

HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN
BENCH AT JAIPUR

S.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 8823/2023

Gorav Soni Son Of Trilok Kumar Soni, Aged About 37 Years, The Then Public Information Officer Cum Assistant Commissioner, Devasthan Department, Ajmer Division, Ajmer (Raj.) At Present He Is Serving As Assistant Commissioner, Devasthan Department, Tehsil Rishavdev, Udaipur.

-----Petitioner

Versus

1. Rajasthan State Information Commission, Jaipur Through Its Commissioner Having Its Office, Suchna Bhavan, Jhalana Link Road, Jawahar Lal Nehru Marg, Behind Ots Campus, Jaipur, Rajasthan 302017
2. Additional Commissioner Cum Departmental Appellate Authority, Devasthan Department Rajasthan, Udaipur.
3. Radheyshyam Sharma S/o Not Known, R/o Dadhimati Kripa, Gali No. 4, New Kesri Colony, Adarsh Nagar, Ajmer.

-----Respondents

For Petitioner(s)	:	Mr. Rajeev Kumar Sogarwal with Mr. Sanjeev Kumar Sogarwal
For Respondent(s)	:	Mr. S.P. Singh Rajawat for Mr. G.S. Gill, AAG

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SAMEER JAIN

Order

28/04/2026

Learned counsel for the petitioner has submitted that the petitioner is an employee in Devasthan Department and he was acting as a Public Information Officer. It is stated that a cost and penalty of Rs.25,000/- under Section 20 of Right to Information Act, 2005 for flouting the orders of the authorities; causing delay and harassing the applicant, was imposed upon him. It is submitted that on account of interpretative issues or bonafide

reasons, the petitioner was not in receipt of said information, due to which the directions therein, were carried out with delay; qua the same an apology is also tendered.

Considering the foregoing facts and circumstances, this Court hereby sets aside penalty so imposed, as to the rate of Rs.25,000/-, vide order dated 02.02.2023. The said order is modified accordingly to that extent.

Accordingly, the present writ petition is disposed of. Pending applications, if any, shall stand disposed.

(SAMEER JAIN),J