

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

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Appeal No.195/2026/SCIC

Shri. Thomas L. Sequeira,
245, Premeiro Vaddo,
Corjuem, Aldona, Goa.

-----Appellant

V/s

1. Sristhi Kolvenkar,
The Public Information Officer,
Goa Building and Other Construction
Workers Welfare Board, 1st Floor,
Kamat Towers, Panaji, Goa.

2. Girish T. Naik,
The Public Information Officer &
Asst. Labour Commissioner,
O/o. The Commissioner Labour & Employment,
7th Floor, Kamat Towers,
Panaji, Goa 403001.

3. Rajesh S. Ajgaonkar,
First Appellate Authority,
Commissioner, Labour & Employment,
7th Floor, Kamat Towers,
Panaji, Goa 403001.

-----Respondents

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

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal

RTI application filed on	06/03/2026
PIO replied on	01/04/2026
First Appeal filed on	10/04/2026
First Appellate order on	-
Second appeal received on	02/06/2026
First Hearing	07/07/2026
Decided on	22/07/2026

Information sought and Background of the Appeal

1. Shri. Thomas L. Sequeira filed an application dated 06/03/2026 under RTI Act, 2005 to the PIO, Goa Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board, Goa seeking following information :

- a) *"Provide certified copies of the records and mode of transfer of total amount of labour cess deposited by Village Panchayat Aldona for the period July 2023 – March 2024, April 2024 – March 2025 and April 2025 – March 2026.*
- b) *Provide certified copies of records of action taken for non-compliance of timely transferring to the Labour Welfare Board, the labour cess collected by Village Panchayat Aldona as mandated under Rule 5 of the Cess Act".*

2. On receipt of the above cited RTI application, PIO, Goa Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board vide letter dated 25/03/2026 transferred the application to the PIO, O/o. the Commissioner of Labour and Employment, Government of Goa, u/s 6(3) of the RTI Act requesting to furnish the information pertaining to Point No. 02 of the RTI application directly to the RTI applicant.
3. Thereafter, PIO, Goa Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board vide letter dated 01/04/2026 furnished information pertaining to Point No. 01 of the RTI application.
4. PIO (Assistant Labour Commissioner), O/o. the Commissioner, Labour and Employment vide letter dated 01/04/2026 intimated the RTI applicant that as per their office records, no information sought by the RTI applicant is held by the office of the Commissioner, Labour and Employment with regard to the information sought at Point No. 02 of the RTI application.
5. Being aggrieved by the reply/information received from the PIO of Goa Building & Other Construction Workers Board and O/o. the Commissioner, Labour & Employment, Appellant filed first appeal dated 10/04/2026 before the First Appellate Authority (Commissioner, Labour & Employment).

6. Material available on record reveals that O/o. the First Appellate Authority (FAA) has served notice dated 17/04/2026 to the parties in the first appeal fixing the matter for hearing on 27/04/2026 but no copy of the order passed by the First Appellate Authority is found on record. However, Appellant vide letter dated 11/05/2026 informed the First Appellate Authority that no hearing with the presence of Respondents held on the fixed dates viz. 27/04/2026, 04/05/2026 and 11/05/2026 and requested to pass order on his first appeal without further delay.
7. Subsequently, Appellant preferred second appeal dated 02/06/2026 before the Commission stating that he has not received complete information from the Respondent PIOs and the First Appellate Authority has not passed an order on the first appeal. Appellant prayed before the Commission for direction to the Respondent PIO to furnish sought information and initiate penal and disciplinary proceedings against the Respondents.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

8. Pursuant to the filing of the present appeal by the Appellant, matter took up for hearing on 07/07/2026 for which Appellant, Respondent No. 01 and 02 (PIOs) present in person. Parties placed their oral submissions before the Presiding Commissioner, who instructed the Respondent No. 02 (PIO, O/o. the Commissioner, Labour & Employment) not to attend the proceedings on the next hearing (22/07/2026), as the subject matter of the RTI application pertains to the Goa Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
9. When matter took up for hearing on 22/07/2026, Appellant and Respondent No. 01 present. Complying with the oral direction dated 07/07/2026 of the Presiding Commissioner, Respondent PIO filed written submission and information (documents) pertaining to the

Point No. 02 of the RTI application (records of action taken for not transferring the Labour Cess collected by the Village Panchayat Aldona to the Goa Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board).

DECISION

I. Since the Respondent PIO has furnished complete information to the Appellant's 02 point RTI application dated 06/03/2026 vide letters dated 01/04/2026 and 22/07/2026 to the Appellant's satisfaction, Commission decided to dispose off the appeal.

II. **First Appellate Authority is hereby directed** *to ensure that first appeals filed before the Authority needs to be disposed within the time frame (30 days with an extended period of 45 days with sufficient reasons) specified by the RTI Act, 2005 by issuing a speaking order on the appeal.*

- Matter disposed.
- Proceeding stands closed.
- Pronounced in open court.
- Notify the parties.

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/-

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