

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
"Kamat Towers" 7th Floor, Patto Plaza, Panaji, Goa – 403 001
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Appeal No.27/2026/SCIC

Nazario Savio Paul D’Souza,
550/A/S2, Cortez Apartments,
Ubo Dando, St. Cruz,
Tiswadi Goa 403005. -----Appellant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
Village Panchayat Candolim,
Candolim, Bardez-Goa 403515. -----Respondent

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

Relevant Facts Emerging from the Appeal

RTI application filed on	19/08/2025
PIO replied on	12/09/2025
First Appeal filed on	18/09/2025
First Appellate order on	30/10/2025
Second appeal received on	22/01/2026
Decided on	03/06/2026

Information sought and Background of the Appeal

1. Shri. Nazario Savio Paul D’Souza filed an application dated 19/08/2025 under RTI Act, 2005 to the PIO, Village Panchayat Candolim, Goa seeking information at 11 points with regards to a building named ‘Colaco’s Nest’ constructed in Survey No. 178/13 at Anna Vaddo of Village Candolim.
2. In response to the RTI application, PIO (Secretary), Village Panchayat, Candolim vide letter dated 12/09/2025 replied to the Appellant covering all 11 points of the RTI application.

3. Being aggrieved by the reply furnished by the PIO, Appellant filed first appeal dated 18/09/2025 before the First Appellate Authority (FAA).
4. First Appellate Authority (BDO-I, Bardez, Goa) vide order dated 30/10/2025 directed the Respondent PIO to provide all the requested information and certified copies to the Appellant, free of cost.
5. Subsequently, Appellant preferred second appeal dated 22/01/2026 before the Commission stating that Respondent PIO has furnished only partial information and no information is provided to Point No. 9, 10 and 11. Moreover, PIO replied that the information sought at Point No. 1 to 7 is old and not available.

FACTS EMERGING IN COURSE OF HEARING

6. Pursuant to the filing of the present appeal, matter fixed for hearing on 23/03/2026 for which Appellant present and Adv. Swati Verlekar appeared for Respondent PIO. Since most of the information sought by the Appellant pertains to the years 1993-1994, Presiding Commissioner directed the Respondent PIO to allow the Appellant to physically inspect the records/files of the information sought as it will enable the Appellant to ascertain the availability of the such old records and if available Appellant is at liberty to seek copies of identified documents.
7. When the matter called out for hearing on 23/04/2026, Appellant and Respondent PIO's lawyer present. Appellant submitted that the intimation from the Village Panchayat for physical inspection of the records/files on 09/04/2026 (10 a.m. -12 p.m.) received by him on 09/04/2026 afternoon only. Respondent PIO's lawyer submitted that fresh date of inspection will be communicated to the Appellant. Matter fixed for further hearing on 03/06/2026.

- 8.** Appellant and Respondent PIO's lawyer, Adv. Swati Verlekar present. Adv. Swati Verlekar filed written submission dated 03/06/2026 stating that complying with the direction of the Presiding Commissioner, inspection of the records was provided to the Appellant and subsequently vide letter dated 07/05/2026, Appellant sought certified copies of 17 documents. Accordingly, certified copies of all documents (17) sought by the Appellant have been furnished by the Respondent PIO vide letter dated 12/05/2026.
- 9.** Appellant in his written submission dated 03/06/2026 stated that he has inspected concerned files pertaining to his RTI application and received sought information after the inspection carried out on the direction of the Presiding Commissioner. In his written submission, Appellant appreciated the sincere and commendable efforts made by the PIO and other staff of the Village Panchayat, Candolim in retrieving old files and furnishing certified copies in compliance with the direction of the State Chief Information Commissioner.

DECISION

- i. Since Respondent PIO complied with the directions issued by Presiding Commissioner during the course of proceedings and the Appellant received the information pertaining to the years 1993-1994 after his physical inspection of the files and records following the intervention by the Commission, present appeal disposed off.**
- ii. Commission appreciate the Appellant for acknowledging the sincere efforts undertaken by the Respondent PIO and his staff members to trace the records of 1993-1994 and furnishing certified copies of such records to the Appellant.**
 - Proceeding stands closed.
 - Pronounced in open court.
 - Notify the parties.

Sd/-

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