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

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Sh. Naresh Chander Gupta S/o Sh. Amar Nath, Flat No. 1001, Tower – 1, Motiaz Royal City, Ambala Road, S. A. S. Nagar (Mohali) – 140603 (Punjab) (M. – 8427555777)

....Appellant

- i) Public Information Officer,O/o The Deputy Commissioner,S. A. S. Nagar(Mohali)(Punjab)
- ii) Public Information Officer,O/o The Sub Divisional Magistrate,Derabassi (Punjab)

First Appellate Authority,
O/o The Deputy Commissioner,
S. A. S. Nagar(Mohali)(Punjab)

...Respondents

# Appeal Case No. 4612 of 2022

V/s

Present: Sh. Naresh Chander Gupta, the appellant in person.

For the respondent: None is present on behalf of the respondent.

#### **ORDER**

This order may be read with reference to the previous order dated 26.12.2022, vide which Sh. Mahipal Sharma, Junior Assistant appeared and copy of RTI was handed over to him with the directions to file point wise reply.

- 2. Today Sh. Naresh Gupta the appellant states that no information has been given to him so far.
- 3. The respondent is absent today.
- 4. The perusal of the file shows that during the last hearing i.e. 26.12.2022, PIO, o/o SDM, Derabassi was impleaded as respondent no. 2. But today neither the PIO, o/o SDM, Derabassi nor his representative is present. They have even not bothered to inform the Commission about their absence. This shows that the respondent-PIO has no regard for the orders issued by the Commission. This is indeed a serious matter.

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5. In view of the above, *PIO*, *o/o SDM*, *Dera Bassi 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 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 **20.02.2023 at 12.00 PM** for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :24th January, 2023

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab