

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Ph: 0172-2864111, Visit us @ www.infocommpunjab.com,
Email: psic21@punjabmail.gov.in



REGISTERED SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Varun Malhotra,
3601/2, Sirhandi Bazar,
Patiala.

Versus

Public Information Officer,
o/o District Revenue Officer,
Patiala.

First Appellate Authority,
Deputy Commissioner,
Patiala.

Appeal Case No. 4031 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

Varun Malhotra (Appellant) 98142-46368

Vinod Mehta, Sadar Kanungo (for the Respondent) 98769-54777

ORDER:

1. The RTI application is dated **27.8.2021** vide which the appellant has sought information **regarding Letter Dated 6.6.2019, DRO, Diary No. 3173, Director Local Govt. to Revenue Department Dated 13.8.2022**, as enumerated in his RTI application. First Appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on **6.5.2022** and Second Appeal was filed in the Commission on **31.8.2022** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. Notice was issued to the parties for first hearing in the Commission on **6.12.2022**.

2. Both parties are present. This RTI application was submitted on 27.8.2021 since then there is no reply/information furnished by the respondent PIO. The Commission deems it fit to issue the respondent PIO office of DRO, Patiala, with this Show Cause Notice.

3. The respondent **PIO office of DRO, Patiala**, is herewith ordered to **SHOW CAUSE** as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on **27.8.2021**.

“In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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*.” Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

4. He is further directed to be present in person at the next hearing of this Appeal Case at Chandigarh along with a pointwise reply to the RTI application and the requested information by way of the action taken on the Director, Local Government's letter to the DRO office, of Patiala vide Letter No. 2990 Dated 13.8.2021. Failure to comply, will compel the Commission to ensure the presence of the PIO through service of **Bailable Warrant**.

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5. Next hearing on 10.1.2023 at 11.30 am at Punjab State Information Commission, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Sd/-
(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh
6.12.2022

Cc: Deputy Commissioner, for information and further necessary action.