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Shri Dinesh Garg, (82880-90726)

S/o Shri VedParkash Garg, House No. 565 D, Shiva Enclave, Bhabhat, Zirakpur, Mohali.

....Appellant

Shri Rohit Garg (98888-60708), Public Information Officer-cum-ATO, O/o Transport Department, Punjab, Distt Admin Complex, Mohali.

First Appellate Authority, O/o Transport Department, Punjab,
Distt Admin Complex, Mohali.

....Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 4288 OF 2023

Versus

PRESENT: Appellant: Shri Sagar Kumar Advocate on behalf of the appellant (98765-40003)

Respondent: Absent

ORDER:

Date: 20.11.2025

This order may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 19.08.2025.

- 2. Shri Sagar Kumar, Advocate is appearing on behalf of the appellant. He states that no information has been given to him so far and requests that penalty be imposed upon the respondent PIO.
- 3. The respondent is absent, but an email has been received from him today i.e. 20.11.2025, mentioning therein that he is unable to attend the hearing due to ongoing preparation for the 350th Martyrdom day of Guru Tegh Bahadur Ji at Anandpur Sahib.
- 4. After having detailed deliberations with the appellant and examining the case file, **one last and final opportunity** is awarded to the respondent PIO to provide the appellant complete requisite information within 10 days from the receipt of this order, under intimation to the Commission, failing which stringent action will be initiated against the respondent PIO, as per the provisions of the RTI Act, 2005.
- 5. The respondent PIO-cum-ATO, Shri Rohit Garg, is hereby reminded that he is still under the Show Cause Notice issued to him vide this Commission's order dated 19.08.2025. Both parties are directed to appear before the Commission on the next date of hearing for deliberations. It is also clarified that in case of defiance of this order, the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte.
- 6. <u>To come up on 24.02.2026 at 11.00 A.M. at Chandigarh.</u> Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Virinderjit Singh Billing) State Information Commissioner Punjab

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Mrs. Sonia Kumari, (99159-31610) W/o Sh. Santosh Kumar, R/o House No. 904, Dashmesh, NayaGaon, Distt Mohali.

....Appellant

Versus

Shri Manpreet Singh (95014-62999) Public Information Officer-cum-EO, O/o Nagar Council, Nayagaon, Distt Mohali.

First Appellate Authority, O/o EO, Nagar Council, Nayagaon, Distt Mohali.

....Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 8164 OF 2023

PRESENT: Appellant: Shri Dilshad S.Gill, Advocate on behalf of the appellant (98880-86911)

Respondent: Shri Mahesh, Building Inspector (98550-67981)

ORDER:

This order may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 19.08.2025.

- 2. Shri Dilshad S. Gill, Advocate is appearing on behalf of the appellant and states that no information has been given to him so far.
- 3. Shri Mahesh, Building Inspector, is appearing on behalf of the respondent today. He is not aware of the facts of the case. It is observed that the respondents are being represented by officials who are not in a position to satisfy the Commission and the appellant. From the next date of hearing, no person other than the PIO or APIO will be allowed to appear in the Commission. Appearance of officials other than the PIO or APIO will amount to disrespect to the RTI Act, 2005 besides invoking the provisions of imposition of penalty and also recommendation of disciplinary action against the PIO under Section 20 of RTI Act, 2005.
- 4. The Commission takes a very serious view of the respondent PIO's conduct in ignoring this RTI application and deems it fit to serve the respondent PIO-cum-EO, Nagar Council, Nayagaon, District Mohali, Shri Manpreet Singh, with this Show Cause Notice.
- 5. The respondent <u>PIO-cum-EO</u>, <u>Nagar Council</u>, <u>Nayagaon</u>, <u>District Mohali</u>, <u>Shri Manpreet Singh</u>, is herewith ordered to <u>SHOW CAUSE</u> as to why a penalty should not be imposed upon him under Section 20 (1) of RTI Act, 2005, for causing willful delay/denial of the information requested by the appellant as far back as on 12.12.2022. If there is / are other PIO / PIOs responsible for the delay in providing the information, the incumbent PIO is directed to inform such PIO(s) of the Show Cause and direct them to appear before the Commission along with written replies.

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APPEAL CASE NO. 8164 OF 2023

"In addition to the written reply, the respondent PIO is also given an opportunity under Section 20 (1) provision there to, 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 personal hearing on the 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*." Copies of this order be sent to the parties through registered post.

- 6. The PIO-cum-EO, Shri Manpreet Singh, is directed to supply the requested information to the appellant through registered post within 10 days after receipt of this order, under intimation to the Commission. The respondent PIO-cum-EO, Shri Manpreet Singh, is further directed to attend the next hearing in person with a written reply to the Show Cause Notice. Failure to comply and attend the hearing, will compel the Commission to secure his presence through service of **Bailable Warrant**.
- 7. <u>To come up on 16.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M. at Chandigarh.</u> Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Virinderjit Singh Billing) State Information Commissioner Punjab

Date: 20.11.2025

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Shri Surjan Singh (98784-21510)

S/o Shri Mela Singh, VPO Hassanpur, Tehsil Mullanpur, District Ludhiana.

....Appellant

Versus

Shri Baljinder Singh (98145-00408), Public Information Officer-cum-Panchayat Secretary, O/o Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Sudhar, District Ludhiana.

First Appellate Authority,

O/o District Development and Panchayat Officer, Ludhiana.

....Respondents

APPEAL CASE NO. 5853 OF 2022

PRESENT: Appellant: Shri Surjan Singh (98784-21510)

Respondent: Shri Baljinder Singh, PIO-cum-Panchayat Secretary (98145-00408)

ORDER:

Date: 20.11.2025

This order may be read with the reference to the previous order dated 14.10.2025.

- 2. The appellant states that the sought information is still pending and requests the court for complete requisite information.
- 3. The respondent states that he has brought complete information today to be provided to the appellant. Copy of the information is handed over to the appellant. The appellant requests that some time be given to him to go through the information provided.
- 4. Further, the respondent PIO-cum-Panchayat Secretary, Shri Baljinder Singh, tenders unconditional apology regarding delay occurred in this case and made oral submissions in this regard. He also files a reply to the Show Cause Notice issued to him vide this Commission's order dated 14.10.2025. Keeping in view all the facts mentioned in the reply the Show Cause Notice is hereby **dropped**.
- 5. In view of the above, an opportunity is given to the appellant to go through the information provided and point out deficiencies, if any to the respondent, under intimation to the Commission office. On receipt of the deficiencies, the respondents are directed to remove the same before the next date of hearing.
- 6. The respondent PIO is directed to attend the next hearing on 16.12.2025 at 11.00 A.M. through Cisco Webex for deliberations. It is also clarified that in case of defiance of this order, the case will be decided on merit, ex-parte. (Webex Meeting Number: 25180667401 and Password: 12345.) However, the appellant is exempted from personal hearing on the next date of hearing. He shall be contacted telephonically. Copy of the order be sent to the parties.

Sd/-(Virinderjit Singh Billing) State Information Commissioner Punjab