

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

Ph: 0172-2864113, Helpline No. 0172-2864100

Email: - [psic22@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psic22@punjabmail.gov.in)

Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com)



(Regd. Post)	<b>Sh. Manjinder Singh(9872015069)</b> # 2469, Sunny Enclave, Sector 125, Kharar, Distt. Mohali.	Appellant
	Versus	
(Regd. Post)	<b>Public Information Officer</b> O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar	
(Regd. Post)	<b>First Appellate Authority</b> O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar	Respondent
	<b><u>Appeal case No.: 1832 of 2022</u></b> <b><u>Hearing through CISCO Webex</u></b>	
<b>Present:</b>	Appellant: Absent Respondent: Sh. Gurnam Kumar SA (8054315516)	

**ORDER**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous orders dated 02.08.2022, 11.10.2022, 03.01.2023.
2. Perusal of the file shows that notice of hearing was issued to the parties by the Commission on 20.05.2022 for 02.08.2022.
3. **On hearing held on 02.08.2022**, respondent PIO was absent in spite of registered post notice issued to him and one opportunity was awarded to him to represent this case in the Commission along with record relates with present case. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 11.10.2022.
4. **On hearing held on 11.10.2022**, respondent PIO was again absent and a Show-Cause notice was issued to him. A copy of this order along with RTI application was sent to him through registered post. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 03.01.2023.
5. **On hearing held on 03.01.2023**, Sh. Navdeep Singh appeared on behalf of the respondent and requested for some time for supplying the requisite information. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 08.02.2023, which was postponed and fixed for 24.05.2023 i.e. today.
6. In today's hearing, both the respondent is present.
7. Appellant, Sh. Manjinder Singh states that information still waited from the respondent PIO even after the directions of the Commission.
8. Respondent, Sh. Gurnam Kumar requests for an adjournment in this case.
9. From the material on record, it transpires that there has been unnecessary delay in conveying the correct State of affairs to the appellant in respect to his request for information. No explanation for delay has been given by him. Rather, his failure to even respond to the directions issued to him by the Commission reinforces the fact that he has been without any reasonable cause guilty of remissness in the discharge of his duties, therefore, deserves to be penalized.



10. In view of the defying attitude of the concerned respondent PIO, O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar neither attending the court nor submitting any explanation for the directions issued to him within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) upon the concerned respondent PIO. However, taking a lenient view, I impose a penalty of Rs. 15,000/- (Rs. Fifteen thousand only) on the respondent PIO.
11. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of Secretary, RTA, Amritsar is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 15000/- from the salary of the concerned respondent PIO and be deposited in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-
- "0070-Other Administrative Services  
60 other Services  
800-Other Receipts  
86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005
12. Respondent PIO is directed to supply the information within fifteen days from today along with directions to submit reply to the show cause notice which was issued to him by the Commission vide order dated 03.01.2023.
13. Appellant is advised to go through the information on its receipt and point out discrepancy within seven days in writing to the respondent PIO with a copy to the Commission, failing which it will be presumed that he has nothing to say in this regard.
14. **To come up on 13.07.2023 for further proceedings in the Commission.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties through registered post.

**Date: 24.5.2023**

**(Anumit Singh Sodhi)**  
**State Information Commissioner**  
**Punjab**