

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sh. Manjinder Singh (9872015069),
2469, Sunny Enclave, Sector 125, Kharar,
District Mohali

Appellant

Versus

SHOW CAUSE:

Public Information Officer,
O/o Secretary,
(Regd. Post) Regional Transport Authority,
Gurdaspur
Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Secretary,
Regional Transport Authority,
Gurdaspur.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 14 of 2023
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh
Respondent: Absent

ORDER:

1. This case may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 03.05.2023 vide which respondent PIO was directed to supply the reply/information through registered post and matter was adjourned for further hearing on 21.06.2023 i.e. today.
2. In today's hearing, the appellant states that no information has been supplied to him even after the directions of the Commission.
3. The respondent PIO is absent without any intimation to the Commission.
4. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO, as Respondent PIO is absent today and still no information has been supplied to the appellant, which shows PIO's casual attitude towards the directions of the Commission. The absence of the PIO is viewed seriously and it has also affected hearing and disposal of the case.
5. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o RTA, Gurdaspur 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 also directed to deal this case on priority basis and supply the requisite information within ten days after receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission.
7. The appellant is also advised to point out deficiencies within 7 days from the receipt of information, failing which the case shall be decided on merits.
8. With the aforesaid directions, **the matter is adjourned for further hearing on 09.08.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex (Video Conferencing application)**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Dated: 21.06.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab