

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Sh. Manjinder Singh(9872015069)
2469, Sunny Enclave,
Sector 125, Kharar,
Distt. Mohali 143301.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer
O/o Secy. Regional Transport Authority,
Amritsar

First Appellate Authority
O/o Secy. Regional Transport Authority,
Amritsar

Respondent

Appeal Case No.:3544 of 2022
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh
Respondent: Sh. Davinder Singh, Data Entry Operator (9781081113)

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 3.11.2022 vide which respondent PIO was absent and directed to supply the point-wise reply/information to the appellant within ten days after receipt of order. The matter was adjourned to 22.12.2022, was postponed to 19.4.2023.
2. In today's hearing both the parties are present.
3. The appellant states that he has not received information in spite of directions of the Commission on the previous hearing held on 03.11.2022. He pleads for suitable directions to the respondent PIO, so that he may get the information as sufficient time has elapsed in this case.
4. Respondent, Sh. Davinder Singh requests for an adjournment on behalf of respondent PIO, Sh. Narinder Kumar.
5. After hearing both the parties and examining the case file, it is observed that RTI application was filed by the appellant on 09.05.2022 and notice of hearing was issued to the respondent PIO on 02.09.2022 in this instant appeal case and still appellant is waiting for the requisite information after the sufficient time has elapsed, which means respondent PIO did not pay any heed towards the notice and order of the Commission as no communication is received after issuing the notice of hearing. Objective of this act is to promote the transparency and accountability, is difficult to achieve with this kind of lenient attitude of the concerned respondent PIO

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6. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, Sh. Narinder Kumar, O/o Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, Amritsar is directed to show cause** in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not imposed upon him for willful delay/ denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the complainant 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.

7. Respondent PIO is also directed to supply the point-wise reply/information to the appellant within ten days after receipt of this order under intimation to the Commission.
8. Appellant is advised to go through the information, once he had received and point out ambiguity within seven days in writing to the respondent PIO with a copy to the Commission, failing which it will be presumed that he has nothing to say in this regard.
9. The matter is adjourned for further hearing on **28.06.2023 at 11:00 A.M. at Punjab State Information Commission Office, Chandigarh**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Dated: 19.04.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Show-Cause

(Regd. Post) **Sh. Narinder Kumar (PIO)**
O/o Secy. Regional Transport Authority,
Amritsar

Encl. RTI application