

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

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(Regd. Post) **Sh. Manjinder Singh (98720-15069)**  
S/o Sh. Saroop Chand,  
H.No.33, Kahangarh Road,  
Patran, Distt. Patiala.

Appellant

Versus

**Show-Cause**

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**  
O/o Secretary,  
Regional Transport Authority,  
Bathinda

Encl. RTI application

(Regd. Post) **First Appellate Authority**  
O/o Secretary,  
Regional Transport Authority,  
Bathinda.

Respondent

**Appeal Case No.: 3253 of 2022**  
**Through CISCO WEBEX**

**Present:** Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh.  
Respondent: Absent.

**ORDER:**

1. This order may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 21.11.2022 vide which the case was adjourned for 15.02.2023, which was postponed and is fixed for today.
2. In today's hearing, the appellant, Shri Manjinder Singh states that information relation to point number 1 i.e. attested copy of letter number 1834 dated 11.07.2019 is still pending after the ample time has elapsed.
3. The respondent is absent without any intimation to the undersigned bench. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO, as despite of issuing of registered post notice of postponement but still nobody appears from the department today to represent this case.
4. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o The Secretary, RTA, Bathinda is directed to Show Cause** in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty should not be imposed upon him for wilful delay / denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the appellant 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.

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5. A copy of this order be also sent to the First Appellate Authority i.e. The Secretary, RTA, Bathinda through registered post for the compliance of this order and to look into the matter as RTI Act, 2005 came into existence to promote transparency and accountability of every public authority, not for the harassment of the public.
6. The PIO is directed to supply the information to the appellant in relation to point number 1 i.e. attested copy of letter number 1834 dated 11.07.2019 within 20 days under the intimation to the Commission.
7. The PIO is also directed to file a reply to the show cause notice to the undersigned which is issued to him today, failing which further action will be taken against the PIO concerned on the next hearing.
8. This case is adjourned and both the parties are directed to come up **on 27.07.2023 at 11:00 A.M. at Punjab State Information Commission, Sector 16, Chandigarh**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties **through registered post**.

**Dated: 25.05.2023**

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