

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

Appeal No. 6522 of 2025

Pranab Kumar Das : Appellant

Vs

CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai : Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated July 17, 2025 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated August 14, 2025, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/25/00215) dated August 14, 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 July 17, 2025, sought the following information:

“ 1. All internal notes, communications, and actions by SEBI and the SMART ODR conciliator on my complaints, including session recordings, reasons for SCORES dismissal as ODR-pending despite its unsuccessful conclusion (CDSL-RTA-2025-02- 246384), and handling of both SCORES references.

2. KFin’s Action Taken Report (24.06.2025), submissions to SEBI/Presolv360, and reasons for rejecting my Post Mortem Report (PMR) as evidence of death, despite its validity under BSA Section 70.

3. SMART ODR conciliation records (CDSL-RTA-2025-02-246384), including KFin’s demands (death certificate, court order, FIR, Enhanced Due Diligence), the representative’s statement on non-issuance of share certificates (02.04.2025), and conciliator’s notes misattributing share valuation and arbitration intent to me.

4. Actions taken on my complaints against RIL and Karry (included in SCORES but not ODR), reasons for ignoring Folio No. 55832522 (Annexure 4), and status of Aparna Das’s portfolio.

5. *SEBI's oversight details of KFin's Corporate Registry Department or T.S.N. Murthy handling escalations, per Circular 2021/670*

6. *Availability status of Circular SEBI/HO/OIAE/OIAE_IAD-1/P/CIR/2023/145 on SEBI's website as of 06.07.2025 and reasons for its incorrect dating in the SCORES response"*

3. **Reply of the Respondent** –The respondent, in response to query nos. 1 & 4 in the application, informed that the queries are vague and not specific. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as "information", as defined u/s 2(f) of the RTI Act. Notwithstanding the aforesaid, the respondent informed that the status of ODR cases and Action Taken Report (ATR) may be accessed by logging in to SMART ODR portal and SCORES Portal, respectively.

The respondent, in response to query nos. 2 & 3, informed that the information sought is not available with SEBI. However, the status of ODR cases may be accessed by logging in to SMART ODR portal.

The respondent, in response to query nos. 5 & 6, informed that the queries are vague and not specific. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as "information", as defined u/s 2(f) of the RTI Act. Notwithstanding the aforesaid, the respondent informed that SEBI Master Circular no. SEBI/HO/OIAE/OIAE_IAD-1/P/CIR/2023/131 (updated as on August 11, 2023) for Online Resolution of Disputes in Securities Market is available on the website of SEBI. Further, respondent informed that the said Master circular has been updated on December 28, 2023, which is also available on SEBI website.

4. **Ground of appeal** – The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that he was refused access to the information requested.
5. I have perused the application and the response provided thereto. With regard to query nos. 1, 4, 5 and 6, I concur with the response of the respondent that the queries are vague and not specific. It is an established law that the information sought for in order to be disclosable under the RTI Act, must be clear, specific and available in the records of the public authority. In this context, I note that in the matter of *Mr. T. V. Sundaresan vs. CPIO, Securities and Exchange Board of India* (Decision dated November 24, 2021), the Hon'ble Central Information Commission (hereinafter referred to as "**CIC**") held: "*The framework of the RTI Act, 2005 expects that the information sought is specific and believed to be existing with the public authority in documented or material form as such; which can be shared with the appellant as per the provisions of the RTI Act. Answering to broad, multiple and general queries and presumptive documents that should have been generated as per the expectation of the appellant*

cannot be furnished under the provisions of the Act.” Accordingly, I do not find any deficiency in the response of the respondent. Notwithstanding the aforesaid, with respect to query nos. 1& 4, the respondent informed that the status of ODR cases and ATR may be accessed by the appellant by logging in to SMART ODR portal and SCORES Portal, respectively. Further, with regard to query no. 6, respondent has also stated that SEBI master circular no. SEBI/HO/OIAE/OIAE_IAD-1/P/CIR/2023/131 is available on SEBI website.

6. With regard to query nos. 2 and 3, I note that the respondent has categorically mentioned that the requested information is not available with SEBI. In this context, I note that the Hon’ble CIC in the matter of *Sh. Patriate 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.
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: September 11, 2025

RUCHI CHOJER

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