

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

"Kamat Towers" 7th Floor, Patto Plaza, Panaji, Goa – 403 001

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Appeal No. 237/2025/SCIC

Mrs. Siona Maria Dias,
H. No. 1088, Tollecanto,
Velim, Salcete-Goa 403723.
V/s

----Appellant

1. Headmistress/Public Information Officer,
St. Rock's High School,
Tollecanto, Velim,
Salcete-Goa.

2. Deputy Director of Education,
First Appellate Authority,
South Educational Zone,
Margao-Goa.

-----Respondents

Shri. ARAVIND KUMAR H. NAIR- State Chief Information Commissioner

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal

RTI application filed on	18/02/2025
PIO replied on	18/03/2025
First Appeal filed on	17/04/2025
First Appellate order on	19/05/2025
Second appeal received on	01/10/2025
Decided on	21/01/2026

Information sought and background of the Appeal

1. Mrs. Siona Maria Dias filed an application dated 18/02/2025 under RTI Act, 2005 to the PIO (Headmistress), St. Rock's High School, Tollecanto, Velim, South Goa seeking '*notified fee structure for the students of Class I to X from the academic year 2014-15 to 2024-25 under the Goa Education Act*'.
2. In response to the RTI application, PIO(Headmistress), St. Rock's High School, Velim vide letter dated 18/03/2025 furnished information in the form of Annexure A,B and C to the Appellant as under:

- (i) Department approved fees for the year 2014-15 to 2024-25 (Annexure A).
- (ii) Extract of the Resolution of the PTA (Annexure B).
- (iii) Other applicable fees for Academic year 2024-25 (Annexure C).

3. Subsequently Appellant filed first appeal dated 17/04/2025 before the First Appellate Authority.

4. After hearing the first appeal on 09/05/2025, First Appellate Authority (Dy. Director of Education, South Educational Zone, Margao) vide order dated 19/05/2025 disposed off the matter with the following judgement -

"I have carefully examined the material placed alongwith the first appeal and heard oral arguments of the Respondent and the FAA agreed thereto that the information sought by the Appellant is already provided to the Appellant and I am satisfied with the reply given by the Respondent PIO/Headmistress, St. Rock's High School, Tollecanto, Velim Goa".

5. Thereafter, Appellant preferred Second appeal dated 01/10/2025 before the Commission stating that Respondent No.1 (PIO) has furnished details of fee structures and the resolution passed in the meeting but the said details mentioned in the reply were in addition to what information was sought by the Appellant.

Appellant prayed before the Commission to call for the first Appeal No.10/2025 from the FAA, impose Rs. 25,000/- as penalty on Respondent for furnishing incorrect and misleading information and recommend disciplinary action against Respondent No.2 for favouring Respondent No.1.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

6. Pursuant to the filing of the present appeal, parties were notified fixing the matter for hearing on 03/11/2025 for which Appellant present and Adv. Siddhant Karpe present for Respondent PIO. Requesting for a

longer date, Respondent PIO's lawyer submitted that reply to the appeal memo will be filed on the next date of hearing.

7. When matter took up for hearing on 08/12/2025, Appellant present alongwith Adv. Reagan A. Pinto and Adv. Vilas Pavithran present for Respondent PIO. Since Respondent PIO did not file reply to the appeal memo, matter posted to 12/01/2026.

8. On 12/01/2026, Appellant present along with Adv. Reagan Pinto and Adv. Sagar Rivankar present for Respondent. Both the parties placed their oral submissions before the Commission. Since there is a delay of 39 days in filing the present appeal by the Appellant on account of the hospitalisation of Appellant's minor daughter and mother in law, Appellant prayed before the Commission to condone the delay in filing the present appeal.

Respondent PIO's lawyer submitted that he would file reply to the present appeal as well as Appellant's plea for condonation of delay. Matter fixed for final hearing on 21/01/2026.

9. When matter called out for final hearing on 21/01/2026, Appellant present along with Adv. Reagan Pinto and Adv. Sagar Rivankar present for Respondent PIO and filed Respondent PIO's reply dated 21/01/2026 to the appeal memo. Raising objection to the delay of 39 days in filing the present appeal, Respondent PIO submitted that the appeal filed by the Appellant deserved to be dismissed for want of sufficient cause to entitle the Appellant to condone the delay.

After hearing arguments of both the parties, Commission decided to allow the present appeal by granting condonation of the delay.

COMMISSION'S OBSERVATION

(i) Respondent PIO has furnished sought information to the Appellant vide letter dated 18/08/2025.

- (ii) Appellant has been noticed for having the grievance of furnishing some additional information by the Respondent PIO even though same was not asked for by the Appellant.
- (iii) Normally RTI applicants approach the Commission with the grievance/complaint of not receiving desired information but in the present appeal, Appellant's grievance is the receipt of additional information from the Respondent PIO without requesting for that.
- (iv) Not a single reply/information/document furnished by the Headmistress, St. Rock's High School, Tollecanto, Velim contains the mentioning of PIO or the stamping of "Issued under RTI Act, 2005".
- (v) If Headmistress, St. Rock's High School is the PIO of the school, all letters issued under RTI Act should invariably contain the name of PIO and RTI stamping. Same should be complied with by the School/Headmistress immediately failing which Headmistress is liable for action under Section 20 (2) of the RTI Act, 2005.

DECISION

- (i) **Since the Appellant vide RTI application dated 18/02/2025 sought only fee structure as per Goa Education Act for the students from Class I to X from the Academic Year 2014-15 to 2024-25 and the Headmistress(PIO), St. Rock's High School, Tollecanto, Velim, South Goa furnished the same alongwith some other information which was not sought by the Appellant, Respondent PIO is directed to furnish a revised covering letter enclosing information furnished at Annexure 'A' vide letter dated 18/03/2025 only to the Appellant.**

- (ii) **As the Appellant is not interested and not sought information furnished by the Respondent PIO at Annexure B and C vide letter dated 18/03/2025, Appellant is directed to return the entire information (Annexure A, B and C) received vide letter dated 18/03/2025 to the Headmistress, St. Rock's High School and collect revised covering letter attached with information furnished at Annexure A.**

Time period applicable for the Respondent to furnish the revised reply and for the Appellant to return the already received information vide letter dated 18/03/2025 is 10 days from the date of receipt of this order.

- (iii) **Respondent should file compliance report to the Commission within 15 days from the receipt of this order.**

- Proceeding stands closed.
- Pronounced in Open Court.
- Notify the parties.

Aggrieved party if any, may move against this order by way of a Writ Petition as no further Appeal is provided against this order under the Right to Information Act,2005.

Sd/-

(ARAVIND KUMAR H. NAIR)
State Chief Information Commissioner, GSIC