



Sh. Gurjot Singh, (7710301226)

S/o Sh. Bhupinder Singh,
R/o Village Dhode, Block Dehlon,
Tehsil & Distt Ludhiana.

.....Appellant/Complainant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Dehlon,
Distt Ludhiana.

.....Respondent

First Appellate Authority

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer,
Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No.3734 of 2021

RTI application filed on	:	18-08-2020
PIO replied on	:	-
First appeal filed on	:	18-08-2020
First Appellate Authority order	:	-

Present: Appellant: Sh. Bhupinder Singh **on behalf of Sh. Gurjot Singh**

Respondent: Sh. Gurwinder Singh (BDPO)

ORDER (Fifth Hearing):

1. This order may be read with the reference of previous order of the Commission dated 24.08.2022.
2. Both the parties are present and heard.
3. In response to the penalty imposed on the respondent vide order dated 24.08.2022, informed the Commission 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 wave of the penalty imposed on him.
4. Decision: 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 email dated 19.10.2022 had also submitted the complete copies of sought information and 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.

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In view of the same penalty proceeding for noncompliance of Commission's order cannot be taken against the PIO Archives and hence the penalty (Rs. 10,000/-) proceeding is dropped against the PIO.

5. After hearing both the parties and going through the information supplied by the respondent PIO, the Commission finds that the RTI application has been suitably replied and the information has been supplied to the best extent. Moreover, the factual position has been brought to the notice of the appellant by the respondent for further query, if any.

Therefore, no cause of action is required in this case. Hence, the instant appeal case is **disposed & closed**.

Sd/-

Chandigarh
19.10.2022

(Maninder Singh Patti)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab