

Bailable Arrest Warrant Against Tehsildar For Ignoring SIC Summons

CITY | TNN | Aug 26, 2025, 03:00 IST



Share

Follow Us

Mohali: The Punjab State Information Commission (SIC) issued a bailable arrest warrant against Kharar tehsildar-cum-public information officer (PIO) Gurvinder Kaur for failing to appear before the commission despite repeated notices and directions. A commission spokesperson said the action was taken by state information commissioner Harpreet Singh Sandhu while hearing appeal case filed by Bhagat Singh, a resident of Kansala village, Kharar. The appellant approached the commission after not receiving the information he sought under the Right to Information (RTI) Act.

Despite repeated orders directing her to appear in person, the tehsildar was absent from hearings scheduled on June 24, July 9, and August 11. The commission noted that notices and orders were duly served through registered post but were ignored. "Such continuous absence reflects disregard towards the Commission and has adversely affected the proceedings of the case," the order said.

The commission also observed that on the last date of hearing, the PIO was directed to provide complete information to the appellant before the next hearing, failing which bailable warrants would be issued. However, even after nearly 23 months, the required information was not supplied to the appellant.

Taking a stern view, commissioner Harpreet Singh Sandhu directed Mohali SSP Harmandeep Singh Hans to execute the bailable warrant and ensure Gurvinder Kaur's appearance before the Punjab State Information Commission, Chandigarh, on Sept 23 at 11.30 am.

The tehsildar has also been asked to submit a written reply to the pending show-cause notice. The order further cautioned that if she fails to appear, it will be presumed that she has nothing to state in her defence, and the commission will proceed ex-parte. The case highlights repeated non-compliance of govt officials with RTI obligations and the commission's orders. Observers say such negligence not only delays justice to information seekers but also undermines the transparency objectives of the RTI Act.

MSID:: 123504154 413 |

[Select The Times of India as your preferred source on Google Search.](#)

Continue on TOI App

Open App

