

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

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(Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00PM on working days))



Shri Jatinder Kumar,
C/o Sachkhand Mishthan Bhandar,
Nehru Gate Nawanshahar M: 98723-24111

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt. Punjab,
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector 35-A, Chandigarh.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Principal Secretary,
Local Govt. Punjab,
Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector 35-A, Chandigarh.

....Respondents

AC No. 3464 of 2022

Present:

(i)
(ii)

Appellant: Shri Jatinder Kumar, in person.

Respondent / PIO: None is present from the department.

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 14.11.2022.

2. The case has been heard today in the Commission's office at Chandigarh. Shri Jatinder Kumar, appellant states that no information has been supplied to him yet.

3. Nobody appears from the department relating to this case and no letter / email has been received from the Respondent / PIO for today's adjournment.

4. The Bench observes that the PIO is absent today without any intimation to the bench of undersigned. **The PIO office of Principal Secretary, Local Govt. Department Punjab, Chandigarh is issued show cause notice to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case for failing to appear for the hearing.** He is also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information.

5. In addition, to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20 (1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply 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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6. The PIO is directed to call the appellant on phone for clarifying the facts of this case if needed and supply the point wise reply / information to the Appellant before the next hearing.

7. **With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. Both the concerned parties are directed to attend the hearing on 05.01.2023 at 11.30 am before the Bench at Punjab State Information Commission, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
08.12.2022**

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

Show Cause:

(Regd. Post) Public Information Officer

O/o Principal Secretary, Local Govt. Punjab, Punjab Municipal Bhawan,
Sector 35-A, Chandigarh.