GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Appeal No. 139/2022/SCIC

Shri. Shriram S.P. Raiturker,
H.No. 163, Pajifond,
Isidoro Emilio Baptisha Road,
Margao-Goa 403601. .....Appellant

V/S

1. The Public Information Officer,
Secretary,
Village Panchayat at Cana Benaulim,
Benaulim, Salcete-Goa 403716.

2. The First Appellate Authority,
Block Development Officer-I,
Mathany Saldanha Administrative Complex,
Collectorate Building,
Margao-Goa 403601. .....Respondents

Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar State Chief Information Commissioner

Filed on: 27/05/2022
Decided on: 08/02/2023

ORDER

1. The Appellant, Shri. Shriram S.P. Raituker r/o. H.No. 163, Pajifond, Isidoro Emilio Baptisha Road, Margao-Goa vide application dated 06/12/2021 filed under Section 6(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter to be referred as 'Act') sought certain information from the Public Information Officer (PIO), Secretary, Village Panchayat Cana Benaulim, Salcete-Goa.

2. The said application was not responded by the PIO within stipulated time, deeming the same as refusal, the Appellant preferred first appeal before the Block Development Officer-I, being the First Appellant Authority (FAA).

3. The FAA by its order dated 28/02/2022 directed the PIO to furnish the information free of cost to the Appellant within 10 days.

4. Since the PIO failed and neglected to comply the order of the FAA dated 28/02/2022, the Appellant landed before the Commission with this second appeal under Section 19(3) of the Act with the prayer to direct the PIO to furnish the information and to impose penalty for non-furnishing the information and to initiate disciplinary action against the PIO.

5. Notices were issued to the parties, pursuant to which the incumbent PIO, Sanjeev Naik, Secretary of Village Panchayat Cana Benaulim vide letter dated 02/07/2022 informed through entry registry that, he has transferred the notice of the second appeal to the concerned PIO at Village Panchayat Calangute, Bardez-Goa being the present posting of the then PIO. The Appellant appeared in person on 15/09/2022. The then PIO Shri. Arjun Velip appeared on 05/07/2022 and submitted that he is no more the designated PIO of Village Panchayat Cana Benaulim, however, he submitted that by letter dated 24/02/2022 he has furnished the available information to the Appellant through postal service. The representative of the FAA, Shri. Pradip Tamhankar appeared on 05/08/2022 and placed on record the reply of the FAA.

6. Since the PIO was transferred to another Village Panchayat office, in the interest of justice notice was issued to the incumbent PIO, Shri. Sanjeev Naik to offer his say in the matter and matter posted for appearance on 16/12/2022.

7. During the course of hearing on 16/12/2022, the PIO, Sanjeev Naik appeared and submitted that he will try to locate the information. Accordingly the Commission directed the PIO to furnish the information on next date of hearing and matter was posted for compliance.

8. That in the course of hearing on 08/02/2023, the PIO Shri. Sanjeev Naik appeared and submitted that upon the direction

of the Commission, the file was located and he has furnished additional information to the Appellant vide letter No. VPCB/2953/2022-23 dated 17/01/2023, however, since the Appellant is not satisfied with the same, he provided further additional information vide letter dated VPCB/3098/2022-23 dated 01/02/2023. Further he submitted that he has also given the inspection of the records available with the public authority. To substantiate his claim, he produced on record the letter dated 17/01/2023 and 01/02/2023.

9. The Appellant appeared and submitted that, he has inspected the file and he is satisfied with the information provided by the PIO. He further submitted that he does not want to proceed with the matter and also made endorsement on the appeal memo that *"satisfied with the information, matter may be closed."*

In view of the endorsement of the Appellant, the matter is disposed off.

- Proceeding closed.
- Pronounced in the open court.
- Notify the parties.

Sd/-

(Vishwas R. Satarkar)
State Chief Information Commissioner