#### GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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# Appeal No.219/2024/SCIC

Mrs. Urvi Gopinath Masurkar, Flat No. 2, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor, Shetye Pride, Behind Bank of Baroda, Bicholim, Goa 403504. V/s

....Appellant

1)The Public Information Officer, Office of the Mamlatdar, Pernem – Goa.

2)The First Appellate Authority, Mamlatdar of Pernem, Pernem – Goa.

.... Respondents

### Shri Aravind Kumar H. Nair - State Chief Information Commissioner, GSIC

#### **Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal**

RTI application filed on	- 16-04-2024
PIO replied on	- 14-05-2024
First Appeal filed on	- 20-05-2024
First Appellate order on	- 24-06-2024
Second appeal received on	- 08-10-2024
<b>Decision of the Second Appeal on</b>	- 27-03-2025

## Information sought and background of the Appeal

- 1) Mrs. Urvi Gopinath Masurkar filed an RTI application dated 16/04/2024 to the PIO, O/o. Mamlatdar, Pernem Taluka, Goa seeking information on 38 points pertaining to Mr. Gopinath @ Rupesh Vilas Masurkar, Awal Karkun/Talathi and inspection of concerned files.
- 2) Failing to receive any information/reply from the PIO to the RTI application dated 16/4/2024, Appellant filed first appeal dated 20/05/2024, before the First Appellate Authority (Mamlatdar of Pernem, North Goa District) stating that the Respondent PIO has knowingly

refused access to information and inspection of records within the time limit specified under the RTI Act. Appellant prayed for direction to the Respondent PIO to furnish information along with inspection of records sought vide RTI application dated 16/04/2024, penal and disciplinary action against the Respondent PIO for not providing inspection of records and information within stipulated time limit. Appellant filed a rejoinder dated 21/06/2024 to the first appeal dated 20/05/2024.

3) In response to the RTI application dated 16/04/2024, PIO, O/o. Mamlatdar, Pernem vide letter dated 14/05/2024 replied the appellant as under:

Sr. No.	Question	Answer
1	Point No. 1,2,5,6,7,10,13, 14,17, 18, 19 and 34	Transferred to the PIO, Collectorate Office, North Goa
2	Point No. 4 and 29	Transferred to the PIO, Mamlatdar Office, Bicholim
3	Point No. 3, 9, 11, 12, 15, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35 & 37	Not applicable
4	Point No. 8, 20, 25	Information sought by you being personal in nature cannot be issued in view of bar contained in section 8 (1)(J) of RTI Act 2005
5	Point No. 16, 21, 22, 36 and 39	Information sought is not clear and specific and the same is beyond purview of RTI Act 2005

- 4) First Appellate Authority held hearings on 10/06/2024 and 21/06/2024. Appellantwas represented by Adv. Atish P. Mandrekar, who submitted that appellant had sought information on 39 points including inspection of records. He informed that the PIO had transferred Point Nos. 1,2,5,6,7,10,13,14,17,8,19 & 34 of RTI application to the PIO, Collectorate, North Goa at Panaji and Point No. 4 to 29 was transferred to the PIO of the Office of Mamlatdar Bicholim. Advocate further stated that appellant does not wish to pursue Point No.9.
- 5) FAA after hearing the first appeal, FAA gave point-wise judgement as under:

