

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Ms. Sandeep Dhindsa (8195884350)

(Regd. Post) W/o Sh. Dilbagh Singh,
Vill. Kailpur,
Tehsil & Distt. Ludhiana.

Versus

Show-Cause

(Regd. Post) **Public Information Officer**
O/o BDPO, Sudhar

Encl. RTI application

(Regd. Post) **First Appellate Authority**
O/o DDPO, Ludhiana

Appellant

Respondent

Appeal Case No.: 633 of 2023
Hearing through CISCO Webex

Present: Appellant: Sh. Harnek Singh on behalf the appellant
Respondent: Absent.

ORDER

1. The RTI dated 02.09.2022 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 6.10.2022 and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 13.1.2023 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for hearing for 30.5.2023 through CISCO WEBEX application.
2. In today's hearing the representative of the appellant is present but nobody appears on behalf of the respondent department.
3. The representative of the appellant states that the appellant does not receive any information since sufficient time has elapsed. It is observed that he is representing this case without authority submitted by the appellant as per the case file.
Accordingly, appellant is directed either to represent this case in person or send an authority letter for the authorized person to represent this case on his behalf.
4. The respondent is absent in spite of registered notice.
5. After hearing the representative of the appellant in detail and examining the case file, it is observed that the appellant filed RTI application on 02.09.2022 and still she is struggling to collect the information but respondent PIO did not bother to pay heed towards the directions of the Commission time and again.
6. In view of the foregoing, **respondent PIO, O/o The BDPO, Sudhar 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 (through cisco webex) 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.

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7. Respondent PIO is directed to appear in person (through cisco webex) on the next date of hearing along with directions to send the requisite information as per RTI to the appellant within ten days after receipt of this order.
8. A copy of this order be sent to the First Appellate Authority through registered post for the compliance of this order.
9. Both the parties are directed to **come up for hearing on 06.09.2023 at 11:00 AM through cisco webex meetings software**, failing which case will be decided on merit basis. Copy of the order be sent to the concerned parties through **registered post**.
(Steps to use CISCO WEBEX: Install CISCO Webex->Click on Join Meeting->Enter Meeting Number 1582933632).

Date: 30.5.2023

(Anumit Singh Sodhi)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab