

BEFORE THE APPELLATE AUTHORITY
(Under the Right to Information Act, 2005)
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA

Appeal No. 5910 of 2024

James Benadit K	:	Appellant
Vs		
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated January 25, 2024 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated February 08, 2024 responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/24/00021) dated February 08, 2024. I have carefully considered the application, the response and the appeal and find that the matter can be decided based on the material available on record.
2. **Requests in the application** - The appellant, vide his application dated January 25, 2024 sought the following information:

“1. Please provide the sanctioned strength of Grade A Generalist Officers, Total Grade A Generalist Officers working and the current vacancy of Grade A Generalist Officers

2. Please provide the sanctioned strength of Grade A Electrical Officers, Total Grade A Electrical Officers working and the current vacancy of Grade A Electrical Officers

3. Total number of Grade A electrical officers resigned in FY 22, 23 and 24”
3. **Reply of the Respondent** - The respondent, in response to request nos. 1 and 2 of application, informed that sanctioned strength is determined from time to time as per manpower requirements and work exigencies. With regard to the request regarding vacancy, the respondent informed that vacancies arise due to promotions, resignations and retirements of employees. Also, that SEBI undertakes recruitment and promotion exercises periodically to fill up the vacancies.

In response to the request no. 3, the respondent informed that there were “NIL” resignations.

4. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that he has been refused access to information requested.
5. I have perused the request and the response provided thereto. I note that the appellant in his appeal has only raised dissatisfaction w.r.t the replies to request nos. 1 and 2 of his application. The appellant, in his appeal, has submitted that his aforesaid requests are very specific and the respondent has given a very generic reply. On consideration, I find that the said requests of the appellant pertaining to the total Grade A officers (Generalist and Electrical) working and the current vacancy of the same grade is very specific and hence, the response provided by the respondent does not appear to be adequate. In my view, the respondent was obliged to ascertain availability of the requested information with SEBI and whether the same may be provided to the appellant in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act. On consideration, I find that the aforesaid request has not been adequately addressed.
6. Considering the above observations, I remit the application to the respondent for *de novo* consideration of request nos. 1 and 2 of the application and sending appropriate response to the appellant in terms of RTI Act, within 15 working days from the date of receipt of this order.
7. The Appeal is accordingly disposed of.

Place: Mumbai

Date: February 23, 2024

B RAJENDRAN

**APPELLATE AUTHORITY UNDER THE RTI ACT
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA**