

GOA STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Complaint No. 54/2006/

Shri Sushant S. Naik,
H.No. 103,
Costi-Kalay, Sanguem –Goa.

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Complainant

V/s.

1. Public Information Officer,
The Chief General Manager,
Goa Industrial Development Corporation,
Corporate Office, Panaji – Goa.

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Opponent.

CORAM:

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

(Per G.G. Kambli)

Dated: 23/02/2007

Complainant absent.

Opponent in person

O R D E R

The Complainant in his complaint dated 14/2/2007 has made the grievances that the opponent has charged the fees of Rs. 76/- to issue the information comprising of 8 pages. According, to the complainant, the total fees including the application fees works out to Rs. 26/- therefore he had prayed for the refund of the excess amount. The complainant has also alleged that the board is not displayed outside the Office of the Opponent.

2. The Opponent filed the reply stating that the opponent has collected the postage charges from the complainant. As regard the other allegation of not displaying the notice board, the opponent has clarified that the same has already been displayed at the office of the Corporation.

3. The short point that arises for our consideration as whether the Public Information Officer can collect the postal charges from the applicant for providing the information under the Right to Information Act 2005(for short the Act). The Government has framed the Rules known as Goa Right to

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Information (Regulation of fee and cost) Rules, 2006 whereby the fees have been prescribed for obtaining the information under the Act. We do not find any provision in the said rules where postage charges can be collected from the applicant.

4. In these circumstances, we partly allow the Complaint and direct the opponent to refund the excess fees of Rs. 50/- (Rupees fifty only), within 2 weeks from the date of the receipt of this order.

Sd/-

Shri G.G. Kambli
State Information Commissioner

Sd/-

Shri A. Venkataratnam
State Chief Information Commissioner