

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
 "Kamat Towers" 7th Floor, Patto Plaza, Panaji, Goa – 403 001
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Appeal No.37/2025/SCIC

Shri. Devidas G. Panjikar,
 r/o. Podwal,
 Khorjuem, Aldona,
 Bardez-Goa. -----Appellant

V/s
 The Public Information Officer,
 North Goa Planning and Development Authority,
 Panaji-Goa. -----Respondent

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

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal

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|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| RTI application filed on | 15/01/2025 |
| PIO replied on | 13/02/2025 |
| First Appeal filed on | 25/02/2025 |
| First Appellate order on | 11/04/2025 |
| Second appeal received on | 15/05/2025 |
| Decided on | 29/10/2025 |

Information sought and background of the Appeal

1. Shri. Devidas G. Panjikar filed an RTI application dated 15/01/2025 seeking following information from the PIO, North Goa Planning and Development Authority (NGPDA) in connection with the Zoning Certificate issued under Ref. No.: NGPDA/Tech-Gen/Mapusa/Vol.XXV/3690/2024 dated 15/03/2024:
 - i. "Certified copy of 'D' form and the survey plan submitted by the Applicant to avail above referred NOC.
 - ii. Certified copy of ownership documents submitted by the applicant.
 - iii. Certified copy of noting sheets.
 - iv. Certified copies of all the documents containing in the file with respect to the above referred Zoning Certificate."

2. In response to the RTI application, PIO (NGPDA) vide letter dated 13/02/2025, replied to the Appellant as under :

| | |
|---------------------|--|
| “Point No. 1 | <i>The copy of survey plan and Form D submitted by applicant to avail Zoning Certificate bearing No. NGPDA/Tech-Gen/Mapusa/Vol.XXV/3690/2024 dated 15/03/2024 can be collected by paying Rs. 38/-.</i> |
| Point No. 2 | <i>No ownership document submitted other than Form D which is mentioned at Point No. 1 above.</i> |
| Point No. 3 | <i>Noting sheet can be collected after paying Rs. 2/-.</i> |
| Point No. 4 | <i>Other documents submitted can be collected after paying Rs. 10/- ”.</i> |

3. Thereafter Appellant filed first appeal dated 25/02/2025 before the First Appellate Authority stating that Respondent PIO has not provided complete information.

4. After hearing both the parties to the first appeal, FAA (Member Secretary/NGPDA) vide order dated 11/04/2025 directed the Respondent PIO to furnish information as requested by the Appellant free of cost.

5. Subsequently Appellant preferred second appeal dated 15/05/2025 before the Commission stating that despite First Appellate Authority's order, Respondent PIO has not provided complete information till date. Appellant prayed for direction to the Respondent PIO to furnish sought information and initiate penal as well as disciplinary proceedings against the Respondent PIO for failing to provide complete information.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

6. Pursuant to the filing of the present appeal, parties were notified fixing the matter for hearing on 03/07/2025 for which Appellant absent but Adv. Sayeli Bandodkar present for Respondent PIO and requested for a short date. Matter fixed for further hearing on 09/07/2025.

7. Appellant remained absent for the hearing held on 09/07/2025. Adv. Sayeli Bandodkar appeared for Respondent PIO submitted that Appellant has to clarify regarding 'D form' referred in the RTI application.

8. When matter called out for hearing on 29/07/2025, both the parties to the appeal or their representatives absent. When the matter took up on 07/08/2025 Appellant, clarified as regards 'Form D' to the Advocate for Respondent PIO.

9. Appellant and Advocate for the Respondent PIO present for the hearing on 12/09/2025 and placed partial arguments before the Presiding Commissioner. Matter adjourned to 14/10/2025.

10. Both the parties placed oral arguments before the Presiding Commissioner. Advocate for Respondent PIO submitted that she will bring the original file for perusal of the Presiding Commissioner. Matter posted to further hearing on 16/10/2025.

11. Appellant and Respondent PIO's lawyer Adv. P. Gaykar present for the hearing on 16/10/2025. Adv. Gaykar orally submitted before the Presiding Commissioner that since Respondent PIO is unwell he could not sign the written submission and agreed to file the written submission before the next date of hearing slated for 29/10/2025.

12. When matter took up for final hearing on 29/10/2025, Respondent's written submission dated 29/10/2025 was filed before the Commission by Adv. Sayeli Bandodkar. On the written submission, Respondent PIO stated that :

- a) Respondent PIO has provided information as requested by the Appellant except the information sought at Serial No. 2 as the ownership details were not available in the records of the Authority as no ownership documents except Form D were actually submitted.

b) One Mr. Chandrahas V. Shetye has applied for Zoning Certificate of the property bearing Chalta No. 1 of P.T. Sheet No. 45 of Mapusa City enclosing the survey plan and requested for Zoning Certificate of 45/1. Accordingly Zoning Certificate issued in respect of Chalta No. 1-A (part) of P.T. Sheet No. 45.

c) Since Respondent PIO has furnished information, which is available in the records, to the Appellant, allegation of providing false information is totally incorrect.

COMMISSION'S OBSERVATION

- (i) Perusal of Appellant's RTI application dated 15/01/2025 revealed that Appellant sought information at 4 points in connection with the Zoning Certificate issued under Ref. No. NGPDA/Tech-Gen/Mapusa/Vol.XXV/3690/2024 dated 15/03/2024.
- (ii) Respondent PIO vide letter dated 13/02/2025 furnished information covering all 04 RTI queries of the Appellant.
- (iii) With regard to the information sought at Point No. 2 (ownership documents submitted by the applicant to avail Zoning Certificate mentioned above) it is specifically mentioned by the PIO that no ownership document other than Form D was submitted by the Applicant.
- (iv) In his RTI application, Applicant (Appellant of the present Appeal) sought details in respect of the Zoning Certificate No. NGPDA/Tech-Gen/Mapusa/Vol.XXV/3690/2024 dated 15/03/2024 but perusal of documents furnished to the Appellant by the Respondent PIO vide letter dated 13/02/2025 revealed that the Zoning Certificate dated 15/03/2024 signed by Member Secretary/NGPDA (Vertika Dagur) is mentioned as NGPDA/Tech-Gen/Mapusa/Vol.XXV/3689/2024 dated 15/03/2024.

DECISION

- i. Since the Respondent PIO has furnished all available information with regards to the RTI application of the Appellant, Commission decided to dispose the matter as the present appeal does not warrant further proceedings.
- ii. **However Respondent PIO is directed to clarify the Appellant (in writing with a copy to the Appellant) whether above mentioned discrepancy in the number of Zoning Certificate (3690/3689) is typographic error or actually different Zoning Certificates. Clarification should reach the Commission within 15 days from the receipt of this order.**
- iii. Attach a copy of the written submission dated 29/10/2025 of the Respondent PIO alongwith the copy of this order to the Appellant.
 - Matter disposed.
 - 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

