

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

Appeal No.5824 of 2023

Ponnamma Mani	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated September 16, 2023 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (hereinafter referred to as “**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated October 05, 2023 responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/23/00216) dated October 10, 2023. 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 her application dated September 16, 2023 sought following information

“According to NSDL records, the face value of Alps BPO Services share (ISIN INE098B01014 - formerly known as Alps Infosys Ltd) is Rs.10/-. This delisted company has been under suspension from all exchanges since 2008. I had 1010/- TEN RUPEE shares of this company in year 2000. I remember having received a communication from the company in 2002 informing that the 10 rupee share of the company has been split in to ten shares of Re.1/- each. According also to Money Control website, there was such a stock split in 2002, as can be seen from the screenshot attached. That being the case, my total holding in the company should be 10100 shares of Re.1/- each with a holding value of Rs.10100/- only as against the holding of 10100 shares of Rs.10/ each and holding value of Rs.101000/- as my demat account shows. My repeated requests sent to NSE, BSE and RTA for clarification on this stock split issue have not however received any response. Therefore as a last resort I request SEBI to kindly let me know whether the face value of Alps Infosys share at the time of its suspension by NSE and BSE in the year 2008 was Re.1/- or Rs.10/- This is for the purpose of settling a dispute with my DP regarding AMC...”

3. **Reply of the Respondent** The respondent in response to the query informed that the query is in the nature of seeking clarification/opinion. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as “information”, as defined u/s 2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005. Further, the respondent provided information regarding lodging

of grievance, if any, on the SCORES portal of Securities and Exchange Board of India (hereinafter referred to as “SEBI”) and tracking the status of the same. The respondent also provided the toll free helpline numbers launched by SEBI to facilitate replies to various queries of the general public on matters related to securities market. The appellant was also advised to refer to the FAQs on “Investor Grievances- SCORES”, available on the SEBI website. The respondent also provided the link for accessing the said FAQs.

4. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that information provided was incomplete, misleading or false information. Further, the appellant has *inter alia* submitted that her query i.e. what was the face value of Alps Infosys share at the time of suspension from stock exchanges, is very specific. Hence, she has requested that said information may be provided to her.
5. I have perused the request of the appellant and the response provided thereto. I note that the appellant in her application has specifically sought information regarding face value of Alps Infosys share at the time of its suspension by NSE and BSE in the year 2008. On consideration, I find that the response provided by the respondent does not justify the denial of the requested information on the ground that the same is in the nature of seeking clarification/opinion. 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 application has not been adequately addressed. Accordingly, it would be appropriate to remit the application for reconsideration.
6. Considering the above observations, I remit the application to the respondent for *de novo* consideration 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: November 3, 2023

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