



Sh. Gurmej Lal, (9781672776)

Appellant

S/o NCAG, Street No. 05 # 1331-5,
Vishwawarma Bhawan, Down Canal Road,
Simlapuri, Ludhiana (141003)

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o EO, Nagar Council, Mansa.

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 order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 07.02.2023.
2. In today's hearing the appellant is present and states that he has received nothing even after the directions of the Commission time and again. He pleads that suitable direction be issued to the respondent so that he may get the information.
3. Respondent PIO is absent third time in spite of registered notices and orders issued to him by the Commission. He was absent on previous hearings held on 21.12.2022 and 07.02.2023. On hearing held on 07.02.2023 a Show cause notice was issued to the respondent PIO but reply is not received by the Commission till yet.
4. From the material on record, it transpires that there has been unnecessary delay in conveying the correct State of affairs to the appellant in respect to his request for information. No explanation for delay has been given by him. Rather, his failure to even respond to the directions issued to him by the Commission reinforces the fact that he has been without any reasonable cause guilty of remissness in the discharge of his duties, therefore, deserves to be penalized.
5. In view of the defying attitude of the concerned respondent PIO, EO, Nagar Council, Mansa neither attending the court nor submitting any explanation for the directions issued to him within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the **imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 10000/- (Rupees Ten thousand only) upon the concerned respondent PIO.** However, taking a lenient view, I impose a penalty of Rs. 10,000/- (Rs. Ten thousand only) on the respondent PIO.

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7. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of EO, Nagar Council, Mansa is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 10000/- from the salary of the concerned respondent PIO and be deposited in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-

"0070-Other Administrative Services

60 other Services

800-Other Receipts

86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005

8. To come up on **05.07.2023 at 11:00 AM for further proceedings in the Commission**. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Date: 11.05.2023

**(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab**