

# GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION AT PANAJI

**CORAM:** Shri Afonso Araujo, State Information Commissioner

Complaint No. 16/SIC/2009

Mr. Sadanand S. Naik,  
Santa Cruz, Calapur,  
Ilhas – Goa.

..... Complainant.

V/s.

The Public Information Officer,  
Office of the Chief Conservator of Forests,  
Forest Department, Panaji - Goa.

..... Opponent.

Complainant absent.

Opponent present in person.

## **ORDER**

This complaint deals with the grievance of denial of information by the Public Information Officer under Right to Information Act, 2005 (for short the RTI Act).

2. The Complainant by letter dated 25/03/2009 stated that he made a complaint on 15/09/2006 against Smt. Ravita Ravindra Ratwal for illegally cutting trees in the property bearing survey No. 7/1 without obtaining the permission from the Forest Department and under the RTI Act seeks to know the action taken by the Department against Smt. Ravita Ravindra Ratwal for illegal cutting of the trees. This application was transferred on 02/04/2009 to the Public Information Officer, Dy. Conservator of Forest, North Goa District, Ponda. On 13/05/2009, the Public Information Officer provided information stating that an offence has been booked under R.O.C. No. 4/PJm/2009-10 dated 20/04/2009 for illegal cutting of one branch of Bhendi tree and one branch of custard apple tree in private property at Caitan Wado, Mercedes, Tiswadi Goa and that Panchanama is drawn and further inquiry in the case was in progress. This reply has been posted to the Complainant. The Complainant filed the present Complaint on 28/04/2009, on the ground that the information was not provided.

3. Shri Santoshkumar, Public Information Officer – Opponent stated that he has transferred the request dated 25/03/2009 to the Public Information Officer, North Goa Division and this reply was posted to the

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Complainant under certificate of posting and produced the Xerox copy of the reply dated 13/05/2009 alongwith the certificate of posting. The information which the Complainant is required was in respect of illegal cutting of trees existing in property survey No. 7/1 and requires to know whether what action has been taken by the Forest Department against Smt. Ravita Ravindra Ratwal for illegal cutting of the trees. This request was transferred on 2/04/2009 to the Public Information Officer, Dy. Conservator of Forest, North Goa Division, Ponda who provided the information stating that an offence has been booked under R.O.C. No. 4/PJm/2009-10 dated 20/04/2009 for illegal cutting of one branch of Bhendi tree and one branch of custard apple tree in private property and this information was communicated to the Complainant as it is evident from certificate of posting. However, the Complainant did not receive it. It may be pointed out here that the Complainant is not appearing for the hearing of the case and even notice which have been sent by this Commission in the given address has been returned unserved.

4. Since the information sought by request dated 25/03/2009 was transferred to the concerned Public Information Officer on 2/4/2009 and the information was provided on 13/05/2009, there is no question of any delay and since the information provided meets the requirements of the information sought by the Complainant, this Complaint is disposed accordingly.

Pronounced in the open court on this 20<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2009.

Sd/-  
(Afonso Araujo)  
State Information Commissioner



