

**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Sector 16, Chandigarh.  
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Helpline No. 0172-2864100



Sh. Jaspal,  
S/o Sh Munish Ram,  
R/o Village Bhindi Aulakh Khurd,  
Tehsil Ajnala, Distt Amritsar

.....Appellant

..Vs

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Panchayat Secretary,  
Gram Panchayat, Bhindi Aulakh Khurd,  
Block Chaugawan, Ajnala, Distt Amritsar

.....Respondent

### **CC No.42 of 2022**

Present: (i) Sh. Jaspal the complainant  
(ii) None is present on behalf of the respondent

#### **ORDER**

The brief facts of the case are that the Complainant Sh. Jaspal has filed his RTI with the PIO, Panchayat Secretary on 24.05.2021. On not receiving any information he has filed his complaint with the Commission on 17.01.2022.

2. During the first hearing, i.e. on 13.06.2022, before the benches of former SIC, Sh. Sanjeev Garg, the respondent was absent and a show cause notice was issued to the respondent-PIO. Accordingly, the appeal was adjourned on 01.08.2022. On 01.08.2022, neither the respondent nor the complainant was present. Further, the above said complaint case was transferred to the undersigned and the notice was issued to the parties for 27.10.2022. On 27.10.2022 the respondent was again absent.

3. The perusal of the file shows that during the hearing dated 13.06.2022, a show cause notice was issued to the respondent-PIO, but till today neither the respondent has bothered to appear before the Commission nor he has to file any reply to the show cause notice. Hence, it is derived that the respondent-PIO is intentionally delaying the supply of information and he has no respect for the orders of the Commission to be present, either himself or through his representative in the Court.

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4. In view of the defying attitude of the respondent-PIO neither attending the court nor submitting any explanation for the delay in supplying the information within the time schedule as prescribed under the RTI Act 2005, the court comes to a logical conclusion that it is a fit case for the imposition of penalty amounting to Rs. 15000/- (Rupees Fifteen thousand only) on the PIO. Therefore, taking a lenient view, I impose a penalty of **Rs. 15000/- (Rs. Fifteen thousand only) on the respondent-PIO, o/o Panchayat Secretary, Gram Panchayat, Bhindi Aulakh Khurd, Block Chaugawan, Ajnala, Distt Amritsar. DDPO, Amritsar is directed to deduct the amount of penalty of Rs. 15000/- from the salary of Respondent-PIO and deposited in the State Treasury in the following Head of Account and to report its compliance to the Commission:-**

"0070-Other Administrative Services

60 other Services

800-Other Receipts

86-Fee under the RTI Act, 2005"

5. Further, the Respondent-PIO is directed to be present personally on the next date of hearing alongwith the complete information.

6. To come up on **16.01.2023 at 12.00 PM for further proceedings in the Commission.** Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-

**(Amrit Partap Singh Sekhon)**  
State Information Commissioner  
Punjab

**Date : 25<sup>th</sup> November, 2022**

CC: (i) District Development and Panchayat Officer, Amritsar  
(ii) Director Rural Development and Panchayats, Sector 62, Mohali