



Ms.ManjitKaurLitt, (8360074730)

S.B.S Nagar, New AbadiAkalgah,
P.O Halwara A.D, Distt. Ludhiana – 141106

.....Appellant/Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o SamitiPatwari, Block Sudhar,
Ludhiana.

.....Respondent

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer Sudhar,
Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer Sudhar,
Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No. 3508 of 2022

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Date of RTI Application	Date of Reply, if any of SPIO	Date of First Appeal made, if any	Date of Order / Reply, if any of FAA	Date of Appeal/Complaint filed in the Commission
04.07.2022	23.06.2022	21.07.2022	-	29.07.2022

Present: Appellant: Absent

Respondent: Sh. Sarabjit Singh (BDPO), 9888243497

Sh. Avtar Singh (Suptd.), 9815179277

ORDER (Fourth Hearing):

1. This order may be read with the reference of previous order of the Commission dated 11.04.2023 vide which penalty of Rs. 15000/- was imposed on respondent PIO for not appearing in the court and not providing the requisite information to the appellant so far.
2. Respondent, Sh. Sarabjit Singh pleaded that he provided the complete information to the appellant and further he apologized for not been able to attend the hearing on last date of hearing. He reiterated that the non-attendance of the hearing was not intentional but due to unavoidable circumstances beyond his control. He tendered his unconditional apology for this lapse and requested the Commission to condone the same. He, therefore, requested the Commission to drop the penalty proceedings initiated against him in the matter on previous hearing.
3. Appellant through telephone intimated the commission that he in receipt of complete information from the respondent and he is satisfied with the same.
4. The Commission after perusing the respondent's explanation surmises that the respondent was not able to attend the hearing due to unavoidable circumstances

beyond his control. Hence, the lapse was not intentional. The respondent vide letter dated 17.05.2023 had also tendered his unconditional apology for this lapse and requested the Commission to condone the same. The Commission notes that there was no malafide or deliberate attempt on the part of the then PIO for not attending the hearing. Hence, it would not be appropriate to impose any penalty on the PIO. **In view of this, the penalty imposed (Rs. 15,000/- dated 11.04.2023) to the PIO, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer Sudhar , Ludhiana is hereby dropped.** Accordingly, the matter is **closed** at the Commission's level.

Chandigarh
17.05.2023

Sd/-
(Maninder Singh Patti)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab