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

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Sh. Gurmukh Singh, S/o Sh. Natha singh VPO Hoshiarpur, Tehsil Kharar, Distt. Mohali – 140110

.....Appellant

Vs

Public Information Officer, o/o Naib Tehsildar, Majri, Distt. Mohali

First Appellate Authority O/o SDM, Kharar

.....Respondent

Appeal Case No. 5342 of 2022

Present: (i) Sh. Gurmukh Singh the appellant

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

ORDER

The RTI application is dated 30.08.2022 vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (hereinafter FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 09.11.2022 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).

- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for 11.01.2023 in the Commission.
- 3. The appellant Sh. Gurmukh Singh states that no information has been given to him so far.
- 4. The respondent is absent today.
- 5. After hearing the appellant and going through the case file, it is observed that he appellant filed RTI with the PIO, o/o Naib Tehsildar, Majri on 30.08.2022. But after lapse of more than four months, no information has been given to the appellant so far. This shows that the respondent has no regard for the orders issued by the Commission. This is indeed a serious matter.

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6. In view of the above, *PIO- o/o Naib Tehsildar*, *Majri 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.

7. To come up on **08.02.2023 at 12.00 PM** for further proceedings in the Commission. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

Date :11th January, 2023

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab