

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

Appeal No. 5426 of 2022

Akash Debnath	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated September 10, 2022 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated September 21, 2022 responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/22/00604) dated September 24, 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. **Queries in the application** –The appellant, vide his application dated September 10, 2022, sought the following information:

“I need data of all the green bonds that have been issued so far. The first green bond was issued by Yes Bank in the year 2015. Few data for green bonds are available but not all the list if green bonds are available in any of the public website. So, please provide me the list of all the green bonds that have been issued by Indian firms and government so far.”
3. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid query, informed that the information pertaining to listed green bonds is available on the SEBI website. The respondent also provided the path to access the same on the SEBI website.
4. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that the information provided was incomplete, misleading or false. The appellant, *inter alia*, submitted that the respondent has provided the link of SEBI's record of Green Debt Securities which contains only 15 listed green debt securities. The appellant also stated that there are 75-76 green bonds that have been issued by Indian Enterprises.

5. I have perused the query and the response provided thereto. I note that the respondent has guided the appellant to access the information regarding listed green bonds available on the SEBI website, which is in the public domain. On consideration, I find that the respondent has adequately addressed the query by providing the information available with him. Accordingly, I do not find any deficiency in the response.
6. Further, I note that the appellant, in his appeal, has questioned the correctness of the information provided by the respondent. In this context, it is observed that the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi in *Hansi Rawat & Anr. vs Punjab National Bank & Ors.* (LPA No. 785/2012-decision dated January 11, 2013) held that "*The question, as to what inference if any is to be drawn from the response of the PIO of the respondent Bank to the RTI application of the appellants, is to be drawn in the said proceedings and as aforesaid the proceedings under the RTI Act cannot be converted into proceedings for adjudication of disputes as to the correctness of the information furnished.*" The said judgement was also relied upon by the Hon'ble CIC, in the matter of *Naresh Luthra vs. CPIO, IGNOU, Student Evaluation Division* (order dated December 01, 2021). In view of these observations, I am of the opinion that the said submission of the appellant does not warrant consideration at this stage.
7. 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: October 19, 2022

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