

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

Appeal No. 5070 of 2022

Sandeep Kujur	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated May 10, 2022 under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The application was partly transferred by Reserve Bank of India under section 6(3) of the RTI Act, through RTI MIS Portal, for providing direct reply to the applicant. The respondent, by a letter dated May 18, 2022, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal dated May 20, 2022. 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. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has not mentioned any specific ground for filing the appeal. The appellant, in his appeal, *inter alia*, requested to redirect the RTI to RBI and provide the information to him.
3. I have perused the queries raised in the application. In my opinion, the application was partly transferred by RBI to SEBI for responding to query number 4 pertaining to certain organizations including SEBI. In view of the same, I am only dealing with query number 4 and the response provided thereto, in this order.
4. **Query number 4** –The appellant, vide query number 4 of his application dated May 10, 2022, sought the following information:

“4. Whether the regulators via NSDL CDSL SEBI NSE BSE where opened on 08.05.2022 and the total expense incurred by regulators.”

5. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid query, informed that the query is not clear and specific and in the nature of seeking clarification/opinion. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as seeking “information”, as defined under section 2(f) of the RTI Act.

6. On consideration, I find that the query is vague and not specific. Further, it is difficult to ascertain what exact information has been sought by the appellant. In this context, I note that in the matter of *Mr. Mahendra Kumar Mehta vs. CPIO, Securities and Exchange Board of India* (Decision dated July 08, 2021), the Hon'ble CIC held that “ *The CPIO is not supposed to interpret information; or to provide answers to non-specific or vague queries or to furnish replies to situational queries; or to furnish clarifications under the RTI Act, 2005. The queries seeking answers and explanations from the CPIO are not covered within the definition of ‘information’ u/ Section 2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005.*” In view of these observations, I do not find any deficiency in the response.
7. Further, I note that the appellant, in his appeal, *inter alia*, requested to redirect the RTI to RBI and provide the information to him. In this regard, I find that the application was partly transferred for specifically responding to the query pertaining to SEBI. The same has already been addressed by the respondent. In my opinion, the said request does not warrant consideration at this stage.
8. In view of the above observations, I find that there is no need to interfere with the decision of the respondent. The Appeal is accordingly dismissed.

Place: Mumbai

Date: June 20, 2022

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