

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

Appeal No. 5771 of 2023

Abhishek Yadav	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated July 18, 2023 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated July 31, 2023, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/23/00175) dated August 06, 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. **Queries in the application** –The appellant, vide his application July 18, 2023, sought the Certified copy of annual report of FY 20-21 which was submitted by Shriram Finance Ltd.(erstwhile Shriram Transport Finance Company Ltd).
3. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid query, informed that the annual report of the company is available on BSE website. The respondent also provided the link for accessing the same.
4. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that the response provided by the respondent was unsatisfactory. The appellant, in his appeal, submitted that he had sought the certified copy of the annual report.
5. I have perused the query and the response provided thereto. On consideration, I find that the respondent has guided the appellant to access the annual report which is already available in the public domain. In this context, the Hon’ble Delhi High Court, in the matter of *Registrar of Companies & Ors. Vs. Dharmendra Kumar Garg & Anr.* and the Hon’ble CIC in the matter of *Shri K Lall vs. Shri M K Bagri* (CIC/AT/A/2007/00112, order dated April 12, 2007), *inter alia*, observed that if the relevant information is available in the public domain, the same cannot be said to be information held by the public authority

and consequently there is no obligation to provide such information to an applicant under the RTI Act. With respect to the request regarding certified copy of the annual report, I note that SEBI is not the original holder/originator of the said document.

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: September 05, 2023

ANAND BAIWAR

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