

PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,
Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Ph: 0172-2864111, Visit us @ www.infocommpunjab.com,
Email: psic21@punjabmail.gov.in



REGISTERED SHOW CAUSE NOTICE

Tarlochan Singh Bhatia,
297-R, Model Town,
Ludhiana.

Versus

Public Information Officer,
o/o ATP, Building Branch Zone A,
Municipal Corporation, Ludhiana.

Complaint Case No. 655 of 2022 (Video Conference Proceedings)

PRESENT:

Tarlochan Singh Bhatia (Complainant) 95305-62832
(Respondent) Absent

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 15.12.2022)

1. The complainant, **Tarlochan Singh**, filed this RTI application dated **6.7.2022** and sought information **regarding encroachments/illegally constructed shops on the Society M/s the Ludhiana Wholesale Cloth Merchants Shop-cum-Offices Building Societies, Ludhiana,** from the PIO o/o **Commissioner, MC, Zone D, Ludhiana**. When no information was received, the Complainant filed a complaint under Section 18 of the RTI Act, 2005 to the Commission on **4.10.2022**. The case was last heard on **15.12.2022**.
2. The respondent PIO is absent without intimation. This RTI application was submitted on 6.7.2022, to which the respondent PIO sent a reply vide Letter No. 295 Dated 9.12.2022, wherein he contended that the information is "voluminous" etc.
3. This is a Complaint Case and only the question before the Commission is to determine whether there was any malafide intention on the part of the respondent PIO to delay/deny the information. As per the complainant, the reply received vide Letter No. 294-5 on 9.12.2022, is the only reply he has thus far received in response to his RTI application of 6.7.2022, which constitutes delay of nearly six months. The Commission deems it fit to issue a Show Cause Notice to the respondent PIO.
4. The respondent **PIO-ATP, Zone A, MC, Ludhiana, Sh. Mohan Singh**, is herewith ordered to **SHOW CAUSE** as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on **6.7.2022**.

Contd....2

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“In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, for a personal hearing before the imposition of such penalty on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the 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*.” Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

5. Next hearing on 7.2.2023 at 11.30 am at Punjab State Information Commission, Red Cross Building, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

Sd/-
(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner, Punjab.

Chandigarh
12.1.2023

Cc: Commissioner, MC, Ludhiana, for information and further necessary action.