

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Gurmej Lal, (9781672776)

S/o NCAG, Street No. 05 # 1331-5,

Vishwawarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road,

Simplapuri, Ludhiana (141003)

Appellant

Versus

Show Cause

Public Information Officer (By Name)

(Regd. Post)

O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa.

(Punjab)

Encl. RTI Application

(Regd. Post)

First Appellate Authority

O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 4009 of 2022

Through CISCO WEBEX

Present:

Appellant - Sh. Gurmej Lal.

Respondent: None is present from the department.

ORDER:

1. This case may be read with the reference of the previous order dated 21.12.2022 and matter was adjourned for today i.e. 07.02.2023.
2. In today's hearing, appellant states that no information has been supplied to him.
3. Neither the PIO is present nor has he 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 incomplete information has been supplied to the appellant and today nobody appears from the department to represent this case.**
5. In view of the foregoing, respondent **PIO, O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa 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.
6. 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. A copy of this order be also sent to the First Appellate Authority i.e. Commissioner, NC, Mansa through registered post for the compliance of this order and to look into the matter as

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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.

8. The PIO concerned is directed to call the appellant on phone and discuss about the information so that the requisite information could be supplied by them in time.
9. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **Both the concerned parties are directed to come up for hearing on 11.05.2023 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).

Dated: 07.02.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab