PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864113, Helpline No. 0172-2864100 Email: - psic22@punjabmail.gov.in Visit us: - www.infocommpunjab.com PSIC LOSSON

Sh. Gurmej Lal (9781672776)

NCAG, Street No. 5 # 1331-5, Vishwkarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road, Simlapuri, Ludhiana (141003)

Versus

SHOW CAUSE:

Public Information Officer

(Regd. Post) O/o The EO,

Nagar Council, Sujanpur,

District Pathankot

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority

O/o The EO, Nagar Council, Sujanpur, District Pathankot.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 4005 of 2022 Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Gurmej Lal Respondent: Absent.

<u>ORDER</u>

- 1. This case may be read to the reference to the previous order dated 09.05.2023.
- 2. In today's hearing, the appellant states that the information in relation to point number 5 and 6 is still awaited.
- 3. The respondent is absent without any intimation to the Commission. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent PIO as ample time has elapsed and appellant still struggling to collect the information in connection with point no. 5 and 6.
- 4. In view of above, respondent PIO O/o EO, NC, Sujanpur, Distt. Pathankot 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.

5. Both the parties are directed to present this case through cisco webex on the next date of hearing positively.

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6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. Both the parties are directed to come up on 13.09.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex (Video Conferencing application). 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

Note:- After the hearing of this case was over, Sh. Bhupinder Singh, AME (M: 88727-99611) appears from the department and states that the information is treated as NIL in this regard. The PIO concerned is directed to look into this matter and make sure to supply the reply/information on the remaining points (point no. 5 and 6) in writing and he is also directed to submit a reply to the show cause notice which is issued today during the hearing. The next date of hearing is 13.09.2023 at 11.00 am through cisco webwex.

Date: 15.06.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)

Date: 15.06.2023 State Information Commissioner

Punjab