



Sh. Tejinder Singh (9041004313)

Appellant

Advocate,
Civil Court, Tehsil Complex, Backside Sanjh Kender,
Phillaur (144410)

Versus

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**
O/o Secretary,
Regional Transport Authority,
Faridkot.

Encl. RTI application

(Regd. Post) **First Appellate Authority**
O/o Secretary,
Regional Transport Authority,
Faridkot.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 5251 of 2022
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Tejinder Singh through webex.
Respondent: Absent.

ORDER:

1. This case may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 03.04.2023.
2. In today's hearing, the appellant states that no information has been supplied to him and further requests for the same. In relation to this, he further mentions about his email dated 04.07.2023 which has been sent to the bench of undersigned. The email is taken on record.
3. On the other hand, the respondent PIO is absent.
4. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the respondent / PIO, as information is still pending and no one appears from the department today after issuing the show cause notice to the PIO concerned on the previous order dated 03.04.2023. PIO did not pay any heed towards the orders and notices issued to him time and again, which indeed a serious matter as he failed to perform his duties as a public servant.
5. 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.
6. In view of the defying attitude of the concerned respondent PIO, Regional Transport Authority, Faridkot neither attending the court on the fixed date and time 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 RTA, Faridkot** 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. A copy of this order be sent to the First Appellate Authority through registered post for the compliance of this order.
9. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned for further hearing on **05.09.2023 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 25145855727, Password: 12345**).

Dated: 05.07.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab