

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Hardeep Singh (9464116767)

F -22 /488, Mustfabad, Batala Road,
Amritsar.

Appellant

Versus

Show-Cause

Public Information Officer (By Name)

(Regd. Post) O/o Department of Technical Education Punjab,
Chandigarh.

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority

O/o Director, Department of Technical Education Punjab,
Chandigarh.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 3007 of 2022
Through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant-Sh. Hardeep Singh
Respondent: None

ORDER

1. This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 21.09.2022 vide which respondent PIO was directed to go through the RTI application and supply the information to the appellant within ten days after receipt of this order, failing which stern action will be initiated against the concerned respondent PIO.

It was also observed that appellant earlier demanded information relates with DMLT course in another appeal case no. 3643 of 2020, which was disposed of & closed by the undersigned Bench vide order dated 31.03.2021.

Appellant was also advised to represent this case on the next date of hearing to clear the facts, failing which case will be decided on merit basis. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 13.12.2022.

2. In today's hearing the appellant states that no information has been supplied to him. He further mentions about his email dated 11.10.2022 is sent to the undersigned Bench, which is seen and taken on record.
3. None is present from the department in spite of registered post order issued to him by the Commission.
4. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO O/o Department of Technical Education, Punjab, Chandigarh 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.

5. A copy of this order be also sent to the First Appellate Authority i.e. The Director, Department of Technical Education, Punjab, Chandigarh for the compliance of this order and to look into the matter as RTI Act, 2005 came into existence to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority, not for the harassment of the public.

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6. PIO concerned is directed to appear in Commission along with the information on the next date of hearing.
7. Appellant is on liberty either to attend hearing at PSIC Office or through CISCO WEBEX Meeting (meeting number 1582933632) on the next date of hearing.
8. Matter is adjourned for further hearing on **29.03.2023 at 11:00 A.M.** at Punjab State Information Commission office, Chandigarh. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

Dated: 13.12.2022

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Note: After the hearing was over Shri Harpreet Singh, Senior Assistant (M:9814843125) joined the meeting and he was apprised with the above said order.

Dated: 13.12.2022

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab