

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Sh. Manjinder Singh(9872015069)

2469, Sunny Enclave,
Sector 125, Kharar,
Distt. Mohali 140301.

Appellant

Versus

Show-Cause

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**
O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,
Faridkot

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,
Faridkot

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 15 of 2023
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: (i) Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh
(ii) For the respondent: Absent

ORDER

1. The RTI application is dated 9.9.2022 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 20.10.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 19.12.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing through CISCO WEBEX on 3.5.2023 i.e. today.
2. In today's hearing the appellant states that he has received nothing with regard to his RTI application dated: 9.9.2022.
3. Respondent PIO is absent in spite of registered post notice issued to him by the Commission, which shows his 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. In pursuance of this, the PIO is directed to file a written submission in response to the Notice of the Commission and should present this case personally (through cisco webex), on the next date of hearing, failing which penal consequences shall follow.
4. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o RTA, Faridkot 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.

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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.

5. 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.
6. With the aforesaid directions, **the matter is adjourned for further hearing on 22.06.2023 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: 03.05.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab