

GOA INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Complaint No. 56/2007-08/

Shri Joseph Carneiro,
Plot 51, H.No. 1675,
Journalist Colony, Alto Betim,
Bardez – Goa.

Complainant

V/s

Public Information Officer,
The Town Planner,
Town & Country Planning Department,
Mapusa, Bardez – Goa.

Opponent

CORAM:

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

(Per G. G. Kambli)

Dated: 04/02/2008.

Complainant in person.

Opponent in person.

O R D E R

This is a Complaint filed by the Complainant against the Opponent praying, interalia, that the Opponent be directed to immediately provide the information as sought by the Complainant, compensation for the inconvenience, hardship, mental torture and harassment and loss of time etc. and for the disciplinary action against the erring officials.

2. On notices being issued, the Opponent filed his reply and both the parties were heard.

3. In brief, the facts of the case, are that the Office of the Opponent did not accept the application dated 18/09/2007 addressed to the Public Information Officer seeking information under the Right to Information Act 2005 (for short the Act). Hence, the Complainant filed an appeal before the First Appellate Authority and the First Appellate Authority by his order dated 12/11/2007 directed the Opponent to accept the application. Accordingly the application was accepted on 21/11/2007. ...2/-

4. The Opponent vide his letter dated 05/12/2007 requested the Complainant to inform whether the Complainant needs colour photo copy of the ODP Panaji, Porvorim for which the approximate cost will come to Rs. 400/-. The Opponent also clarified that even a part of the plan could be provided if the Complainant so desires and, therefore, the Complainant may contact his office to obtain the same which will be made available on payment of photo copy charges. Accordingly the Complainant visited the office of the Opponent on 10/12/2007, 11/12/2007, 12/12/2007, 17/12/2007 but, neither the Opponent nor the Assistant Public Information Officer was present in the Office and the Complainant was informed that the dealing hand was not available. Therefore, the Complainant has filed the present Complaint. In the reply, the Opponent submitted that the information sought by the Complainant was kept ready in the outward section and that in case the information was not furnished to the Complainant he could have contacted the APIO who was available in the Office on all working days. The Opponent who is present for the hearing further submitted that extract of the plan was kept ready and is also available with the Opponent and the Complainant can collect the same on payment of Rs. 4/- only. The Opponent agreed to furnish the said copy of the plan to the Complainant today itself on payment of Rs. 4/-. The Complainant also submitted that he will be satisfied if the copy of the plan is given to him. The Opponent is therefore, hereby directed to provide a copy of the extract of the plan to the Complainant today itself on payment of Rs. 4/-. The Opponent is also directed to issue instruction to the concerned staff members not to refuse the applications of the citizen seeking information under the act and to ensure that the information is furnished when the PIO orders to give the information.

5. The Commission is not inclined to grant the other relief as prayed by the Complainant. Accordingly, the proceedings are closed.

6. Announced in the open Court on this 4th day of February, 2008.

Sd/-
(G. G. Kambli)
State Information Commissioner

No.GSIC/Compl-56/2007-08/TCPD
Goa State Information Commission
Shrama Shakti Bhavan,
Patto Plaza, Ground floor,
Panaji – Goa.

Dated: 15/02/2008.

1. Shri Joseph Carneiro,
Plot 51, H.No. 1675,
Journalist Colony, Alto Betim,
Bardez – Goa.

2. Public Information Officer,
The Town Planner,
Town & Country Planning Department,
Mapusa, Bardez – Goa.

Sub: - Complaint No. 56/2007-08/TCPD

Sir,

I am directed to forward herewith the copy of the Order dated 04/02/2008 passed by the Commission on the above complaint for information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully,

(Pratap Singh Meena)
Secretary,

Encl: Copy of Order in 2 pages.