

# PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864111, Visit us @ [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com),  
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## REGISTERED SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

**Baljeet Singh,**  
64-H, BRS Nagar,  
Ludhiana.

Versus

**Public Information Officer,**  
o/o ATP, Building Branch, Zone B  
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

**Public Information Officer,**  
o/o Municipal Corporation,  
Ludhiana.

**First Appellate Authority,**  
Commissioner, Municipal Corporation,  
Ludhiana.

### Appeal Case No. 3359 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

Baljeet Singh (Appellant) 76965-00015

Randhir Singh, Building Inspector (for the Respondent) 89990-69000

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated **28.4.2022** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding the Amarson Polymers building in Mustaq Gunj where a 2017 fire resulted in 16 deaths, including Nine firemen. Action initiated against the cited building before and after the fire incident**, as enumerated in his RTI application. First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **31.5.2022** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **18.7.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **10.11.2022**.

2. Both parties are present. The respondent PIO-cum-ATP, Sh. Sunil Kumar, has sent an inordinately delayed reply some six months after the submission of the RTI application dated 28.4.2022. The aforesaid reply contains a pointwise reply to the RTI application along with some documents. However, most of the record has been stated as "not available".

3. During deliberations at this hearing, the PIO's representative Sh. Randhir Singh, Building Inspector from Zone B, states that a file pertaining to the building cited in the RTI application, is under process and presently with the Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana.

4. The commission directs the respondent PIO-cum-ATP, Sh. Sunil Kumar to attend the next hearing of this Appeal Case in person at Chandigarh along with **entire original record** pertaining to the building cited in this RTI application, including the file under process with the Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana, as stated by Sh. Randhir Singh, Building Inspector. Further, in view of the inexcusable delay in submitting a reply to the RTI application, the Commission deems it fit to issue the Show Cause Notice to the PIO-cum-ATP, Building Branch, Zone B, Sh. Sunil Kumar.

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## **Appeal Case No. 3359 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)**

5. The respondent **PIO-cum-ATP, Building Branch, Zone B, Sh. Sunil Kumar**, is herewith ordered to **SHOW CAUSE** as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on **28.4.2022**.

“In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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*.” Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

6. **Next hearing on 15.12.2022 at 11.30 am.** (The appellant will attend the hearing via Video Conference Facility at DC Office, Ludhiana and the respondent PIO will attend the hearing at Punjab State Information Commission, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.)

Sd/-  
(ASIT JOLLY)  
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh  
10.11.2022

**Cc:** Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana, for information and further necessary action.