

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Complaint No.11/2025/SCIC

Newton Dias,
H.No.330, Sambatty ward,
Orlim, Salcete-Goa.
V/s

----Complainant

The Public Information Officer,
The Village Panchayat of Orlim,
Orlim, Salcete-Goa.

----- Opponent

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

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Complaint

Complaint received on	- 12/02/2025
First hearing held on	- 29/04/2025
Decided on	- 23/06/2025

Information sought and background of the Complaint

1. Shri.Newton Dias filed a Complaint dated 12/02/2025 before the Commission against the Public Information Officer, Village Panchayat, Orlim, Salcete Taluka, Goa stating that the Respondent PIO (Secretary, Village Panchayat, Orlim) had given contradictory replies to his 04 different RTI applications on similar subject matter.
2. Complainant has enclosed replies/information furnished by the Respondent PIO to the Complainant on 02/11/2024, 05/12/2024, 20/12/2024 and 04/01/2025 in response to his 04 different RTI applications dated 16/10/2024, 29/11/2024, 21/11/2024 and 07/12/2024 on similar RTI queries. However, Complainant did not enclose copy a single RTI application mentioned above. The core requirement of the Complainant is copy of Affidavit for transfer of House Tax Registration of House Tax No. 327A.
3. Perusal of Opponent PIO's reply to the Complainant's RTI applications revealed that at Point No.13 of RTI application dated 16/10/2024, Complainant sought '*Copy of Affidavit for transfer of House Tax*

Registration of House No.327A' and the Opponent PIO replied as 'Not available on Panchayat records'.

4. The same information again sought by the Complainant vide RTI application dated 29/11/2024 and the Opponent PIO has duly furnished the information. Despite receiving the said information (copy of affidavit), Complainant vide RTI application dated 07/12/2024 again sought the same information and the Opponent PIO, replied as 'Not available in Panchayat record'.
5. Complainant was primarily want to state that Opponent PIO is inconsistent in giving reply but Complainant has been noticed for making multiple RTI applications on same subject and that too even getting desired information from the Opponent PIO. It is tantamount to the abuse of the RTI Act, 2005.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

6. During the first hearing in the matter on 29/04/2025, Complainant appeared in person and the Opponent PIO was represented by Adv. Ramchandra Kamat. When Presiding Commissioner inquired with the Complainant as to why the RTI application has not been filed with the Complaint, Complainant submitted that he has misplaced the same. As Complainant sought a longer date, as he has to locate for the said RTI applications, matter posted for hearing on 23/06/2025.
7. Complainant present for the hearing held on 23/06/2025 and Adv. Ramchandra Kamat appeared on behalf of the Opponent PIO. During the hearing, Complainant submitted that his main contention is the copy of Affidavit submitted for the purpose of house tax transfer of H.No. 327/A, Opponent PIO's lawyer submitted that copy of Affidavit has already been furnished to the Complainant.
8. When Complainant was asked the purpose of filing Complaint against the Opponent PIO in spite of receiving desired information, he submitted that

the reply of the Opponent PIO was in consistent to him different RTI applications on same subject matter.

DECISION

- i. **Since nothing more lies in the Complaint as the Complainant has already received desired information, Commission decided to dispose off the Complaint No. 11/2025/SCIC without any intervention.**
- ii. **However, Complainant was instructed to desist from misusing the Act by filing multiple applications on same subject matter.**
- iii. **Opponent PIO also directed take care to give proper reply to the RTI application. There is no justification in giving reply of 'Not Available' to an RTI query after furnishing information (documents) to the same query, month ago.**

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.

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

Sd/-

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