

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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**Penalty 44/2022
in
Appeal No. 163/2022/SCIC**

Mr. Kenneth David Fernandes,
E.L. Valley, Block-"A", Flat F-2,
Behind Holy Family School,
Socorro, Bardez-Goa 403501.

.....Appellant

V/S

The Secretary/ A.P.I.O.,
Village Panchayat of Calangute,
Calangute, Bardez-Goa 403516.

.....Respondent

Shri. Vishwas R. Satarkar

State Chief Information Commissioner

Filed on: 21/12/2022

Decided on: 25/10/2023

FACTS IN BRIEF

1. While disposing the appeal bearing No. 163/2022/SCIC, the Commission vide its order dated 11/11/2022 directed the Public Information Officer (PIO), Shri. Arjun Velip, Secretary of Village Panchayat Calangute, Bardez-Goa to provide complete information to the Appellant free of cost as per his RTI application dated 19/02/2022 within a period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of the order.
2. The Commission also issued show cause notice to the said PIO, as to why penalty should not be imposed on him in terms of Section 20(1) and/ or recommend to initiate disciplinary proceeding against him in terms of Section 20(2) of the Act.
3. Pursuant to the notice, Adv. Swati Verlekar appeared on behalf of the PIO on 21/12/2022 and submitted that, the PIO is ready and willing to furnish the information, therefore, the matter was fixed for compliance.
4. In the course of hearing on 23/08/2023 for the sake of justice with the consent of both the parties, the Commission fixed joint

inspection of the records on 14/09/2023 between 10:30 am to 11:30 am in the office of the PIO at Village Panchayat Calangute, Bardez-Goa, with the direction to the Appellant to identify the relevant documents.

5. During the course of hearing today i.e. on 25/10/2023, Adv. S. Verlekar appearing on behalf of the PIO submitted that, as per the direction of the Commission joint inspection was held on 10/10/2023, in the office of the PIO at Calangute, Bardez-Goa, information was identified during the inspection and same has been furnished to the Appellant on 11/10/2023. She also produced on record the copy of letter dated 12/10/2023 with the endorsement by the Appellant that "I have inspected the file and obtained a copy of the file No. 249 and I am satisfied with the information."
6. The Appellant also appeared in person and admitted that, he received the purported information and that he does not wish to proceed further with the matter. He also made endorsement on the notice that he is satisfied with the information.
7. In view of endorsement made by the Appellant, I presume and hold that the Appellant is satisfied with the information provided by the PIO, accordingly the show cause notice dated 01/12/2022 issued in the present penalty proceeding against the PIO is dropped.

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

Sd/-

(Vishwas R. Satarkar)

State Chief Information Commissioner