

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
RED CROSS BUILDING, NEAR ROSE GARDEN,
SECTOR 16, CHANDIGARH.

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(Helpline No.0172-2864100(From 10.00 AM to 04.00PM on working days))



Shri Jaskaur Singh
S/o Shri Harbans Singh
H.No.1255, Blck-B, Entry-2,
Eco City, New Chandigarh(Punjab)
Pin-140901.

2nd Address:

R/o 197, W.No.19, Guru Nanak Nagar,
Mandi Dabwali, Distt. Sirsa, Haryana.

.....Appellant

Versus

Public Information Officer

O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate,
Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib.

Public Information Officer

**O/o-Project Director,
National Highway Authority of India(PIU)
#16308, Street No.13/9, Shakti Vihar,
Bathinda-151001**

First Appellate Authority

O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate,
Malout, Distt. Sri Muktsar Sahib.

.Respondents

AC No. 491 of 2023

Present:

- (i) **Shri Jaskaur Singh, Appellant - in person.**
(ii) **None for the Respondent**

ORDER

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 20.02.2023 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. The respondent is absent. The PIO vide letter dated 17.03.2023 received in the Commission on 20.03.2023 has informed that in compliance with the order of the Commission, the information on point 1 to 3 has been provided to the appellant vide letter dated 16.03.2023 by hand and since the information relating to point-4 relates to Project Director, National Highway Authority of India(PIU), Bathinda, they have been asked to send information relating to point-4 to PIO-cum-Suptd. Grade-2 O/o SDM, Malout.
3. As per appellant, the information is incomplete and irrelevant and certain facts have been deliberately hidden by the department to try and project people indulging in corruption.
4. Having gone through the RTI application and hearing the appellant, the PIO is directed to bring complete record relating to this RTI application in the Commission on the next date of hearing.
5. Since there has been an enormous delay of more than five months in providing the information and the respondent is absent without any intimation to the Commission, the PIO-O/o SDM Malout is hereby **issued show cause notice** to explain his absence and as to why action should not be taken against him and also as to why penalty should not be imposed in the instant case under section 20 of the RTI Act for failing to appear for the hearing and not supplying information to the appellant. He is

also directed to file a written reply to the show cause notice as to why the appellant should not be compensated for the mental harassment suffered by him in getting the information. He/she should file an affidavit in this regard. If there are other persons responsible for the delay in providing the information, the PIO is directed to inform such person(s) of the show cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with the written replies.

5. The PIO-Project Director, National Highway Authority of India(PIU), #16308, Street No.13/0, Shakti Vihar, Bathinda-151001 is impleaded as respondent no.2 in this case and directed to file appropriate reply as per letter dated 17.03.2023 of SDM-cum-Competent Authority-Land Property Malout.

6. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 09.05.2023 at 11.30 AM before the Bench in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh
27.03.2023**

**Sd/-
(Lt Gen Ajae Kumar Sharma,(Retd))
State Information Commissioner, Punjab**