

GOA INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Complaint No. 33/SIC/2008

Mr. Ashok L. Arlekar,
Freitas Vaddo, Verla,
Bardez – Goa.

..... Complainant.

V/s.

The Public Information Officer,
The Secretary,
Village Panchayat of Verla Canca,
Verla Canca, Bardez – Goa.

..... Opponent.

CORAM:

Shri G. G. Kambli
State Information Commissioner

(Per G. G. Kambli)

Dated: 27/11/2008.

Complainant in person.

Adv. M. J. Rane for the Opponent.

JUDGMENT

The Complainant herein approached the Block Development Officer of Bardez, Mapusa with his request dated 21/05/2008 seeking certain information in respect of the work of construction of side walls of existing nallas from Vishwanath Bhaidkar house to Vinayak Shetgaonkar shop and construction of culvert at Freitas Vaddo. The Block Development Officer forwarded the said request of the Complainant to the Opponent vide his memorandum dated 22/05/2008 as the Opponent is the Public Information Officer of the Village Panchayat of Verla-Canca.

2. The Opponent vide his letter dated 20/06/2008 informed the Complainant to collect the information sought by him during office hours on payment of fees. The Complainant submits that in pursuance of the said letter, the Complainant went to the office of the Opponent on 27/06/2008 and paid Rs.116/-. Subsequently, the Opponent vide his letter dated 27/06/2008 provided the copies of the tendering process and the estimated cost of the works. As the Opponent did not provide the complete information to the Complainant, the Complainant preferred appeal before the First Appellate Authority i.e. the Block Development Officer, Bardez on 16/07/2008. The First Appellate Authority by his order dated 12/08/2008 allowed the appeal and directed the Opponent to

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provide the complete information to the Complainant. The Complainant alleges that inspite of the said order of the Block Development Officer, the Opponent has not provided the complete information as sought by the Complainant. According to the Complainant, the Opponent has not provided the following information: -

- 1) Resolution copy of the said works;
- 2) Copies of the NOC from the landlords;
- 3) Location and site plan of the said works and
- 4) Information regarding number of houses which should be benefited from the said work.

3. The Opponent filed the reply. In the reply, the Opponent submitted that the information sought was already provided and that the Complainant did not turn up to collect the information. So far as providing the NOC from the landlords, the Opponent stated that the land belongs to the Government. The Opponent submitted that he has not deliberately or intentionally withheld the disclosure of the documents but it is the Complainant who did not collect the information. It is not clear whether the information pertaining to the Resolution, location and site plan and the number of beneficiaries are provided by the Opponent to the Complainant. The Opponent is also silent in his reply.

4. In these circumstances, I pass the following order: -

ORDER

The complaint is partly allowed. The Opponent is directed to give copies of the Resolution of the Panchayat, location and site plan and the number of beneficiaries if such information is available in the Panchayat records, on payment of fees within one week from the date of this order.

Pronounced in the open court on this 27th day of November, 2008.

Sd/-
(G. G. Kambli)
State Information Commissioner

