

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,**

**Sector 16, Chandigarh.**

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**Sh. Gopal KrishanGupta(9416667587)**

S/o Sh. S.K.Gupta,  
# 126-A/332, Civil Lines,  
Near St. Joseph School,  
Ambala City 134003

Appellant

Versus

**Show-Cause**

**Public Information Officer**

**(Regd. Post)**

O/o MC, Jalandhar

Encl. RTI application

**First Appellate Authority**

O/o MC, Jalandhar

Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 5194 of 2022**  
**Hearing through CISCO Webex**

**Present:**

Appellant: sh. Gopal Krishan Gupta

Respondent: Absent.

**ORDER**

1. This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 02.03.2023 vide which respondent PIO was absent and 15 days were awarded to him to supply the information after receipt of this order. Matter was adjourned for further hearing on 25.04.2023.
2. In today's hearing the appellant is present but nobody appears on behalf of the respondent department subsequently 2nd time, absence of the respondent PIO viewed seriously even after issuing notice and order through registered post by the Commission, he did not pay heed towards the same, which shows his casual attitude towards his duties as a public servant. It is also here to mention that RTI Act came into existence to promote transparency and accountability not to harass public.
3. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o MC, Jalandhar 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.

**Appeal Case No. 5194 of 2022**  
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4. Respondent PIO is directed to deal this case on priority basis and supply the complete requisite information within ten days after receipt of this order.
5. To come up on **14.06.2023 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: 25.4.2023**

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