

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
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Appeal No. 404/2023/SIC

Shri. Sankalp Karpe,
"Pitashree", H.No. 247/A, First Floor,
Ganeshpuri, Housing Board Colony,
Mapusa, Bardez-Goa.

.....Appellant

V/S

1.The Public Information Officer,
Office of Executive Engineer,
Electricity Department, Division XVII,
Ansabhat, Mapusa-Goa 403507.

2.The First Appellate Authority,
The Superintending Engineer, Circle II (North),
2nd Floor, Vidhyut Bhavan, Govt. of Goa,
Panaji-Goa.

.....Respondents

Shri. Atmaram R. Barve

State Information Commissioner

Filed on: 06/11/2023
Detailed order passed on: 22/07/2026

ORDER

1. The present second appeal arises out of the Right to Information (RTI) application dated 12/04/2023 made by the Appellant herein, Sankalp Karpe and addressed to the Public Information Officer(PIO), Div XVII, Electricity Department, Mapusa-Goa.
2. The PIO vide reply dated 17/05/2023, informed the Appellant that the information sought is kept ready and requested to make payment of Rs. 36/- for the same.
3. Being aggrieved by the reply of the PIO, the Appellant filed first appeal dated 15/06/2023 before the competent authority.

4. The First Appellate Authority (FAA) vide order dated 09/08/2023 disposed the appeal with direction to PIO to reply all the RTI application on time and also the PIO to ensure that his is trained thoroughly in dealing with RTI application and furnish the correct facts/ information available in office to the public.
5. Being aggrieved by the order of the FAA, the Appellant filed second appeal before this Commission vide appeal memo dated 06/11/2023.
6. Notices were issued and matter came up to be heard from 17/01/2023 onwards.
7. Matter could not be heard between February 2024 to September 2024 due to former SIC demitting office and hearings resumed from September 2024 onwards.
8. During the hearing on 26/11/2024, the Commission directed the PIO to provide fair and comprehensive perusal of the concerned documents pertaining to subject matter of the RTI application on 02/12/2024 during office hours and to carry out the inspection and to provide duly certified copies of information to the Appellant and also to file action taken report in terms of the above directions on or before 10/12/2024 to this Commission.
9. During the hearing on 22/01/2025, The PIO complied with the directions of the Commission as per the roznama dated 26/11/2024. The Appellant acknowledged the receipt of the certified copies of the documents as per his RTI application. However, the Appellant made an application for seeking

compensation/cost towards the delay caused in furnishing the information.

10. 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 has provided the information sought by the Appellant during the hearing in second appeal.
- b. It would not be appropriate to recover cost from the PIO in the light of above.

11. Therefore, in view of above the present second appeal is disposed off with following order:-

- a. The present second appeal is dismissed.
 - b. However, PIO is directed to adhere to the timelines prescribed by the RTI Act, 2005 henceforth while disposing RTI applications.
 - c. As the information requested by the Appellant has been furnished by the PIO, the prayer for information becomes infructuous and no more intervention of the Commission is required in the matter.
 - d. Prayer for award of compensation and penal action under section 20 of the Act against the PIO is rejected.
 - e. 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