



IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
NAGPUR BENCH, NAGPUR.

WRIT PETITION NO.3561 OF 2020

[Harshal S/o. Bhaskar Kalikar ..Vs.. Shri Charandas S/o Udaram
Chavhan and Another]

*Office Notes, Office Memoranda of Coram,
appearances, Court's orders of directions
and Registrar's orders.*

Court's or Judge's order

Mr S. S. Ghate, Advocate for Petitioner.
Mr H. R. Dhumale, AGP for Respondent/State.

CORAM : SIDDHESHWAR S. THOMBRE, J.

DATE : 21st NOVEMBER, 2025.

1. Heard Mr. S. S. Ghate, learned counsel for the petitioner. Though the respondent No.1 is served, nobody appeared on behalf of him.

2. By way of the present petition, the petitioner is challenging the order dated 31.07.2020 passed by the respondent No.2 - State Information Commissioner, Nagpur, whereby a penalty of Rs.25,000/- was imposed on the petitioner under Section 20(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (for short, "the R.T.I. Act, 2005).

3. Mr. S. S. Ghate, learned counsel for the petitioner, submits that the State Information Commissioner, Nagpur, imposed a penalty stated supra on the petitioner without giving him any show-cause notice.

4. I have gone through the order passed by the State Information Commissioner, Nagpur, and the documents placed before me. Section 20 of the R. T. I. Act, 2005,

provides that before imposing any penalty, the State Information Commission should issue notice to the concerned officer and call for an explanation. However, it appears that no such opportunity was given to the petitioner in the present case.

5. In view thereof, the present writ petition is **allowed**. Order dated 31.07.2020 passed by the respondent No.2 - State Information Commissioner, Nagpur, is hereby quashed and set aside.

6. In view of the above, the present writ petition is disposed of.

(SIDDHESHWAR S. THOMBRE, J.)