellant- in person.**
(ii) **None on behalf of PIO O/o GMADA, Mohali.**
(iii) **None on behalf of the PIO O/o Municipal Council, Zirakpur.**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 04.10.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Rajesh Kumar, appellant comes present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench. He states that he has not been supplied any information so far.
3. Shri Gurwinder Singh, AEO/PIO O/o GMADA, Mohali has not come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex. However, a letter dated 26.10.2022 has been received stating that the PIO has been deputed for attending training programme in MGSIPA, Sector-26, Chandigarh and thus, is unable to attend the hearing today.

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4. The Bench observes that during the previous hearing, the PIO O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Zirakpur, District S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali) was impleaded as Respondent and directed to supply information to the appellant before the next hearing as the RTI application already stands transferred to him. However, he has failed to come present in person before the Bench and has also not supplied information to the appellant. This indifferent attitude of the PIO and his casual approach towards the direction of the Bench is viewed adversely.

5. The PIO O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council, Zirakpur, District Mohali is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing and for not supplying information to the appellant. He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply 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.

7. The Bench directs the PIO GMADA, Mohali and the PIO O/o Municipal Council, Zirakpur to supply information to the appellant as also to ensure to come present in person before the Bench on the next hearing.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 30.11.2022 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
02.11.2022**

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

Copy to (By Regd.Post)

**Public Information Officer, O/o Executive Officer, Municipal Council,
Zirakpur, District S.A.S. Nagar (Mohali).**