

GOA INFORMATION COMMISSION

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

Penalty Case No. 18/2007-08
In Complaint No. 35/2007-08/VP

Mr. Angelo D'Souza,
351, Ruzai Vaddo,
Santa Cruz - Goa

.....Complainant

V/s

1. The Public Information Officer,
The Secretary,
Village Panchayat of Santa - Cruz,
Santa Cruz - Goa

.... Opponent No. 1

CORAM:

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

(Per G. G. Kambli)

Dated: 27/03/2008

ORDER

The Commission by its order dated 20/02/2008 directed Shri Babu R. Naik the then Public Information Officer and the Village Panchayat Secretary of St. Cruz to show cause as to why action should not be taken against him, under section 18 read with 20 of the Right to Information Act (for short the Act). Shri Babu R. Naik filed his reply and submitted that he was newly appointed Village Panchayat Secretary and totally inexperienced of the functioning of the Panchayat. Besides, Village Panchayat of Santa-Cruz is heavily loaded with work and it becomes difficult for the Secretary particularly the new and inexperienced to cope with the work. He, therefore, submitted that after tracing the relevant file, the Complainant was informed to collect the information.

...2/-

However, the letter was not sent Under Certificate of Posting. Subsequently, he was transferred from Village Panchayat St. Cruz .

2. The Opponent submitted that the Complainant has been provided with information after filing the Complaint before this Hon. Commission. There was no deliberate or malafide intention in withholding the information to the Complainant. The mistake is happened due to inadvertence and there was no any malafide He therefore prayed that the lenient view be taken.

3. We have considered the explanation submitted by Mr. Babu R. Naik and since he was new recruit and inexperienced, we take the lenient view and drop the proceedings. However, we warn him to be more careful in future.

Announced in the open court, on this 27th day of March 2008.

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

Sd/-
(A. Venkataratnam)
State Chief Information Commissioner, Goa.