

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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Appeal No. 371/2023/SCIC

Mr. Mahesh Yashwant Kashid,
At Post Umbraj, Taluka Karad,
District Satara, Maharashtra, 415109

.....Appellant

V/s

1.First Appellate Authority (FAA),
Deputy Director, North Education Zone,
Department of Education,
Mapusa, Goa 403507.

2.Shri. S. R. Barve (Retired) and Shri. B.D. Bhawe,
Public Information Officer/ADEI,
Department of Education,
Valpoi, Sattari, Goa, 403506.

.....Respondents

Shri. Vishwas Satarkar, State Chief Information Commissioner

Filed on: 19/10/2023

Decided on: 24/01/2024

ORDER

1. The Appellant , Shri. Mahesh Yashwant Kashid, At Post Umbraj, Taluka Karad District Satara, Maharashtra, 415109, vide his application dated 05/04/2023 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 Assistant District of Educational Inspector (ADEI), Valpoi, Sattari, Goa.
2. Upon receipt of the RTI application, the PIO called for the records from the Incharge of the Government Primary School,

Nagargao, Sattari Goa. However, he failed to respond to the Appellant within stipulated time. Deeming the same as refusal, the Appellant filed first appeal before the Deputy Director of Education, North Educational Zone, Mapusa Goa, being First Appellate Authority (FAA).

3. The FAA, vide its order dated 28/07/2023, allowed the first appeal and directed the PIO to provide the information to the Appellant within 15 days.
4. Since the PIO failed and neglected to comply with the order of the FAA dated 28/07/2023, the Appellant preferred this second appeal before the Commission under Section 19(3) of the Act, through the Postal Service.
5. Notices were issued to the parties, pursuant to which, the PIO Shri. B. D. Bhave appeared and submitted that neither the ADEI office nor the Government Primary School, Nagargao Sattari, Goa is receiving any grants from the Government of Goa and hence they are not maintaining any Statement of Accounts as sought by the Appellant. The Commission, therefore, directed the PIO to file his formal reply in the matter and comply with the order of the FAA. In spite of a valid service of notice, the Appellant did not appear for the hearing, therefore, granting opportunity to the Appellant, the matter was posted for reply and arguments on 24/01/2024 at 10.30 a.m.
6. In the course of hearing on 24/01/2024, none appeared for the Appellant, the PIO Shri. B. D. Bhave appeared and placed on record his reply dated 24/01/2024 alongwith bunch of

documents to the Appellant and submitted that he has complied with the order of the FAA and produced all the available information on record. He also reiterated that ADEI Office, Valpoi, Sattari Goa does not provide any financial assistance to Government Primary School, Nagargao, Sattari, Goa. Hence, no statement of Accounts are maintained either by the ADEI Office or the Government Primary School, Nagargao, Sattari, Goa and to substantiate his claim, he also produced on record the elaborated explanation given by Ms. N. S. Barve, Incharge of Government Primary School, Nagargao, Sattari, Goa.

7. In the backdrop of above, the Commission is of the view that, the information sought for has been provided free of cost to the Appellant, which is accessible and lying in the court proceeding. As the Appellant failed to appear for hearings on 06/12/2023 and 24/01/2024, I find no reason to prolong the proceeding further. Hence, I dispose the appeal proceeding with the liberty to the Appellant 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