

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

Appeal No. 5202 of 2022

Bal Mukand Joshi	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated March 27, 2022 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated April 06, 2022, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal dated July 14, 2022.
2. I note that under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, an aggrieved person may prefer the first appeal within thirty days from the receipt of the response from the CPIO of the concerned public authority. In the instant case, the impugned response from the respondent is dated April 06, 2022. The first appeal has been made after the last date permissible under the RTI Act. The appellant neither made a request for condoning the said delay in filing the appeal nor made any submission explaining the reasons which caused the delay. Considering the absence of a request for condoning the delay and any valid reason that prevented the appellant from filing the appeal in time, I consider this appeal as time barred and hence, liable to be dismissed on that count.
3. Notwithstanding the above observation, I have considered the appeal on merit. I have perused the application and the appeal and find that the matter can be decided based on the material available on record.
4. **Queries in the application** –The appellant, vide his application dated March 27, 2022, sought the following information:

“Any investor of share market through share broker what is relationship between broker or investor investor call trader or investor call consumer of share broker.”

5. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid query, informed that the query is vague and not specific. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as seeking “information”, as defined under section 2(f) of the RTI Act.
6. **Ground of appeal-** The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that access to the requested information was refused. The appellant, in his appeal, *inter alia*, reiterated the queries raised in his application.
7. I have perused the query raised by the appellant. I find that the same is vague and not specific. Further, it is difficult to ascertain what exact information has been sought by the appellant. In this context, I note that in the matter of *Shri S. C. Sharma vs. CPIO, Securities and Exchange Board of India* (Decision dated August 30, 2012), the Hon’ble CIC held: “*Since the Appellant had not clearly stated what exact information he wanted, the CPIO could not have provided any specific information to him. We would like to advise the Appellant that he might like to specify the exact information he wants from the SEBI and prefer a fresh application before the CPIO.*” In view of the same, I do not find any deficiency in the response.
8. 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: August 11, 2022

ANAND BAIWAR

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