

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

'Kamat Towers', Seventh Floor, Patto, Panaji –Goa
Tel No. 0832-2437880/2437208 email: spio-gsic.goa@nic.in
website: www.gsic.goa.gov.in

Shri. Atmaram R. Barve

State Information Commissioner

Appeal No. 18/2025/SIC

Anish S. Bacal,
619, Building No. 8,
Kamat Royale, Caranzalem,
Tiswadi, Goa, 403002

.....Appellant

V/S

1. The Public Information Officer (PIO),
Goa Tourism Development Corporation Limited (GTDC),
3rd Floor, Paryatan Bhavan, Panaji-Goa
2. The First Appellate Authority (FAA),
Goa Tourism Development Corporation Limited (GTDC),
3rd floor, Paryatan Bhavan, Panaji-Goa
3. Then Public Information Officer (PIO),
Shri. Sumant Nadkarni,
Goa Tourism Development Corporation Limited (GTDC),
3rd floor, Paryatan Bhavan,
Panaji-Goa

..... Respondents.

Filed on: 10/01/2025

Decided on: 06/05/2025

ORDER

1. The present second appeal arises out of the Right to Information Application dated 12/07/2024 made by Shri. Anish Bacal the Appellant herein and addressed to the Public Information Officer at the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC).
2. The Public Information Officer (PIO), Shri. S. K. Narvekar forwarded the said application to the project cell of Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC) on

18/07/2024 seeking detailed information from the concerned Superintending Engineer Shri. Sumant Nadkarni.

3. The Appellant herein preferred the first Appeal dated 12/09/2024 on the grounds that neither information has been furnished nor any inspection has been provided to him by the PIO.
4. Vide order dated 18/11/2024 the First Appellate Authority (FAA) directed the PIO as well as Superintending Engineer to provide a fresh inspection of all available files and issue certified copies of the concerned documents free of cost to the appellant within 20 days from such order.
5. Thereafter, citing the grounds that information has not been provided and as such information has been denied the Appellant herein preferred second appeal before this Commission on 10/01/2025.
6. Notices were issued on 13/03/2025 and matter was heard from 8/04/2025 onwards.
7. Upon perusal of submissions made by the parties herein it is clear that the Public Information officer has failed to honor the Right to Information Application made by the Appellant herein and also the Order passed by the First Appellate Authority (FAA).

8. Merely harping on a single point that the information sought by the Appellant is technical in nature and that the said information is nearly 10 years old appears to be an insufficient response.
9. The Superintending Engineer claims to have provided certain information to the appellant by way of postal communication, however, the said Superintending Engineer could not establish the exact quantum and nature of such information.
10. The Superintending Engineer further submits that he has resigned from the said post and as such is not in possession of or has access to the said information anymore.
11. The PIO Shri. S. K. Narvekar also submits that he is no more functioning as the Public Information Officer (PIO) in the Goa Tourism Development Corporation (GTDC).
12. Therefore, upon perusal of the appeal memo and other material on record, this Commission disposes off the present appeal with the following orders:-
 - a) The present second appeal is upheld.
 - b) The present Public Information Officer (PIO) at the Goa Tourism Development Corporation is directed to reassess the RTI application dated 12/07/2024 afresh and provide certified copies

of the relevant information to the Appellant herein within 15 days from receipt of this order or 20/06/2025 whichever is earlier.

- c) The present Public Information Officer at the Goa Tourism Development Corporation is also directed to seek the assistance of the present Superintending Engineer of the Project cell of GTDC and also the former PIO and former Superintending Engineer as may be deemed appropriate.
- d) The present PIO of the GTDC is also directed to minute the proceedings pertaining to inspection of records as well as issuance of the certified copies.
- e) Registry to issue show cause notice to the present PIO calling upon the same to comply with the directions herein above failing which necessary proceedings under section 20 (1) of the Right to Information Act shall be initiated forthwith.
- f) The present PIO of GTDC is directed to provide a compliance report in terms of the directions above and also reply to the Show cause notice by remaining present in person before this Commission on 25/06/2025 at 11.00 a.m.

g) The Managing Director, Goa Tourism Development Corporation Govt. of Goa shall ensure that the orders are duly served on to the competent and relevant Public Information Officer.

Pronounced in the open court.

Notify the parties.

Authenticated copies of the Order should be given to the parties free of cost.

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/-

(Atmaram R. Barve)

State Information Commissioner