

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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(Regd. Post) **Ms. TuhinaLaskar, (8595977082)**
D/o Sh. Anamul Lashkar
4490, Street No. 05, Shakti Nagar, Bathinda.
Versus

Appellant

Show-Cause

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**
O/o Executive Officer,
Nagar Council, Rama Mandi, District Bathinda.
Encl. RTI application

(Regd. Post) **First Appellate Authority**
O/o ADC (G), Bathinda.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 2933 of 2022

Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Sahil Kumar, Advocate, on behalf of the appellant.
Respondent: Absent

ORDER:

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 15.3.2023 vide which respondent PIO was absent and he intimated the undersigned Bench via email dated 30.11.2022 but representative of the appellant expressed his dissatisfaction on the supplied reply. Accordingly, respondent PIO was directed to appear in person today to clear the facts of this case. The matter was adjourned to 30.5.2023.
2. In today's hearing, the representative of the appellant, Shri Sahil Kumar is present for today's hearing.
3. Respondent PIO is absent third time. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent PIO.
4. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o The EO, Nagar Council, Rama Mandi, District Bathinda 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 (through cisco webex) 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 (through cisco webex) 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.

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5. Respondent PIO is directed to appear in person (through cisco webex) on the next date of hearing along with directions to send the requisite information as per RTI to the appellant within fifteen days after receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission.
6. Both the parties are directed to **come up for hearing on 12.09.2023 at 11:00 AM through cisco webex meetings software**, failing which case will be decided on merit basis. Copy of the order be sent to the concerned parties through **registered post**.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Date: 30.5.2023

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