PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh. Ph: 0172-2864111, Visit us @ www.infocommpunjab.com, Email:psic21@punjabmail.gov.in



Dr. Manjit Singh Komal, Ex-Principal GGN Khalsa College, 174-A, Shastri Nagar, Ludhiana.

Versus

Public Information Officer, o/o Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana. Public Information Officer, o/o SHO, Police Station, Salem Tabri, Ludhiana. First Appellate Authority o/o Commissioner of Police, Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No. 1127 of 2018

ORDER:

(To be read in continuity with earlier orders on 13.11.19, 15.1.2020, 14.2.2020 and 17.9.2020)

- 1. The RTI application is dated 12.1.2018 vide which the appellant has sought <u>information</u> <u>pertaining to his complaint / letter which was emailed to the then Deputy Chief Minister in 13.2.2016. The appellant requested a copy of his letter; statements recorded in the <u>matter(by police)</u>; and, a copy of the report prepared in the <u>matter by ASI Sukhwinder Singh (then posted at Police Station Salem Tabri, Ludhiana)</u>, as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) on 12.2.18, and second appeal was filed in the Commission on 27.3.18 under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005. The case was last heard on 14.2.2020.</u>
- 2. This case was reserved on 17.9.2020. At that hearing, the respondent PIO-cum-SHO PS Salem Tabri Ludhiana had **FAILED TO COMPLY** with this Commission's Order of 14.2.20, wherein he was directed to state in a fresh Affidavit, whether the email cited by the appellant in his RTI application of 12.1.2018, was referred / received to / by the Police Station Salem Tabri, or not.
- 3. Meanwhile, as requested by this Bench, the appellant has emailed copies of the two earlier (12.2.2020) affidavits given to him on behalf of the PIO-cum-SHO Inspector Kamwaljit Singh and ASI Sukhwinder Singh.
- 4. In view of the PIO-cum-SHO's continuing failure to address this RTI application as also failing to comply with the directions of this Commission he is served with this Show Cause Notice:

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5. The respondent PIO-cum-SHO Police Station Salem Tabri, Ludhiana is directed herewith, to **SHOW CAUSE** as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on 12.1.2018.

"In addition to a written reply, the respondent PIO-cum-SHO is also 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 take note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of a personal hearing on the date fixed, it shall be presumed that he has nothing to say in his defense, and the Commission shall initiate further proceedings against him *ex parte*."

6. <u>Next hearing on 29.4.2021 via Video Conference Facility in the Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Ludhiana.</u>

Sd/(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner

Chandigarh 7.4.2021