

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

**Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
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Sh. Manjinder Singh (9872015069)

2469, Sunny Enclave,
Sector 125, Kharar,
Distt. Mohali 140301.

Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,
Jalandhar.

First Appellate Authority

O/o Secy., Regional Transport Authority,
Jalandhar

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 572 of 2023
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Manjinder Singh
Respondent: Absent.

ORDER

1. The RTI application dated 16.10.2022 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) on 21.11.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 11.01.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for 31.05.2023 at 11.00 a.m. through CISCO WEBEX application.
2. In today's hearing, the appellant states that information has not been supplied to him till date.
3. The respondent PIO is absent in spite of registered post notice issued to him by the Commission. He did not even bother to supply information after filing RTI application or appeal in the Commission, which shows his casual approach towards his duties as a public servant. RTI Act, 2005 came into existence to promote transparency and accountability of every public authority not to harass public.

The absence of the PIO is viewed seriously and it has also affected hearing and disposal of the case. In pursuance of this, the PIO is directed deal this case on priority basis and supply point-wise information to the appellant as per RTI application dated 16.10.2022, under intimation to the Commission within 10 days after receipt of this order.

4. The appellant is also advised to point out deficiencies in written, if any, within 7 days from the receipt of the information to the respondent PIO under intimation to the Commission, failing which it will be presumed that he has nothing to say in this regard and case will be decided on merits.
5. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. Both the parties are directed to come up on **31.08.2023 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).

Date: 31.05.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab