PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Sh. Manjinder Singh (98720-15069)

2469, Sunny Enclave,

Sector 125, Kharar, District Mohali (140301)

Appellant

<u>Show-Cause</u> Versus

Public Information Officer, (Regd. Post) O/o Secretary,

Regional Transport Authority,

Sangrur.

Encl. RTI application

Dated: 05.04.2023

First Appellate Authority,

(Regd. Post) O/o Secretary,

Regional Transport Authority,

Sangrur. Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 3539 of 2022 Through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh

Respondent: None is present on behalf of Respondent / PIO.

ORDER:

1. This case may be read to the reference of the previous order dated 03.01.2023.

2. In today's hearing, the appellant, Shri Manjinder Singh states that no inspection took place at the time of the visit.

- 3. Neither the PIO has come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench nor through Cisco webex nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO.
- 4. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO, as no information has been supplied to the appellant and despite of giving an opportunity to the PIO concerned on the last hearing but still nobody appears from the department today to represent this case.
- 5. In view of the foregoing, respondent PIO, O/o The Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Sangrur 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 (through cisco webex) 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.

6. A copy of this order be also sent to the First Appellate Authority i.e. The Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Sangrur 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 in the working of every public authority, not for the harassment of the public.

This case is adjourned and both the parties are directed to come up **25.07.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties. Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632.

(Anumit Singh Sodhi) State Information Commissioner Punjab