

# GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION AT PANAJI

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

Appeal No. 233/SCIC/2008

Mr. Rajendra S. Arlekar,  
H. No. 510, Malim, Near Tourist Complex,  
P. O. Betim,  
Bardez - Goa

... Appellant

V/s.

Public Information Officer,  
Joint Director, Accounts,  
Electricity Department,  
Panaji – Goa

... Respondent

Appellant in person.  
Shri K. L. Bhagat for the Respondent.

## J U D G M E N T

(Per Afonso Araujo)

In the request dated 23.09.2008 the Appellant sought information under the Right to Information Act, 2005 of items mentioned at point 1 to 8 and which pertains to TA Bills in the office of the Chief Electrical Engineer, Panaji. To this request the Respondent replied stating that the desired information is rejected by the Dy. Director (Accounts), CEE's office by letter No. CEE/Accts-Confidential-5 dated 23.10.2008.

1. Aggrieved by this decision of Respondent, the First Appeal was preferred and in the order dated 13.11.2008 the First Appellate Authority observed that the Public Information Officer, Joint Director of Accounts, CEE's office agreed to provide the information and allowed the appeal with the direction that the Public Information Officer, Joint Director of Accounts to provide the information from point 1 to 8 within the period of one week from the date of the order and the Public Information Officer was warned to be careful and not to repeat such rejections of information without assigning valid reasons in future. As the order of the First Appellate Authority was not complied the Appellant preferred the Second Appeal. During the hearings of this

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appeal the Respondent produced a letter dated 14.11.2008 wherein the information at point 1 to 8 has been provided to the Appellant in pursuance of the order dated 13.11.2008 of the First Appellate Authority.

2. The Appellant is content with the information provided in the communication dated 14.11.2008 but his grievance is that there was a delay in providing the information which caused him inconvenience and harassment. The contention of the Appellant is that the information dated 14.11.2008 was given to him only on 16.04.2009 in the hearings of this appeal. The records indicate that as soon as the First Appellate Authority passed the order on 13.11.2008 directing the Respondent to provide the information within one week, the Respondent by letter dated 14.11.2008 provided the information to the Appellant and a copy of this letter was addressed to the First Appellate Authority. Now the question is whether this letter dated 14.11.2008 the Appellant received or not and if any delay is caused it has to be dealt in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act. Hence, the following order:

**ORDER**

The appeal is partly allowed. Show Cause Notice to be issued to the Respondent to file the reply on 04.11.2009.

Pronounced in the open court on this 6<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2009.

Sd/-  
(Afonso Araujo)  
State Information Commissioner

