

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

Appeal No. 5926 of 2024

Sapan Srivastava	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated January 30, 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 21, 2024 responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/24/00032) dated February 23, 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. **Ground of Appeal** - The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that he has been refused access to information requested. The appellant, in his appeal has mainly raised dissatisfaction with respect to the reply to request no. 1 of his application
3. **Requests no. 1 of the application** –The appellant, vide request no. 1 of his application dated January 30, 2024, sought the following information:

“SEBI is conducting investigation as per Supreme court order in Adani Hindenburg Issue. Expert committee is also conducting investigation as per SC Order. Complainant want to communicate the committees for submission.
RTI Question
1. Name of Members, adjudicating officer in SEBI committee with address, contact details and email id”
4. **Reply of the Respondent** - The respondent, in response to request no. 1 informed that the subject matter is under examination and has not reached a logical conclusion. In view of the same, disclosure of details related to the matter may impede the process and is therefore exempt from disclosure in terms of Section 8(1)(h) of the RTI Act, 2005. Further, the respondent informed that the information sought also relates to personal information, the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or

interest and may cause unwarranted invasion into the privacy of the officials and may also endanger the life or physical safety of the person(s). The same is therefore exempt in terms of Sections 8(1)(g) and 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, 2005.

5. I have perused the aforesaid request and the response provided thereto. On consideration, with respect to request no. 1 of the application, I find that the information about SEBI officials relates to personal information, the disclosure of which has no relationship to any public activity or interest and may cause unwarranted invasion into the privacy of the individual and may also endanger the life or physical safety to the person. In this regard, I note that the Hon'ble Central Information Commission, in the matter of *Prerit Misra vs. CPIO, SEBI* (order dated November 21, 2022) held that- "*It is pertinent to mention here that the appellant in a similar case which was dealt in File no. CIC/SEBIE/A/2019/660770 dated 10.08.2021 whereby he had sought information regarding the names of the officers who had blocked his email address, the Commission, while passing an order had held that such information is exempted u/s 8(1)(g) & 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act. The Commission after considering the submissions of the appellant finds no merit in his case, and also is in agreement with the order of the FAA and concludes that the information is exempt u/s 8(1)(g) & 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act, hence, no relief can be given.*" In view of these observations, I find that the requested information is exempt from disclosure under sections 8(1)(g) and 8(1)(j) of the RTI Act.
6. 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: March 7, 2024

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