

GOA INFORMATION COMMISSION

Ground Floor, "Shrama Shakti Bhavan", Patto Plaza, Panaji.

Complaint No. 21/SCIC/2008

Mrs. Sangeeta Pednekar,
H. No. 477, Canca Abas wado,
Bardez - Goa.

..... Complainant.

V/s.

1. The Public Information Officer,
The Secretary,
Village Panchayat of Verla Canca,
Bardez – Goa.
2. The first Appellate Authority,
The Block Development Officer,
Bardez Taluka, Mapusa – Goa.

..... Opponents.

CORAM:

Shri A. Venkataratnam
State Chief Information Commissioner

(Per A. Venkataratnam)

Dated: 29/09/2008.

Complainant in person.

Both the Opponents absent.

ORDER

This complaint is regarding the non-execution of the Commission's order dated 12/06/2008 passed in second Appeal No. 120/2007 against the Opponents. In that order, specific directions were given at para No. 5 to the Block Development Officer, Bardez and at para No. 6 to the Public Information Officer, Secretary, Village Panchayat of Verla Canca regarding the search, reconstruction and furnishing of certain records which were earlier misplaced by the Opponent No. 1. The Block Development Officer was specifically directed to search his own office records and furnish the copies of the Village Panchayat resolutions asked for by the Complainant. This is because one copy of the every Village Panchayat resolution is sent to the Block Development Officer concerned. He was also directed to investigate and fix up responsibility for the misplacement of the Panchayat records like minutes books and resolutions of the Panchayat of Verla Canca.

2. The Opponent No. 2 has submitted a written statement now that after searching of his own office records, he could not find records

...2/-

requested by the Complainant. He has further explained the delay in submitting the compliance report of our order stating that he was out of headquarters on training and that he was pursuing with the Opponent No. 1. He submitted that he does not have any disregard towards this Commission and apologized for the delay and assured that such instances will not be repeated in future. However, this Commission has also noticed the slipshod way in which he disposed off this appeal prior to the passing of an order dated 12/06/2008 by this Commission. He did not, however, submit any report of compliance regarding the fixing up of the responsibility for the misplacement of important records of minutes books of Village Panchayat Verla Canca for the period from 15/12/2001 to 28/06/2002. Many officials worked as Village Panchayat Secretaries from 15/12/2001 till date for the Panchayat. The present Panchayat Secretary Mr. R. Mayenkar has taken over as the Village Panchayat Secretary on 24/02/2007. Prior to that there was one Mr. S. K. Kambli. Prior to that the names of the Secretaries are not known. The Block Development Officer, therefore, should not only furnish names of the Panchayat Secretary from 15/02/2001 onwards but also fix up responsibility on a particular Village Panchayat Secretary who was supposed to have handed over the charge of all office records of the Village Panchayat successor. He should do this now in next 15 days. The present Village Panchayat Secretary was given a direction to reconstruct the house tax file of H. No. 477 A and 477 B. He has reported compliance. He may now give the records to the Complainant, especially the decision of the Panchayat leading to the grant of two separate house numbers in favour of Anant N. Shetgaonkar and Suhas N. Shetgaonkar. It has come on record earlier that the complaint registered by the Village Panchayat on 24/10/2007 with the Mapusa Police Station is not in order because it has only informed the Police Inspector that the records are misplaced and likely to be misused. The complaint does not request Police for registration of an offence and for investigation. Neither there is any record of the Police having registered an FIR in this matter. The Opponent No. 1 is hereby directed to register the fresh complaint with the Police about the missing records and request for investigation. The matter is further posted for compliance on 8/10/2008.

Pronounced in the open court on this 29th day of September, 2008.

Sd/-
(A. Venkataratnam)
State Chief Information Commissioner