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

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Sh Satbir Singh, Advocate (M-9501188541) #B-11, MCH, 751/12 Kamalpur, Jalandhar Road, Opposite Hira laboratory, Inside Rupinder Gate, Hoshiarpur-146001)

.... Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,

O/o The Civil Surgeon, Hoshiarpur

First Appellate Authority,

O/o The Civil Surgeon, Hoshiarpur

...Respondents

Appeal Case No. 880 of 2023

Present: (i) None for the Appellant.

(ii) For the Respondent: Sh Jaswinder Singh, Dealing Asstt. (98032-15281) and Ms Palwinder Kaur, Jr Asstt. (94634-68235)

ORDER

- 1. The RTI application is dated 24.11.2022 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 25.01.2023.
- 2. Notice of hearing was issued to the parties Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter RTI Act).for 21.03.2023 in the Commission. However, the case was postponed to be heard on 24.03.2023,i.e today.
- 3. The Appellant is not present today.
- 4. The Respondent states that the information has been provided to the Appellant.
- 5. After perusing the case file, it is ascertained that the Appellant is not present today. The Respondent states that the information has been provided to the Appellant. However they have failed to file any reply today. From the next date of hearing, no person below the PIO or APIO will be allowed to appear. Appearance of low level officials will amount to disrespect to the RTI Act besides invoking the provisions of imposition of penalty and also recommendation of disciplinary action against the PIO under Section 20 of RTI Act, 2005. Hence, PIO O/o Civil Surgeon, Hoshiarpur is directed to be present personally on the next date of hearing along with their reply pertaining to the RTI of the appellant, failing which action under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act will be initiated.
- 6. To come up on **21.04.2023 at 12:00PM** in the Commission office. Copy of the orders be sent to the parties.

(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)
State Information Commissioner
Punjab

Date: 24.03.2023