

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Sh. Amritpal Singh(7837932299)

s/o Sh. Major Singh,
VPO Abdal, Tehsil & Distt.
Amritsar 143502.

Appellant

Versus

SHOW CAUSE

Public Information Officer
(Regd. Post) O/o General Manager,
Punjab Roadways, Moga.

Encl. RTI application

First Appellate Authority,
(Regd. Post) O/o Director, State Tpt. Pb., Chandigarh

Respondent

Appeal case No.: 6215 of 2022
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant- Sh. Amritpal Singh.
Respondent: Absent.

ORDER:

1. The RTI application dated 9.9.2022 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 13.10.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 12.12.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing through CISCO WEBEX on 20.4.2023 i.e. today.
2. In today's hearing the appellant states that no information has been supplied to him.
3. The respondent PIO is absent without any intimation to the Commission. Commission takes a serious view of the casual approach of the Respondent / PIO, as nobody appears from the department today to represent this case even after issuing registered post notice by the Commission and directions of the First Appellate Authority to the General Manager, Punjab Roadways Moga via letter no. 1990 dated 18.04.2023, which is received in the Commission vide diary no. 9959 dated 21.04.2023 and taken on record.
4. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o G.M., Punjab Roadways, Moga is directed to Show Cause** in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty should not be imposed upon him for wilful delay / denial of the information to the RTI applicant and why the compensation be not awarded to the appellant 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 (through cisco webex) 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. The PIO is directed to clarify the facts of this case.

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5. A copy of this order be also sent to the **First Appellate Authority i.e. The Director, State Transport, Punjab, Chandigarh** through registered post for the compliance of this order and to look into the matter as RTI Act, 2005 came into existence to promote transparency and accountability in the working of every public authority, not for the harassment of the public
6. The PIO is directed to go through the RTI application of the appellant and supply the information to the appellant as per RTI Act, 2005 without further delay.
7. This case is adjourned and both the parties are directed to come up on **28.06.2023 at 11:00 A.M. through CISCO-Webex**. 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: 20.4.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab