



Sh. Sona Singh, S/o Sh. Gudarh Singh,  
R/o Village Chak Kandhe Shah,  
Tehsil Gurusahai, District Ferozepur.  
(M:6284699536)

....Complainant

V/s

**Public Information Officer,**  
O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (Development),  
Ferozepur.

....Respondents

**Complaint Case No.73 of 2024**

**Present:** (i) Sh. Sona Singh, the complainant.  
(ii) None is present on behalf of the respondent PIO.

**ORDER:**

1. The RTI application is dated 16.08.2023 vide which the Complainant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. The complaint was filed by the complainant in the Commission on 20.01.2024 under Section 18 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter called the RTI Act). Notice of hearing was issued to the parties for today i.e. 26.06.2025 by the Commission.
2. The complainant states after the lapse of more than a year, nothing has been given by the respondent PIO in response to his RTI application. He requested that a penal action should be taken against the erring officer/official who is responsible for the delay.
3. The respondent PIO is absent at today's hearing without intimation to the Commission. It is also a fact that a copy of Commission's notice of hearing was sent to respondent PIO through registered post even though, he is absent, which shows carelessness and irresponsible behaviour towards the notice of the Commission.
4. Viewing the attitude in dealing with the RTI application by the respondent in a casual manner, the respondent PIO O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (D), Ferozepur, is, thus, issued a show cause notice to explain in a self-attested affidavit as to why a penalty @ Rs.250/- per day of delay subject to a maximum of Rs.25,000/- till the complete information is furnished, be not imposed under Section 20(1) of RTI Act, 2005 on him for causing willful delay/denial of the information to the RTI.

In addition to the written reply, the Public Information Officer 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 a note that in case he does not file his written reply and does not avail himself of the opportunity of personal hearing on the next date, it will be presumed that he has nothing to say and the Commission will proceed ex-parte.

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**PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden,  
Sector 16, Chandigarh.  
Ph: 0172-2864116, Helpline No. 0172-2864100  
Email: - [psic21@punjabmail.gov.in](mailto:psic21@punjabmail.gov.in)  
Visit us: - [www.infocommpunjab.com](http://www.infocommpunjab.com)



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5. The respondent **PIO Sh. Harjinder Singh, DDPO, Ferozepur O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (D), Ferozepur**, is further directed to attend the next Hearing of this Complaint Case in person at the Commission in Chandigarh, along with a written, point wise reply to the RTI application. **Failure to comply, will compel the Commission to secure his presence through service of a Bailable Warrant.**
6. With this, the case is **adjourned to 10<sup>th</sup> September, 2025 at 12.00 Noon for hearing at Chandigarh.** Copies of the order be sent to the parties.

**Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> June, 2025**

Sd/-  
**(Pooja Gupta)**  
**State Information Commissioner**  
**Punjab**

**(Regd. Post)**

**Sh. Harjinder Singh, DDPO**  
**-cum-Public Information Officer,**  
**O/o Additional Deputy Commissioner (D),**  
**Ferozepur.**

**(For compliance)**

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