

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

E-mail: spio-gsic.goa@nic.in Website: www.scic.goa.gov.in

Complaint No. 45/2023/SCIC

Mrs. Lourencinha Correia,
H. No. 198, Sonfator,
Xeldem, Quepem-Goa.

-----Complainant

V/s

1.The Public Information Officer,
Office of the Secretary,
Village Panchayat Xeldem,
Xeldem Panchayat,
Quepem-Goa 403705.

2.The First Appellate Authority,
Office of the Block Development Officer,
Block Development Office of Quepem Taluka,
Quepem-Goa 403705.

-----Opponents

Shri AravindKumar H. Nair - State Chief Information Commissioner

Relevant Facts

RTI application filed on	- 23-06-2023
PIO replied on	Nil
First Appeal filed on	- 25-08-2023
First Appellate order on	- 21-09-2023
Complaint received on	- 01-11-2023
Decision of the Complaint on	- 04-03-2025

Information sought and background of the Complaint

1. Mrs. Lourencinha Correia filed an RTI application dated 23/06/2023 to the PIO (Secretary, Xeldem Village Panchayat) seeking following information:
 - i. *"Issue me all E.H.N House number details will all documents submitted at the time of House EHN number at the sketch showing dimensions of the structure.*
 - ii. *Receipt of the amount paid to each E.H.N number first day onwards till date dated 23/06/2023.*
 - iii. *Issue me all NOC given to E.H.N number for water and electricity connection.*
 - iv. *Issue me revoked E.H.N number details file till date".*

2. Failing to receive any reply from the PIO, RTI applicant filed first appeal dated 25/08/2023 to the First Appellate Authority (BDO, Quepem) who vide order dated 21/09/2023 directed the Respondent PIO to furnish the information asked by the Appellant, free of cost, within 7 days of the order.
3. Aggrieved by the failure of the Respondent PIO in furnishing the information inspite of the order passed by the FAA directing the Respondent PIO to furnish the information, Appellant preferred complaint dated 01/11/2023 before the Commission praying for direction to the Opponent PIO to furnish information and to impose penalty on Opponent PIO.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

4. Pursuant to the Complaint, parties were notified fixing the matter for hearing on 18/12/2023 for which Complainant and Opponent PIO appeared in person and the Opponent PIO Shri. Ravindra Wadekar submitted that he is ready and willing to furnish information.
5. During the hearing on 22/02/2024, Opponent PIO filed his reply and furnished xerox copy of 10 files. Complainant submitted that she is not satisfied with the information provided by the PIO. The Commission directed the complaint to file the details of the required files to drain the information.
6. There was no hearing in the matter between March 2024 to September 2024 as the post of SCIC and SIC remained vacant.
7. The matter was taken up for hearing by the SCIC on 07/10/2024 but both Complainant and Opponent were absent. Complainant was absent for the next hearing held on 18/11/2024 inspite of serving notice to appear for the hearing. Opponent PIO was present. However, both the parties remained absent for the next 3 consecutive hearings.
8. When the matter was taken up for final hearing today dated 04/03/2025, both Complainant and Opponent remained absent.

DECISION

Commission decided today i.e. 04/03/2025 to dispose off the present Complaint No. 45/2023/SCIC with the following direction to the Opponent PIO :

- i. To comply with the order dated 21/09/2023 passed by the FAA (BDO, Quepem) within 15 days from the receipt of this order.**
- ii. Commission is of the opinion that since the original RTI application queries lacks clarity about the period of information sought (e.g. from first day onwards till date 23/06/2023, Point No. 2 in the RTI application), Opponent PIO shall seek clarification from the Complainant before furnishing the information.**
- iii. Complainant should ensure in future that the RTI application should be precise and specific which helps the PIO to process the RTI application properly and to furnish information within the stipulated time frame.**
 - Proceedings in the Complaint No.45/2025/SCIC stands closed.
 - Notify the parties.

Sd/-

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