

**GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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

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**Complaint No. 04/2023/SCIC**

Anthony Lopes,  
6/234, Cobravaddo, Calangute,  
Bardez-Goa 403516.

.....Complainant

V/S

1. The Public Information Officer,  
Village Panchayat of Calangute,  
Bardez-Goa 403516.

2. The First Appellate Authority,  
Block Development Officer-II,  
Mapusa, Bardez-Goa.

.....Opponents

**Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar**

State Chief Information Commissioner

**Filed on: 20/02/2023**

**Decided on: 07/12/2023**

**ORDER**

1. The Complainant, Mr. Anthony Lopes r/o. House No. 6/234, Cobravaddo, Calangute, Bardez-Goa vide his application dated 25/07/2022 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 Calangute, Bardez-Goa.
2. Since the said application was not responded by the PIO within stipulated period of 30 days, deeming the same as refusal, the Complainant filed first appeal before the Block Development Officer, Mapusa, Bardez-Goa, being the First Appellate Authority (FAA).
3. The FAA after hearing both the parties dispose off the first appeal on 11/05/2023.
4. Since the Complainant did not get the information sought for, he preferred this complaint proceeding under Section 18 of the Act.

5. Notices were issued to the parties, pursuant to which, the Complainant appeared on 05/04/2023, Adv. S. Verlekar appeared on behalf of the PIO and filed her reply on 18/07/2023 and matter was posted for arguments on 15/09/2023.
6. In the course of hearing on 15/09/2023, Adv. S. Verlekar appeared and submitted that she has already furnished the set of documents to the Complainant before the First Appellate Authority. The Commission directed Adv. S. Verlekar to produce on record the copy of acknowledgement or furnish fresh copies of documents to the Complainant on the next date of hearing. For the sake of justice, the Commission also issued fresh summons to the FAA to remain present for the hearing on 30/11/2023.
7. During the course of hearing on 30/11/2023, Adv. S. Verlekar appeared and placed on record the set of documents provided to the Complainant. The FAA, Shri. Prathamesh Shankardas appeared and submitted that while passing the order dated 11/05/2023, the Complainant was absent for the hearing. However, since the purported information was supplied / produced on record, he disposed the first appeal. He also submitted that he has disposed the first appeal within the stipulated period of 45 days. He also placed on record the bunch of documents which were lying in the records of the FAA. Since none appeared for the Complainant, opportunity was granted to the Complainant and the matter was posted for clarification/ order on 07/12/2023.
8. On the next date of hearing on 07/12/2023, none appeared for the Complainant. The Commission finds that the information sought for has been provided free of cost to the Complainant which is accessible and lying in the records of the court proceeding. As the Complainant did not appear for hearings on 30/11/2023 and 07/12/2023, I find no reason to prolong the matter.

I, therefore dispose the complaint proceeding with the liberty to the Complainant to collect the copy of the 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