

**GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
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**Complaint No. 08/2025/SIC**

Shri. Rajkumar Mittal,  
A-31, Anand Vihar,  
New Delhi 110092.

..... Complainant

V/S

Shri. Jitendra D. Naik,  
Secretary/ Public Information Officer,  
Village Panchayat Anjuna-Caisua,  
Anjuna, Bardez-Goa.

.....Opponent

**Shri. Atmaram R. Barve**

State Information Commissioner

**Filed on: 04/02/2025**  
**Disposed on: 30/10/2025**

**ORDER**

1. The present complaint has been filed by Complainant, Shri. Rajkumar Mittal vide his complaint memo date 03/01/2025.
2. It is contended by the Complainant herein that, he had issued Right to Information (RTI) application dated 19/08/2025 addressed to the Public Information Officer (PIO) at Village Panchayat Ajuna-Caisua, Bardez-Goa.
3. In response to the said RTI application, the PIO vide reply dated 09/09/2024 rejected said RTI application on grounds that prescribed court fee has not been affixed.
4. Thereafter vide communication dated 19/09/2024, the Complainant herein highlighted before the PIO that the PIO should endeavour to provide information sympathetically by providing his reference of Office Memorandum dated

28/11/2013 issued by Department of Personnel & Training, Government of India.

5. Thereafter, the Complainant herein preferred first appeal dated 22/10/2024 before the competent authority. Vide order dated 20/11/2024, the First Appellate Authority (FAA) upheld the contention of the Complainant and directed the PIO to furnish the information within a period of 10 days from the said order.
6. Thereafter vide complaint memo dated 04/02/2025, the Complainant herein approached before this Commission citing non-compliance of the order of the FAA.
7. Notices were issued against Shri. Jitendra D. Naik who was the relevant PIO at Village Panchayat Anjuna-Caisua and matter came to be heard from 06/05/2025 onwards.
8. The present PIO, Shri. Rui Cardoso brought on record the communication dated 29/03/2025, wherein the relevant PIO, Jitendra D. Naik was intimated about the notice issued by this Commission. The present PIO also filed detailed reply dated 06/06/2025.
9. This Commission has also taken cognizance of the fact that relevant PIO, Shri. Jitendra D. Naik has never remained present in person or through any authorised representative for the past several instances.
10. Upon perusal of the complaint memo, reply of the present PIO as well as the written submissions on part of Complainant, this Commission is of considered opinion as under:-

- a. The conduct of relevant PIO, Shri. Jitendra D. Naik appears to be against the letter and spirit of the RTI Act in so far this act of rejecting the application merely on ground of non-affixing of court fee stamp, not acting inspite of the order of the FAA and not appearing before this Commission during the pendency of present matter as concerned.
  - b. Although the present PIO, Shri. Rui Cardoso was not relevant PIO; however upon assuming charge as the PIO, the same could have taken steps to ensure that the directions of the FAA are acted upon rather than pointing out flaws in original RTI application through his reply during present proceeding.
  - c. The relevant PIO, Shri. Jitendra D. Naik through his conduct has clearly caused denial of information and has grossly failed to act in accordance to the directions of the FAA within stipulated time period.
11. Therefore, in view of above, the present complaint is disposed off with following order:-
- a. The present complaint is upheld.
  - b. The conduct of relevant PIO, Shri. Jitendra D. Naik has attracted a penalty under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, 2005.
  - c. The Director at Directorate of Panchayat, Government of Goa is hereby directed **to recover penalty to the tune of Rs. 25,000/- (Rupees Twenty-Five Thousand only)** from the salary and allowances of the said Jitendra D. Naik on or before 14/11/2025 and submit compliance

report to this Commission on 18/11/2025 during office hours.

- d. The present PIO, Shri. Rui Cardoso or any other person presently posted as Secretary / PIO at Village Panchayat Anjuna-Caisua is directed to provide physical inspection of all relevant documents as sought by the Complainant, Shri. Rajkumar Mittal in terms of his RTI application dated 19/08/2024 and the said PIO is directed to record the minutes of the said proceeding and also provide certified copies of all documents on same day, free of cost.
- e. Registry to issue show cause notice to the present PIO seeking reply as to why action should not be initiated in terms of Section 20(1) and/or 20(2) of the RTI Act, 2005 for not acting in terms of the directions issued above.
- f. The present PIO shall remain present alongwith copy of compliance report as well as reply to show cause notice on **18/11/2025 at 11.00 am** before this Commission; failing which necessary penalty and disciplinary proceeding shall be initiated afresh against the present PIO at Village Panchayat Anjuna-Caisua.
  - Parties to be provided authenticated copies of the order.
  - 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