

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Shri Jaswant Singh,
S/o SHro Piara Singh,
R/o Village Hamad, Tehsil Gurusahai,
District Ferozepur. M: 98768-06054

Appellant

V/s

Sh. Sarabjeet Singh,
Public Information Officer,
O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer,
Mamdota, District Ferozepur.

First Appellate Authority,
O/o DDPO, Ferozepur.

Respondent

Appeal Case No. 1670 of 2022

Present:- Sh. Jaswant Singh, appellant.
Sh. Satnam Singh Superintendent and Sh. Jasmer Singh Panchayat
Secretary 8360700906 on behalf of the respondents.

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 13.9.2022. The case was earlier heard by the bench of Sh. Sanjiv Garg, SIC but due to administrative reasons the case was reallocated to this bench and fixed for hearing on 13.9.2022. But the case could not be heard on the said date and further adjourned for today.

2. The appellant submits that the directions may be issued to the respondent-Public Information Officer to supply the complete information. However, the representative of the respondents requested for the adjournment of the case and assured that the complete information will be supplied to the appellant before the next date of hearing.

3. Also, the show cause notice was issued to Sh. Jaswant Singh Warraich, Block Development and Panchayats Officer now District Development and Panchayats Officer but no reply has been received from him. Sh. Sarabjeet Singh, Block Development and Panchayats Officer is also directed to send a copy of this order to Sh. Jaswant Singh Warraich under intimation to the Commission.

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4. Video Conference Facility was introduced for the convenience of general public and for government officials. Viewing the attitude in dealing with the RTI application by the respondent casually, Sh. Sarabjeet Singh, Block Development and Panchayats Officer- Public Information Officer, is, thus, issued a show cause notice to explain in a self-attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to a maximum of Rs.25000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay/denial of the information to the RTI applicant and to show cause why a compensation under section 19(8) of the RTI Act, 2005, may not be paid to the appellant for causing willful delay/denial of the information for detriment suffered by him.

In addition to the written reply, the Public Information Officer is also 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 take a note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission will proceed ex-parte.

5. To come up on 20.1.2023 at 12.30 PM to be heard through vide conference facility available in the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ferozepur.

Dated: 3.1.2023

(Suresh Arora)
Chief Information Commissioner,
Punjab.