GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION AT PANAJI

CORAM: Shri Afonso Araujo, State Information Commissioner

Complaint No. 49/SIC/2009

Mr. Paul Fernandes, House No. 404, Guddem, Dandem-Siolim, <u>Bardez – Goa</u>

... Complainant

V/s. The Public Information Officer Village Panchayat of Siolim-Marna, Siolim, Bardez-Goa

... Opponent .

Complainant alongwith Adv. V. Braganza. Opponent absent.

Dated: 12.02.2010

By request dated 15.06.2009 the Complainant sought information under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (for short 'The Act') which consist of inspection of records of the payment of house tax of House No. 319/3, 319/A, 404 and 404-A, also required when and why the House No. 319/3 has been changed to 404 and/or 404-A and also provide information in whose name house tax has been paid for the said house from the year 1965 till date.

2. By communication dated 09.07.2009 the Opponent provided the following information:

- "1) House No. 319/3 is registered in the name of Artimisa Fernandes.
- In respect of house no 404 is registered in the name of John Gilbert Fernandes since 1992 to 1993.
- The House number 404/A is registered in the name of Maria C. Fernandes since 1999 to 2000".

The Complainant on the ground that no date or time of inspection was mentioned, filed a complaint for inspection of the records and penalize the Opponent.

3. The contention of the Complainant is that the reply provided by the Opponent was contrary to the reply dated 17.01.2008 of the same Opponent in another application filed by the mother of the Complainant Mrs Maria C.

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Fernandes. On perusing this complaint dated 15.01.2008 of the mother of the Complainant, the Opponent replied stating that the house tax No. 404 is not registered in the office whereas in the reply provided to the Complainant dated 09.07.2009 the Opponent stated that the House No. 404 is registered in the name of John Gilbert Fernandes since 1992 to 1993.

3. Since the grievance of the Complainant is the refusal for the inspection of the records by the Opponent and the fact that the reply filed by the Opponent dated 09.07.2009 is contrary to the reply provided on 17.01.2008, the proper course would be for the Opponent to fix a date for the Complainant to inspect the records in the office of the Village Panchayat at Siolim-Marna.

This date for inspection to be fixed within the period of fifteen days from the date of receipt of the Order. Fixed for compliance on 10.03.2010.

Sd/-(Afonso Araujo) State Information Commissioner