

**GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION**

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

**Appeal No. 84/2006/**

.Dr. M. N. Pal  
Major, married, Medical  
Practioner, residence at 11,  
GOMECO Hsg. Society,  
Bambolim, Goa - 403202

..... Appellant

V/s.

1. Shri S. G. Koregaokar,  
Public Information Officer,  
Under Secretary (Health –I),  
Govt. of Goa, Secretariat,  
Porvorim – Goa.

..... Respondent No. 1

2. First Appellant Authority,  
Joint Secretariat (General Administration)  
Government of Goa, Office at  
Secretariat, Porvorim – Gao.

..... Respondent No. 2

**CORAM:**

Shri A. Venkataratnam  
State Chief Information Commissioner  
&  
Shri G.G. Kambli  
State Information Commissioner

(Per G.G. Kambli)

Dated: 23/03/2007

Appellant in person.

Respondent No.1 in person.

Respondent No. 2 absent.

**O R D E R**

The short point that arises for our consideration is whether the Applicant, while inspecting the records, be allowed to take photo copies by his own Digital Camera. The expression "Right to Information" as defined in clause (j) of section 2 of the RTI Act 2005 (for short the Act) means the Right to Information accessible under the Act which is held by or under the control of any Public Authority and includes the right to (i) inspection of work, documents, records, (ii) taking notes, extract or certified copies of

....2/-

documents or records, (iii) taking certified copies of materials, (iv) obtaining information in the form of diskets, floppies, tapes, video cassettes or any electronic mode or through printout where such information is stored in the Computer or in any other device.

2. The above definition makes it abundantly clear that the information can be obtained in any electronic mode and, therefore, taking out copies by digital camera by the Appellant will fall within the definition of the Right to Information as defined in the Act.

3. The Respondent No. 1 herein has already informed the Appellant vide letter dated 26/2/2007 that the Appellant can obtain photo copies by Digital camera provided the same is permissible under the Act. The Respondent No. 1 also conceded before us, at the time of hearing, that he will permit the Appellant to take the copies by Digital Camera if the Commission so directs.

4. In view of the above, we partly allow the appeal and direct the Respondent No.1 to allow the Appellant to inspect the relevant record and allow the Appellant to take copies by his digital camera, within 2 weeks from the date of the receipt of this order. The Respondent No. 1 shall inform the date and time of the inspection to the Appellant.

5. The other prayers of the Appellant to impose the penalty as well as to recommend the disciplinary proceeding against the appropriate authority are rejected as there are no sufficient grounds for granting such prayers to the Appellant inasmuch as we do not find any malafide on the part of the Respondents in withholding the disclosure of the information.

Sd/-

Shri G.G. Kambli  
State Information Commissioner

Sd/-

Shri A. Venkataratnam  
State Chief Information Commissioner

