

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

Appeal No. 6302 of 2025

Uvais Shaikh : Appellant

Vs

CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai : Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated December 25, 2024 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated January 16, 2025, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/25/00020) dated January 17, 2025. 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, in his application dated December 25, 2024, sought the following information:

“I am writing to seek information under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005, regarding the Sahara Refund process. Below are the details of my query:

What is the current status of my refund application submitted through the Sahara Refund Portal? Acknowledgment Number: 24030812190218 Claim Date: 08-03-2024

What are the reasons for the deficiencies mentioned in my application, such as:

Receipt number mismatch.

Society name mismatch.

Membership number mismatch.

Name mismatch with Aadhaar records.

What steps are being taken by SEBI or the concerned authority to address such recurring issues faced by applicants on the Sahara Refund Portal?

By when can I expect my refund to be processed and released?

What is the escalation or grievance redressal mechanism available if the issues in my application remain unresolved?

I will attach relevant supporting documents, including copies of my Sahara receipts, acknowledgment from the refund portal, and deficiency messages received, for your reference.

I kindly request that the information be provided within the prescribed timeline of 30 days as per the RTI Act.”

3. **Reply of the Respondent** - The respondent, in response to queries of the application, informed that the information sought by the appellant does not pertain to SEBI.
4. **Ground of appeal** – On perusal of the appeal, it appears that the appellant is not satisfied with the response provided by the respondent.
5. I have perused the aforesaid application and the response provided thereto. On consideration, I note that the appellant in his application has sought information regarding Central Registrar of Cooperative Societies (CRCS) Sahara Refund portal and the refund process, for which, the respondent has informed the appellant that the same is not under the purview of SEBI. Accordingly, it is understood that the information sought is not available with SEBI. I note that the respondent can only provide information that is available in the records. In this context, I note that the Hon’ble Central Information Commission (hereinafter referred to as “**CIC**”) in the matter of *Sh. Pattipati Rama Murthy vs. CPIO, SEBI* (Decision dated July 8, 2013), held: “... if it (SEBI) does not have any such information in its possession, the CPIO cannot obviously invent one for the benefit of the Appellant. There is simply no information to be given.” Accordingly, I do not find any deficiency in the response of the respondent.

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: February 13, 2025

RUCHI CHOJER

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