

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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

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Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com) CISCO Webex Meeting Code : 15857-23975

Helpline No. 0172-2864100 ( 10:00 AM to 04.00 PM on working days )



Shri Tarun Wadhwa,  
S/o Shri Vijay Kumar  
R/o D/1598, Chawla Street,  
Adarsh Nagar,  
Tehsil & District Fazilka-152123.

..... Appellant

**Versus**

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Tehsildar,  
Fazilka.

First Appellate Authority,  
O/o Sub Divisional Magistrate,  
Fazilka.

.....Respondent

**Appeal Case No. 2088 of 2022**

**Present:-** (i) **Shri Tarun Wadhwa, Appellant- cisco webex.**  
(ii) **None on behalf of the PIO/respondent.**

**ORDER**

1. This order may be read with reference to the order dated 31.08.2022 passed by this Bench on the previous hearing.
2. The case has been heard today. Shri Tarun Wadhwa, appellant comes present to attend the hearing through cisco webex. He states that he has not received complete information and reiterates his version made during the previous hearing..
3. The PIO O/o Tehsildar, Fazilka has not come present to attend the hearing in person before the Bench or through cisco webbed nor he has deputed any of his representatives to attend the hearing on behalf of the PIO/respondent. However, an e.mail has been received from Naib Tehsildar, Fazilka stating that the dealing hand Shri Diamond is on leave and he has to attend an urgent meeting convened by D.C. Fazilka, as such, has requested for another hearing.
4. The PIO was directed during the previous hearing to come present in person before the Bench, bringing along the relevant record, however, he has failed to comply with the directions of the Bench. This casual approach of the PIO towards the directions of the Bench and lackadaisical attitude is viewed adversely.
5. The PIO O/o Tehsildar, Fazilka is 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 for failing to appear for the hearing and for not complying with the directions of the Bench. 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.

6. In addition to the written reply, the PIO is hereby given an opportunity u/s 20(1) proviso thereto for personal hearing before the imposition of such a penalty, on the next date of hearing. He may take note that in case he does not file the written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing 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.

7. The Bench again directs the PIO O/o Tehsildar, Fazilka to ensure to come present in person before the Bench and bring along the entire relevant record and produce the same before the Bench on the next hearing, failing which the Bench will be constrained to issue Bailable Warrant to ensure his presence before the Bench.

8. With the aforesaid directions, the matter is adjourned. **To come up for hearing on 09.11.2022 at 11:30 am in Commission's office at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the concerned parties.

**Chandigarh  
10.10.2022**

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

**Copy to (By Regd. Post):**

Public Information Officer,  
O/o Tehsildar, Fazilka.