



Shri Gagan Bali, Advocate,
1684, Street Number 07,
Pawan Nagar, Batala Road,
Amritsar.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o The Commissioner,
MC, Amritsar.

First Appellate Authority
O/o The Commissioner,
MC, Amritsar.

....Respondents

AC No. 2987 of 2022

Present: (i) Shri Gagan Bali, Appellant- through cisco webex.
(ii) None on behalf of the respondent/PIO.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 05.12.2022 passed by the Bench during the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. The Appellant, Shri Gagan Bali comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He denies the receipt of any information.
3. Neither the PIO O/o Commissioner, Municipal Corporation, Amritsar has come present to attend the hearing in person or through cisco webex. The PIO has also not given any intimation in this regard nor the information has been supplied to the appellant and has also not filed reply to the show cause notice issued during the previous hearing. Thus the PIO has failed to comply with the directions of the Bench. The Bench also observes from perusal of previous orders that Shri Vishal Rampal, Building Inspector had appeared on 07.11.2022. He had sought additional time to supply information to the appellant. However, not to speak of supplying information to the appellant, he has not bothered to attend the previous hearing as also today's hearing.
4. The facts of the case prove beyond any doubt that the PIO/Respondent does not deserve any leniency. Hence, in exercise of the powers conferred by Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, a penalty to the tune of Rs.5,000/- (Rupees Five Thousand only) is imposed upon PIO,O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar to be

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deducted from his salary, which is to be deposited in the State Treasury under the relevant head. The Drawing & Disbursing Officer concerned is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs.5,000/- from the salary of the PIO and deposit the same in State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission before the next hearing:-

- 0070-Other Administrative Services – 60-Other Services-

-0800-Other Receipts- 86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005.

5. The PIO is also directed to supply complete information to the appellant and file reply to the Show Cause Notice as also produce evidence for having deposited the penalty in the State Treasury, before the next date of hearing. The PIO is further directed to ensure to come present before the Bench in person on the next date of hearing, failing which the Bench will be constrained to issue BAILABLE WARRANT to ensure his presence before the Bench..

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 02.03.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
31.01.2023**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma (Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**

Copy to (By Regd. Post)

**Public Information Officer, O/o Commissioner,
O/o Municipal Corporation, Amritsar.**