

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Appeal No. 106/2024/SIC

Shri. Nevil B. Furtado,
H.No. 51, Copelwado,
Sernabatim, Salcete-Goa.
403708.

.....Appellant

V/S

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

2.The First Appellate Authority,
Manthany Saldanha Adm. Complex,
Margao-Salcete-Goa.

.....Respondents

Shri. Atmaram R. Barve

State Information Commissioner

Filed on: 30/04/2024
Detailed order passed on: 23/07/2026

ORDER

1. The present second appeal arises out of the Right to Information (RTI) application dated 06/02/2024 made by the Appellant herein, Nevil B. Furtado and addressed to the Public Information Officer(PIO), Village Panchayat Raia, Salcete-Goa.
2. It is contended by the Appellant herein, that the PIO did not issue any communication to the said RTI application with stipulated time period of 30 days upon which the Appellant had to preferred first appeal dated 06/03/2024 before the competent authority
3. The PIO vide reply dated 14/03/2024 before the First Appellate Authority (FAA) submitted that the applicant is not a citizen of Indian National.

4. The First Appellate Authority (FAA) vide order dated 18/04/2024 dismissed the first appeal on the ground that the Appellant has not proved his Indian Citizenship.
5. Being aggrieved by the order of the FAA, the Appellant filed second appeal before this Commission vide appeal memo dated 30/04/2024.
6. Notices were issued and matter came up to be heard from 12/12/2024 onwards.
7. During the hearing on 13/01/2025, the Commission gave an opportunity to the Appellant to provide necessary documentary evidence in terms of its Indian Nationality and Citizenship.
8. Upon perusal of appeal memo, replies, rejoinder filed by both the parties, this Commission is of the considered opinion as under:-
 - a. The PIO has grossly failed to discharge his duty under the RTI Act by way of not replying to the RTI application within the stipulated time period of 30 days. However, the PIO replied to the Appellant during the hearing in first appeal.
 - b. However, the Appellant who has filed RTI application before the PIO is not an Indian Citizen and the same has been acknowledged by the Appellant vide his written arguments dated 13/03/2025 at para 5.
9. Therefore, in view of above the present second appeal is disposed off with following order:-
 - a. The present second appeal is dismissed on the ground that, Section 3 of RTI Act, 2005 restricts statutory rights strictly to Indian citizens only.

- b. However, PIO is directed to adhere to the timelines prescribed by the RTI Act, 2005 henceforth while disposing RTI applications.
- c. No order as to cost.
- 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