

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
"Kamat Towers" 7th Floor, Patto Plaza, Panaji, Goa – 403 001
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Appeal No. 255/2025/SCIC

Mr. Stalin Mendes,
 H. No. 618/10,
 Chinchnagar, Xeldem,
 Quepem-Goa 403705.
 V/s

-----Appellant

1. Public Information Officer,
 Panchayat Secretary,
 The Village Panchayat of Chandor-Cavorim,
 Salcete-Goa 403714.

2. First Appellate Authority,
 Block Development Officer (II) Salcete,
 BDO Office, 2nd Floor,
 Mathany Saldana complex,
 Salcete South-Goa 403601.

-----Respondents

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

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal

RTI application filed on	12/06/2025
PIO replied on	NIL
First Appeal filed on	22/07/2025
First Appellate order on	05/08/2025
Second appeal received on	16/10/2025
First Hearing held on	12/11/2025
Decided on	26/11/2025

Information sought and background of the Appeal

1. Mr. Stalin Mendes filed an application dated 12/06/2025 under RTI Act, 2025 to the PIO, Village Panchayat of Chandor seeking following information :
 - i. *"All applications/documents maintained by your good office based on which H. No. 82, Mena-Cavorim was allotted/granted (Sy. No.44/1, Village Cavorim).*
 - ii. *Information as to copy of the exact report originally drawn and maintained by your good office of the exact area of H. No. 82, Mena-Cavorim for assessment of tax.*

- iii. *Copy of all applications/documents maintained by your good office based on which H.No.83. Mena-Cavorim was allotted/granted and the copy of the information as to the nature of the structure as recorded in your good office (Sy. No.44/1, Village Cavorim).*
- iv. *Information as to copy of the exact report originally drawn and maintained by your good office of the exact area of H.No.83, Mena-Cavorim for assessment of tax.*
- v. *Information as to all permissions granted if any for construction of toilet in the property bearing Survey No.44/1, Cavorim Village".*

2. Failing to receive any reply/information from the PIO to his RTI application dated 12/06/2025, Appellant filed first appeal dated 22/07/2025 before the First Appellate Authority.

3. FAA (BDO-II, Salcete) vide order dated 05/08/2025 directed the Respondent PIO to furnish the information sought at Serial No.1 of the RTI application by the Appellant, free of cost, within 10 days of the issue of this order. Further, the Village Panchayat Secretary directed to comply with the RTI application in a time bound manner.

4. Subsequently, Appellant filed Second appeal dated 16/10/2025 before the Commission stating that following the order passed by the FAA, Respondent PIO vide letter dated 03/09/2025 furnished misleading information. Appellant prayed that Respondent PIO be directed to furnish information sought, furnish detailed Affidavit on non-availability of information and initiate penal as well as disciplinary actions against the Respondent PIO.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

5. Pursuant to the present appeal, parties were notified fixing the matter for hearing on 12/11/2025 for which Adv. Sangeeta Kaur present for Appellant and Respondent PIO present in person. Presiding Commissioner directed the Respondent PIO to file proper

reply/information to the RTI application of the Appellant on the next date of hearing scheduled on 26/11/2025.

6. When the matter took up for hearing on 26/11/2025, Respondent PIO present and Adv. Joshua Gracias appeared for Appellant.

Complying with the oral direction given to the Respondent PIO on 12/11/2025, Respondent PIO filed revised reply to the Appellant's RTI application supported by documents. Copy of the same duly served to the Appellant's Advocate, who acknowledged the receipt of the same.

7. Respondent PIO in his revised reply dated 26/11/2025 submitted that :

- a. Whatever document available with Village Panchayat Chandor-Cavorim with regard to H. No. 82 were kept ready by the Respondent.
- b. Appellant approached the Respondent PIO on 03/05/2025 and informed that he is not interested in the documents (with regard to H.No. 82 available at Village Panchayat Chandor) and asked for 'information not available certificate' which was provided to the Appellant.

8. Perusal of documents filed before the Presiding Commissioner by the Respondent PIO on 26/11/2025 revealed that Respondent filed following documents :

- i. Respondent PIO's letter dated 03/09/2025 intimating the Appellant that "*this is to inform you that in respect to Point No.1, information is not available with Village Panchayat Chandor-Cavorim*".
- ii. Letter dated 17/08/2011 from Diogo Cardoso, H.No. 82, Mena-Cavorim to the Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Chandor regarding 'Bifurcation of House No. 82' between him and his brother Joaquim Cardoso.

As per amicable division of the House No. 82, eastern portion of the House comprising 05 rooms are occupied by him for the last 35 years and the

western portion of the House having almost same number of rooms is occupied by his brother.

In this letter, Diogo Cardoso requested the Sarpanch to issue him and his brother Joaquim Cardoso separate house numbers to maintain separate electricity and water connection.

- iii. A similar letter of the same date containing the above mentioned contents was submitted to the Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Chandor by Shri. Joaquim Cardoso, brother of Shri. Diogo Cardoso requesting to issue him and his brother separate house numbers to maintain separate electricity and water connection.
- iv. A sketch showing areas of the House No. 82 belonging to Diogo Cardoso (72.5m^2) and his brother Joaquim Cardoso (58m^2).
- v. Copy of 'Affidavit Cum NOC' dated 31/07/2011 of Smt. Ana Josefa Peixoto, w/o Late Santiago Cardoso, r/o H. No. 82, Mena Cavorim-Chandor conveying the Village Panchayat Chandor that she has no objection to transfer and bifurcate the house tax in the names of her both sons Shri. Diogo Cardoso and Joaquim Cardoso.

9. Commission has the opinion that though the Respondent PIO initially submitted that Village Panchayat Chandor – Cavorim has not received any application in respect of House No. 82 & 83, aforesaid letters/application dated 17/08/2011 submitted to the Sarpanch, Village Panchayat Chandor-Cavorim by Shri Diogo Cardoso and his brother Joaquim Cardoso, both R/o. H. No. 82, Mena- Cavorim, Chandor requesting separate numbers to maintain individual electricity and water connection can be considered as formal request or application seeking to allot separate house numbers to them, occupiers of H. No. 82.

DECISION

- i. **Commission has come to the conclusion that complying with the direction given by the Commission on 12/11/2025, Respondent PIO furnished complete information with regard to the division of House No.82, Village Cavorim as H.No. 82 and 83 to the Appellant, through his lawyer Adv. Joshua Gracias, before the Commission on 26/11/2025.**
- ii. **Since the Respondent PIO furnished complete information to the Appellant following the intervention by the Commission, nothing more lies in the present appeal warranting further hearing.**

Hence the matter disposed and proceedings stand 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