PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Sector 16, Chandigarh.

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Yogesh Mahajan

S/o Sh. Kuldip Raj Mahajan, Opposite Water Tank, Municipal Market, Mission Road, Pathankot (Punjab) (M.-98143-54649)

....Appellant

Public Information Officer,

O/o The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply And Sanitation, Division Malout (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Superintending Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation, SriMuktsar Sahib(Punjab)

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 1811 of 2022

V/s

Present: (i) Sh. Yogesh Mahajan the appellant

(ii) For the respondent: None is present on behalf of the respondent

ORDER

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 28.10.2022, vide which neither the appellant nor the respondent was present.

- 2. Today, the appellant Sh. Yogesh Mahajan states that he has received four pages information only.
- 3. The respondent is absent today.
- 4. The perusal of the file shows that the appellant filed RTI with PIO, o/o The Executive Engineer, Punjab Water Supply and Sanitation on 06.01.2022, but after lapse of more than ten months no information has been given to him so far. This shows that the respondent has no regard for the orders issued by the Commission.
- 5. After hearing the appellant and examining the case file, it emerges that PIO has delayed/ denied in providing the information to the appellant. In view of the above, *PIO-o/o XEN, Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Malout is directed* to show cause in writing or through affidavit under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, as to why penalty be not

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imposed upon him for willful 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 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.

6. To come up on **19.12.2022 at 12.00 PM** for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date: 23rd November, 2022 (Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab