

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

Appeal No. 5415 of 2022

Amit Jain	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated September 09, 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 16, 2022, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/22/00583) dated September 17, 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 09, 2022, *inter alia*, sought the email addresses of MF Central, its Managing Director or CEO, nodal officer and Appellate Authority.
3. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid queries, informed that the information sought is not maintained by SEBI in normal course of regulation of securities market. Hence the same is not available with SEBI. The respondent also provided information regarding lodging of grievance on the SCORES portal of SEBI and tracking the status of the same. Further, the respondent 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. Further, the appellant was 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 the information provided was incomplete, misleading or false. The appellant, in his appeal, *inter alia*, submitted that the requested information is useful for citizens of India. The appellant also stated that no private information has been sought.

5. I have perused the queries and the response provided thereto. On consideration, I do not find any reason to disbelieve the response of the respondent that the requested information is not maintained by SEBI in the normal course of regulation of securities market. In this context, I note that the Hon'ble CIC, in the matter of *Mrigesh Manubhai Thakkar vs. SEBI* (order dated December 28, 2016) observed that *"The Commission observes that the respondents can provide only that information which is existing and available with them and the RTI Act does not mandate it for the respondent authority to create information if it is not collected and collated in the normal course of their duties. The Commission, therefore, does not find any need to intervene in the matter. The appeal is disposed of."* In view of these observations, I do not find any deficiency in the response.
6. Notwithstanding the above, I find that the respondent has appropriately guided the appellant to refer to the SCORES website for lodging his grievance, if any, and also provided helpline service numbers launched by SEBI, to facilitate replies to various queries of the general public on matters relating to securities market. Accordingly, I do not find any deficiency in the response provided by the respondent.
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 11, 2022

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