

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Sector 16, Chandigarh.**

Ph: 0172-2864113, Helpline No. 0172-2864100

Email: - psic22@punjabmail.gov.in

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Sh. Manjit Singh (8427498620),
S/o Sh. Gurcharan Singh,
Village Manemajra, Tehsil Chamkaur Sahib,
District Ropar.

Appellant

Versus

Show-Cause

Public Information Officer,
(Regd. Post) O/o Director,
State Transport Punjab, Chandigarh.
Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority,
O/o Director,
State Transport Punjab, Chandigarh.

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 5698 of 2022
Through CISCO WEBEX

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjit Singh
Respondent: absent

ORDER:

1. This case may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 18.04.2023.
2. In today's hearing, appellant states that information is still pending from the respondent even after depositing the documentation fee.
3. Respondent PIO is absent second time without any intimation to the Commission in spite of registered post order issued to him by the Commission, which is not acceptable. The absence of the PIO is viewed seriously and it has also affected hearing and disposal of the case.
4. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o Director, State Transport Punjab, Chandigarh 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.

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1. Both the parties are advised to represent this case in person on the next date of hearing, failing to which, appropriate order in their absence shall be passed.
2. 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 1582933632).

Dated: 22.06.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab