

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

Appeal No. 6486 of 2025

Sundaresan R : Appellant
Vs

CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai : Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated June 23, 2025 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated July 10, 2025, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/25/00180) dated July 15, 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 June 23, 2025, sought the following information:

“ 1 What is the reason and legal basis for the restriction on the mentioned old survey numbers

2 Provide certified copies of the orders or documents that form the basis of these restrictions

3 Who registered and who purchased the new and old survey numbers mentioned

4 On what grounds were these restrictions imposed

5 Please verify and confirm if these survey numbers are indeed covered under such restriction orders If yes kindly provide a copy

6 If no restriction applies to my mentioned numbers I request removal of such entries

7 I request only the restriction-related documents for the above old survey numbers

8 If your office does not hold the required documents kindly transfer my application under Section 6 3 of the RTI Act 2005

9 If the request is denied under Section 7 8 of the RTI Act kindly provide reasons and address of the First Appellate Authority

10 I am willing to pay any required fees as per the prescribed rules Please inform the amount and mode of payment”

3. **Reply of the Respondent** –The respondent, in response to the application, informed that the information sought is vague and not specific. Accordingly, the same cannot be construed as "information", as defined u/s 2(f) of the RTI Act. However, the respondent informed that the details of PACL Matters – Public Notices, press Releases, Status Report, and FAQs etc. are available on SEBI website.
4. **Ground of appeal** – The appellant has filed the appeal on the ground that he was provided incomplete, misleading or false information.
5. I have perused the application and the response provided thereto. On consideration, I concur with the response of the respondent that the appellant's 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.
6. Further, I note that the appellant in his appeal has sought additional information pertaining to his application. As held by the Hon'ble CIC in *Harish Prasad Divedi vs. Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited* (decided on January 28, 2014), an information seeker cannot be allowed to expand the scope of his RTI enquiry at appeal stage. Accordingly, I find that the said submissions do not warrant consideration at this stage.
7. Notwithstanding the above, I note that the responsibility of disposal of the properties and repayment to investors, is entrusted with the Justice (Retd.) R. M. Lodha Committee (under the Chairmanship of Hon'ble Mr. Justice R.M. Lodha, former Chief Justice of India), which has been constituted, pursuant to the order dated February 2, 2016 of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India. I also note that the respondent has

provided the links for accessing Status Reports, FAQs, Press Releases and Public Notices pertaining to the matter of PACL Ltd., which are already available in the public domain. The appellant may be guided accordingly.

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 06, 2025

RUCHI CHOJER

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