

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

Appeal No. 6003 of 2024

Viswanathan B	:	Appellant
Vs		
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated March 20, 2024 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated April 15, 2024 responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/24/00093) dated May 08, 2024. 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. **Requests made in the application** –The appellant, vide his application dated March 20, 2024, sought the following information

“I was aggrieved by a serious violation of erstwhile Coimbatore Stock Exchange and had approached the Chairman, SEBI for taking suitable action. As there was no response, I had filed a query under RTI Act and subsequently, I was advised by the Appellate Authority vide their order dated 9th June 2022, to address my grievance to the appropriate grievance redressal forum. Accordingly, I sent a request to the Chairperson, SEBI on 15th Sep 2023 for details of the grievance redressal forum as envisaged by the Appellate Authority. I have not received any response and hence this application under the RTI Act for getting the requested information.”
3. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid requests informed that appellant’s letter dated September 15, 2023 was closed as reply was already provided to him earlier vide email dated April 24, 2023 in same matter. Further, the respondent informed that the appellant may approach appropriate legal forum in accordance with law, if Coimbatore Enterprises and Holding Limited (CHEL) fails to redress his grievances, as SEBI is not the appropriate authority to deal with his complaint. Additionally, the

respondent informed that seeking advice in respect of which authority or court of law has to be approached cannot be construed as “Information” as defined u/d 2(f) of the RTI Act, 2005.

4. **Ground of appeal** - The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that information provided was incomplete, misleading or false information.
5. I have perused the requests and the response provided thereto. I note that the appellant, in his application has, *inter alia*, sought information regarding the status of his letter dated September 15, 2023 sent to SEBI. On consideration, I find that the respondent has adequately addressed the said requests by providing the information available with him. Accordingly, no further intervention of this forum is warranted. Further, I find that the appeal of the appellant is more in the nature of grievance. I note that redressal of grievance does not come under the purview of the RTI Act. In this context, I note that the Hon’ble Central Information Commission, in the matter of *Mr. Surendra Vishwakarma vs. President Secretariat* (Order dated April 29, 2016) observed that “*In this context, we note that the RTI Act cannot be used to make the respondent to do certain things or take certain action for the reason that the Act is not the proper law for redressal of grievances/ disputes and there are other appropriate forum(s) for resolving such matters.*”
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: May 16, 2024

B RAJENDRAN

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