

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION
'Kamat Towers', Seventh Floor, Patto, Panaji –Goa
Tel No. 0832-2437880/2437208 email: spio-gsic.goa@nic.in
website: www.gsic.goa.gov.in

Complaint No. 34/2025/SIC

Aakash G. Ahuja,
C-10, Sheetal C. HS, Ramnagar,
Borivali (W), Mumbai-400092.

.....Complainant

V/S

Shri. Pandurang Gad,
Public Information Officer,
Administrator of Comunidade,
North Zone, Mapusa.

.....Opponent

Shri. Atmaram R. Barve

State Information Commissioner

Filed on: 28/04/2025

Decided on: 27/10/2025

Detailed order on: 04/05/2026

ORDER

1. The present complaint arises out of Right to Information (RTI) application dated 30/01/2025 made by the Complainant Aakash G. Ahuja and addressed to Public Information Officer (PIO) at office of the Administrator of Comunidade, North Zone, Mapusa-Goa.
2. Vide reply dated 06/03/2025, PIO informed the Complainant to collect the available information from the office during office hours and also informed that as per the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay in W.P No. 1177 of 2018 and W.P. No. 1004 of 2014 that, Comunidade of Goa does not come under the definition of Public Authority under RTI Act and as such they do not come under the purview of the RTI Act, and on the same base information cannot be asked from concerned Comunidade for application received under RTI.

3. Aggrieved by the response, the Complainant herein preferred Second appeal dated 28/04/2025 before the before this Commission.
4. Notices were issued and matter came up to be heard from 01/07/2025 onwards.
5. Both the parties filed their respective replies and rejoinders and also argued the matter.
6. Upon perusal of the complaint memo and as well as other relevant documents relied upon by both the parties this Commission is of considered opinion as under:-
 - a. The Complainant herein has not exhausted the remedy of filing first appeal before the competent authority.
 - b. The PIO has duly discharged his duties in so far as examining the RTI application of the Complainant and responding the same.
 - c. From the above, it is evident that no deliberate or inordinate delay on the part of the PIO as the issue has been already dealt by the Hon'ble High Court of Bombay in W.P No. 1177 of 2018 and W.P. No. 1004 of 2014 that, Comunidade of Goa does not come under the definition of Public Authority under RTI Act and as such they do not come under the purview of the RTI Act, and on the same base information cannot be asked from concern Comunidade for application received under RTI.
7. In view of above, the present complaint stands dismissed.
 - 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