**PENALTY PROVISIONS**

Every CPIO will be liable for fine of Rs. 250 per day, up to a maximum of Rs. 25,000/-, for

- Not accepting on Application
- Delaying information release Without reasonable cause
- Malafidely denying Information
- Knowingly giving incomplete, incorrect, Misleading information
- Obstructing furnishing of information in any manner

The Information Commission (IC) at the Centre and the State levels will have the power to impose this penalty. The Information Commission can also recommend disciplinary action for violation of the law against an erring PIO.

- **Sec 20(1)** – Penalties imposable by CENTRAL INFORMATION COMMISSION on CPIO or officer asked to assist CPIO:
  - For unreasonable delay – Rs. 250 per day – up to a maximum of Rs. 25,000.
  - For illegitimate refusal to accept application, malafide denial, knowingly providing false information, destruction of information, etc. – up to a maximum of Rs. 25,000.
  - Recommendation for departmental action for persistent or serious violations.

Failure to provide information within the specified time frame amounts to denial of information.