

**GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

'Kamat Towers', Seventh Floor, Patto, Panaji –Goa

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**Penalty No. 06/2022  
in  
Complaint No. 20/2021/SCIC**

Shri. Ramesh S. Kerkar,  
R/o. H.No. 3/15, Muddawadi,  
Saligao, Bardez-Goa 403511.

.....Complainant

V/S

The Public Information officer,  
Village Panchayat Saligao,  
Bardez-Goa 403511.

.....Opponent

**Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar**

State Chief Information Commissioner

**Filed on: 29/04/2022**

**Decided on: 18/10/2022**

**ORDER**

1. While disposing the Complaint bearing No. 20/2021/SCIC, the Commission by its order dated 25/03/2022, directed to show cause to the Public Information officer (PIO), Ms. Pravisha Bhonsle, Village Panchayat Secretary of Village Panchayat Saligao, Bardez-Goa as to why the penalty should not be imposed on her in term of Section 20(1) and /or recommend disciplinary proceeding against her in tem of Section 20(2) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (the Act).
2. The PIO, Ms. Pravisha Bhonsle appeared and filed her reply to the show cause notice on 29/04/2022 and matter posted for clarification.
3. On the next date of hearing, Adv. V. Rodrigues appeared and filed additional reply dated 03/06/2022 and submitted that he is ready and willing to furnish the information and sought time to settle the matter amicably, therefore the matter was fixed for compliance.
4. During the course of hearing on 20/07/2022, the PIO appeared and submitted that, by letter dated 20/05/2022, she furnished all the information to the Complainant by Registered Post and produced

on record the copy of registration slip and acknowledgement receipt dated 20/05/2022.

5. The Complainant admitted that he received the letter dated 19/05/2022, however, he is not satisfied with the reply as most of the information sought by him, replied as "No records available". The PIO emphasised that the said information is not available in the records of the public authority and that she has not wilfully suppressed the information.
6. The Commission therefore directed the PIO to file an Affidavit, under Rule 5 (vi) of the Goa State Information Commission (Appeal Procedure) Rules, 2006.
7. Accordingly, the PIO by her Affidavit in reply stated on oath that, available information has been furnished to the Complainant.
8. The PIO in her affidavit, submit an unconditional apology for delay in furnishing the information and undertook to resolve such issue in the future with due priority.
9. In view of the fact that the existing and available information has been furnished to the Complainant and in the light of remorse as expressed by the PIO for delay caused in furnishing the information, a lenient view is taken. However, the PIO is made aware that she shall be diligent henceforth in dealing with RTI application and shall give priority as provided under the Act.

Show cause notice dated 25/03/2022 issued in the penalty proceeding is dropped.

- Pronounced in open court.
- Notify the parties.

Sd/-

**(Vishwas R. Satarkar)**

State Chief Information Commissioner