GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Appeal No. 261/2022/SCIC

Shri. Narayan Datta Naik,
H.No. 278/1 (3),
Savorfond, Sancoale,
403710. .....Appellant

V/S

Shri. Raghuvir D. Bagkar,
Public Information Officer,
Village Panchayat Sancoale,
Pin Code No. 403710. .....Respondent

Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar State Chief Information Commissioner

Filed on: 06/10/2022
Decided on: 27/11/2023

ORDER

1. The Appellant, Shri. Narayan Datta Naik, r/o. H.No. 278/1 (3), Savorfond, Sancoale, Mormugao-Goa vide his application dated 26/05/2022 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), Village Panchayat Sancoale, Mormugao-Goa.

2. Since the said application was not responded by the PIO within stipulated time, the Appellant filed first appeal before the Block Development Officer, Mormugao-Goa on 21/07/2022, being the First Appellate Authority (FAA).

3. The FAA vide its order dated 13/09/2022 allowed the first appeal and directed the PIO to provide the pointwise information to the Appellant within 10 days.

4. The PIO complied with the order of the FAA and furnished pointwise reply to the Appellant on 23/09/2022 and by letter dated 26/09/2022 he also informed the Appellant to visit the office of the PIO during office hours to collect the information.

5. According to the Appellant, upon receipt of the intimation letter his brother collected the 5 pages information from the staff of Village Panchayat Sancoale on 30/09/2022. However, according to the Appellant the information provided to him was incomplete.

6. Not satisfied with the information provided by the PIO, the Appellant preferred this second appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the Act.

7. Notices were issued to the parties, pursuant to which, the Appellant appeared in person on 07/11/2022, the PIO, Shri. Raghuvir Bagkar appeared on 07/11/2022 and submitted that he has furnished all the available information to the Appellant, free of cost and now he is transferred from Village Panchayat Sancoale to Village Panchayat Arpora, Bardez-Goa.

8. Adv. Kapil Kerkar put his appearance on 08/12/2022 on behalf of the PIO Shri. Raghuvir Bagkar filed his wakalatanama and sought time to file the reply in the matter. However, the PIO or his counsel failed to appear for subsequent hearings or file reply in the matter.

9. In the course of hearings on 11/01/2023, the Appellant appeared and filed an application praying that direction may be issued to the incumbent PIO to furnish the information. For the sake of justice, the Commission issued notice to the incumbent PIO, Smt. Asha Mesta to appear in the matter. However, the incumbent PIO failed and neglected to appear in the matter for the reason best known to her.

10. Since both the parties remained absent throughout the hearings on 25/04/2023, 14/06/2023, 24/07/2023, 28/08/2023, 06/10/2023, 15/11/2023 and 27/11/2023, I find no reason to prolong the proceeding further and hence proceed to dispose the appeal on the basis of available records.

11. Record reveals that, the PIO complied with the order of the FAA dated 13/09/2022 and furnished the available information to the Appellant by letters dated 23/09/2022 and 26/09/2022. It is also admitted position that, the Appellant received 5 pages of information from the staff of V.P. Sancoale, Mormugao-Goa on 30/09/2022. However, it is the contention of the Appellant that he is not satisfied with the information. As far as the RTI Act is concerned, it can only facilitate in providing information to the citizen, which is available with the public authority in material form. All information cannot be to the satisfaction of the seeker. In the present case besides a bare statement, the Appellant miserably failed to establish, how the information furnished is incorrect or incomplete.

12. In view of the above facts and circumstances, the matter is disposed off.

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

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