

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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(Regd. Post) **Sh. Ashok Kumar (9780150888)**
S/o Late Sh. Sham Lal,
R/o Bank Street , New Basti Nabha,
District Patiala

Appellant

Versus

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**
O/o The District Transport Office,
Sangrur.

(Regd. Post) **First Appellate Authority**
O/o The Regional Transport Office,
Sangrur.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 4725 of 2022
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Shivam Goyal on behalf of the appellant.
Respondent: Absent.

ORDER

1. This case may be read to the reference to the previous order dated 16.05.2023 vide which show cause notice was issued to the respondent PIO along with directions to supply the information within seven days after receipt of order under intimation to the Commission.
2. In today's hearing, the representative of the appellant, Sh. Shivam Goyal states that information is still pending from the respondent PIO.
3. The respondent is absent without any intimation to the Commission in spite of registered post order issued to him by the Commission.
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 O/o DTO , Sangrur** 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. 5000/- (Rupees Five thousand only) upon the concerned respondent PIO**. However, taking a lenient view, I impose a penalty of Rs. 5,000/- (Rs. Five thousand only) on the respondent PIO. The Drawing and Disbursing Officer of the office of RTA, Sangrur is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 5000/- 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

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6. Respondent PIO is directed to supply point-wise requisite information to the appellant within seven days after receipt of this order along with directions to deal this case on priority basis without further delay.
7. Appellant, Sh. Ashok Kumar is directed to appear in person on the next date of hearing through CISCO WEBEX.
8. 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 through **registered post**.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Date: 15.06.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab