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

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Respondent

Sh. Manjinder Singh(9872015069)

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

Versus

Show-Cause

Public Information Officer (By Name)

(Regd. Post) O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,

Faridkot

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot

Appeal Case No.: 2179 of 2022

Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh

Respondent: Absent

ORDER

- 1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 11.10.2022 vide which appellant was advised to send the discrepancy letter dated 21.09.2022 to the respondent PIO with a copy to the Commission and respondent PIO was directed to remove the pointed out discrepancy as per RTI application. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 04.01.2023 i.e. today.
- 2. In today's hearing the appellant, Sh. Manjinder states that discrepancies are still to be removed even after the ample time has elapsed.
- 3. Respondent PIO is not present and it is observed that copy of order issued to him returned to the Commission with remarks 'on strike' vide diary no. 24332 dated 26.10.2022, which is taken on record.
- 4. Respondent, Sh. Sanjeev Kumar (JA) was present on the previous hearing held on 11.10.2022 and he was aware regarding removal of the discrepancies and after the approximately three months, discrepancies are still to be removed.
- 5. In view of the foregoing, respondent PIO, O/o Secy, 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.

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.

Appeal Case No.: 2179 of 2022 Hearing through CISCO Webex

- 6. It is also observed that discrepancy letter dated 21.09.2022 is not received from the appellant by the Commission as he was advised on hearing held on 11.10.2022.
- 7. The matter is adjourned for further hearing on 20.04.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO WEBEX 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: 04.01.2023 (Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab