

**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)**



**Sh. Manjinder Singh(9872015069)**

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

Appellant

Versus

**(Regd. Post)**

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,  
Faridkot

**(Regd. Post)**

**First Appellate Authority**  
O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,  
Faridkot

Respondent

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

**Present:**

Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh

Respondent: Absent

**ORDER:**

1. This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 04.01.2023 vide which respondent PIO was absent and show cause notice was issued to the respondent PIO.
2. In today's hearing, the appellant states that discrepancies are still to be removed which were pointed out by him on 21.09.2022.
3. Respondent PIO is absent second time without any intimation to the Commission.
4. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the respondent PIO. It is observed that RTI application was filed by the appellant 24.01.2022 and still he is waiting to receive the complete information. Respondent PIO is paying any heed towards the directions of the Commission.
5. 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 from previous hearing 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.
6. In view of the defying attitude of the concerned respondent PIO O/o Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot 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. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) upon the concerned respondent PIO. However, taking a lenient view, **I impose a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) on the respondent PIO.**

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The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of RTA, Faridkot is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 10,000/- 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**

7. It is also observed that respondent PIO O/o RTA, Faridkot is very lenient in other cases fixed before the Commission/undersigned Bench, due to which matters are still waiting for disposal. PIO is advised to deal cases on priority without further delay.
8. Both the parties are directed to come up on **22.06.2023 at 11:00 AM for further proceedings in the Commission.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

**Dated: 20.04.2023**

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