## **GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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**Appeal No. 247/2023/SCIC** 

Shri. Jawaharlal T. Shetye, H.No. 35/A, Ward No. 11, Khorlim, Mapusa-Goa, 403507.

.....Appellant

V/S

- 1. The Public Information Officer, Civil Registrar-cum-Sub Registrar, Office at Mapusa-Goa 403507.
- 2. The First Appellate Authority, The District Registrar, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, 4<sup>th</sup> Lift, Junta House, Panaji-Goa.

.....Respondents

**Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar** 

State Chief Information Commissioner

Filed on: 11/07/2023 Decided on: 24/11/2023

## **ORDER**

- The Appellant, Shri. Jawahrlal T. Shetye r/o. H.No. 35/A, Ward No. 11, Khorlim, Mapusa-Goa vide his application dated 03/02/2023 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), Office of the Civil Registrar cum Sub-Registrar, Morod, Mapusa, Bardez-Goa.
- 2. The said application was responded by the PIO on 02/03/2023 with the request to the Appellant to provide detail about correspondence reference, Deed Registration number etc to provide the information.
- 3. Not satisfied with the reply of the PIO, the Appellant filed first appeal before the District Registrar North, Junta House, Panaji-Goa on 14/03/2023, being the First Appellate Authority (FAA).
- 4. The FAA upheld the reply of the PIO and disposed off the first appeal by order dated 31/05/2023, not granting any relief to the Appellant.

- 5. The Appellant aggrieved with the order of the FAA, preferred this second appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the Act, with the prayer to direct the PIO to furnish the information free of cost.
- 6. Notices were issued to the parties, pursuant to which, the Appellant appeared in person on 01/09/2023, the PIO, Shri. Gouresh G. Bugde appeared and filed his reply on 01/09/2023. The FAA Shri. V.K. Hadkonkar appeared, however opted not to file any reply in the matter.
- 7. In the course of hearing, the PIO, Shri. G. G. Bugde submitted that, the information sought by the Appellant is vague and unspecific and he offered for the inspection of the records. In the interest of fairness and justice, the Commission directed the PIO to give the inspection of the records to the Appellant on 29/09/2023 between 10:30 am to 11:30 am in the office of the PIO at Mapusa-Goa and matter was fixed for compliance on 04/10/2023.
- 8. In the course of hearing on 04/10/2023, the incumbent PIO, Ms. Firdous Saba Bepari appeared and submitted that as per the direction of the Commission, she has provided the inspection of the records on 29/09/2023. The Commission therefore directed the PIO to furnish the documents identified by the Appellant on next date of hearing and matter was fixed for compliance on 07/11/2023.
- 9. On the next date of hearing i.e. on 07/11/2023, Ms. Firdous S. Bepari, the incumbent PIO appeared and placed on record the voluminous set of documents to the Appellant and submitted that she produced on record the documents identified by the Appellant during the inspection of records. Since the Appellant did not appear for hearing on 07/11/2023, the opportunity was granted. She also submitted that she dispatched the reply to the Appellant through registered post on 02/11/2023, hence, the Commission directed the

PIO to produce on record the A/D card of postal authority. In the meantime, the PIO produced on record the receipt of the postal authority dated 02/11/2023 to support her contention.

- 10. The Commission finds that, the information sought for has been provided free of cost to the Appellant which is in the records of the proceeding. As the Appellant did not appear for subsequent hearings on 07/11/2023 and 24/11/2023, I find no reason to prolong the proceeding further. I therefore dispose the appeal with the liberty to the Appellant to collect the copy of information from the court file within the period of 30 days from the date of receipt of the order.
  - Proceeding closed.
  - Pronounced in the open court.
  - Notify the parties.

Sd/(Vishwas R. Satarkar)
State Chief Information Commissioner