

**GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**  
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**Appeal No. 320/2025/SIC**

Shri. Vishwas Shankar Naik,  
H. No. 616, Near By Saibaba Temple,  
Dadachiwadi, Dhargal,  
Pernem-Goa, 403513.

..... **Appellant**

V/s

1.Mr. Ranjeet Salgaonkar,(PIO),  
Mamlatdar of Pernem Taluka,  
Pernem-Goa, 403512.

2.The First Appellate Authority (FAA),  
Dy. Collector & Sub Divisional Magistrate  
of Pernem Taluka,  
Pernem-Goa. 403512

.....**Respondents**

**Shri. Atmaram R. Barve**

State Information Commissioner

**Filed on: 13/10/2025**  
**Disposed on:31/03/2026**

**ORDER**

1. The present Second Appeal arises out of the Right to Information (RTI) application dated 22/04/2025 made by the Appellant herein Shri. Vishwas Naik and addressed to the Public Information Officer (PIO) at Mamlatdar of Pernem-Goa.
2. In response to the said RTI application there was no response received within stipulated time period of 30 days due to which the Appellant herein preferred the First Appeal before the competent authority vide Appeal memo dated 01/07/2025.
3. During the pendency of proceedings before the First Appellate Authority, the PIO vide communication dated 09/07/2025 issued detailed information pertaining to Appellants RTI application to the Appellant herein.

4. Thereafter, vide roznama entry dated 03/11/2025 the First Appellate Authority acknowledged the issuance of information and further directed the PIO to provide physical inspection of relevant documents and also directed the Appellant to coordinate with the PIO for fixing an appearance date for inspection of documents within 15 days of such orders.
5. Thereafter, vide Appeal memo dated 13/10/2025 during the pendency of Appeal proceedings the Appellant herein preferred the Second Appeal before this Commission.
6. Notice were issued and the matter came up to be heard from 16/02/2026 onwards wherein this Commission directed the PIO to file reply to the Appeal memo on or before 15/03/2026 and serve an advance copy to the Appellant accordingly.
7. The relevant PIO, Shri. Ranjeet Salgaonkar filed his reply to the Appeal memo on 23/03/2026 and on the present day furnished a report wherein copy of the reply to the Appeal memo was sent to the Appellant herein through Talathi of Dhargal Village and that the Appellant herein refused to receive the same.
8. On the present day the Appellant herein admitted the fact of having refused to receive the reply to the Appeal memo and argued that penalty be imposed on the PIO for the delay caused in issuing the information under RTI Act.
9. The PIO pointed out the operative part of the order of the First Appellate Authority and highlighted that the Appellant herein did not cooperate to achieve compliance of orders of First Appellate Authority and the same was admitted by the Appellant.

10. Upon perusal of the Appeal memo and all other material on record, this Commission is of the considered opinion as under:

- a. The RTI Act, 2005 confers upon the information seeker the right to access the desired information. However, for the said exercise to achieve finality, mutual cooperation between the PIO and the information seeker is of paramount importance.
- b. It has to be also noted that the aspect of imposing penalty was not invoked by the Appellant herein at the First Appellate stage.
- c. By not extending cooperation to the PIO after the order of the First Appellate Authority and also by way of not receiving the PIOs reply to the Appeal memo, the Appellant herein has caused damage to his own prospect in its own matter.
- d. In the light of the fact that information has been furnished by the PIO and that willingness is shown by the PIO to further provide inspection of necessary documents and no fees have been charged towards dissemination of information, imposing penalty upon the PIO shall set a wrong precedent.

11. In the light of the above, the present Second Appeal is disposed with following orders:

- a. The present Second Appeal is partly allowed.

b. The PIO, Shri. Ranjeet Salgaonkar, is hereby directed to provide physical inspection of the relevant documents to the Appellant herein on 30/04/2026 during office hours and any other documents other than what have already been sought if pointed out by the Appellant herein, certified true copies shall be provided free of cost on the same day. The PIO is further directed to record minutes of the proceedings and upon completion of the said exercise inscribe his signature as well as obtain signature of the Appellant herein in acknowledgement of the same. The PIO shall remain present along with the compliance in terms of the directions mentioned above on 07/05/2026 at 11.00 a.m. so as to enable completion of the proceedings in this matter.

- No order as to cost.
- Parties to be provided authenticated copies of this order separately under each appeal number.
- 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