Sr. No	Point No.	Reply
(i)	Point No. 8	Appellant must be granted inspection of the personal file and Attendance Register of Awal Karkun Shri Gopinath @ Rupesh Vilas Masurkar
(ii)	Point no. 11	Should be furnished under RTI Act
(iii)	Point no. 12	Cannot be furnished since it is hit by the provisions of section 8(1)(j) of the Act
(iv)	Point no. 15	Cannot be provided to the appellant
(v)	Point no. 20	Direct the PIO to furnish extract
(vi)	Point no. 21	Inspection of the personal file is already provided in context of point No. 8
(vii)	Point no. 22	Inspection of personal file be provided
(viii)	Point no. 23	Directed to transfer Point No. 23 to PIO Establishment Section of Collectorate, North
(ix)	Point no. 24	Upheld the PIO's reply of 'Not applicable'
(x)	Point no. 25	Cannot be furnished as personal in nature
(xi)	Point no. 26	Appellant is not entitled to obtaining such information
(xii)	Point no. 27	Information cannot be furnished
(xiii)	Point no. 30	PIO is not required to furnish such information to the appellant
(xiv)	Point no. 31	Directed the PIO to transfer Point No. 31 to the PIO, Establishment Section of Collectorate, North Goa u/s 6(3) of the RTI Act
(xv)	Point no. 32	Directed the PIO to transfer Point No. 32 to the PIO, O/o. Village Panchayat Mayem
(xvi)	Point no. 35	Directed the PIO to transfer the point no. 35 to the PIO, Income Tax Office (HQ), Aaykar Bhavan, Patto
(xvii)	Point no. 36	Granted inspection of the personal file of Shri Gopinath Vilas Masurkar
(xviii)	Point No. 37	Information cannot be furnished
(xix)	Point no. 38	Directed the PIO to furnish information on 'as in' 'where is' basis
(xx)	Point no. 39	Provided to the appellant by the order dated 24/06/2024

6) Following the order passed by the FAA on 24/06/2024, PIO, O/o. Mamlatdar, Pernem vide letter dated 05/07/2024 furnished revised reply pertaining to point numbers 8, 11, 20, 21, 22, 23, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, & 39 to the appellant.

- 7) Thereafter, Appellant filed second appeal dated 08/10/2024 before the Commission stating that information and inspection of records sought by the appellant is not furnished by the Respondent No. 1 and both the PIO and FAA have failed to adhere the relevant provisions of RTI Act.
- 8) Appellant prayed to partly set aside the order passed by the FAA dated 24/06/2024, Respondent PIO be directed to furnish information vide application dated 16/04/2024 and to initiate penal and disciplinary action against PIO and FAA for not providing information.

## **FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF APPEAL**

- 9) Pursuant to the second appeal, parties were notified fixing the hearing on 04/02/2025 for which, Respondent PIO and First Appellate Authority appeared and appellant represented in person was by Adv. Atish Mandrekar. Both the Respondents have orally submitted that they are ready to furnish all available information to the appellant. Accordingly, Commission directed the Respondents to furnish information sought for by the Appellant vide RTI application and also arrange inspection of files/records by the appellant. Matter adjourned to 04/03/2025. Commission further issued direction to the present PIO Shri Sanjeev A. Signapurkar, Awal Karkun, O/o. Mamlatdar Pernem to furnish information and provide inspection.
- 10) When the matter took up for hearing today i.e. 27/03/2025, present PIO and Appellant's Advocate Atish Mandrekar appeared. Present PIO Shri Sanjeev A. Signapurkar filed a letter dated 27/03/2025, enclosing information and documents pertaining to Point No. 4, 17, 25& 39 of RTI application complying with the oral directions issued by the Commission on 04/03/2025. Respondent PIO further submitted that as directed by the Commission, inspection of the file was also provided to the appellant, who admitted the same and received information furnished by the PIO vide letter dated 27.03.2025.

- 11) Respondent PIO further submitted that information pertaining to Point Nos. 23 & 31 is not available at his office, as it is held by the office of the Collector & District Magistrate, North Goa, Panaji.
- 12) Since the appellant is satisfied with the information received from the Respondent PIO vide letter dated 27/03/2025, and the inspection of files/records in the office of the Respondent PIO, Commission has come to the conclusion that the Respondent PIO has furnished all available information at his office to the appellant and hence further proceedings is not warranted in the present appeal.

### **DECISION**

As information pertains to Point Nos. 11, 23, 24, 30, 31, 32 & 34 of the RTI application is pertaining to the office of District Collector & District Magistrate, North Goa, Commission hereby directs the Respondent PIO to immediately transfer Point nos. 11, 23, 24, 30, 31, 32 & 34 to the PIO, O/o. Collector& District Magistrate, North Goa with a request to provide information to the appellant directly at the earliest under intimation to the PIO, O/o. Mamlatdar, Pernem.

With the above directions to the Respondent PIO, Appeal stands disposed.

- Proceedings closed.
- Pronounced in Open Court.
- Notify the parties.

Sd/-

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