

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

Appeal No. 4688 of 2022

Pramod Halakatti	:	Appellant
	Vs	
CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai	:	Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated February 02, 2022 (received by SEBI on February 08, 2022) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated February 16, 2022, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal dated February 28, 2022 (received by the Office of Appellate Authority on March 04, 2022). I have perused the application, the response of the respondent and the appeal and find that the matter can be decided based on the material available on record.
2. **Query number 1-** The appellant, vide his application dated February 02, 2022, *inter alia*, sought information regarding action taken on his letter dated December 20, 2021 pertaining to Pragathi Deposit Collectors who are working in the Banks. The appellant also sought copy of entire file noting with correspondence copy.
3. The respondent, in response to the aforesaid queries, informed that the information sought by the appellant does not pertain to SEBI.
4. **Ground of appeal-** On perusal of the appeal, it appears that the appellant is not satisfied with the response provided by the respondent. The appellant, in his appeal, requested that penalty may be imposed against the respondent under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act.
5. I have perused the queries and the response provided thereto. I note that the respondent has categorically stated that the information sought by the appellant regarding Pragathi Deposit Collectors working in Banks, does not pertain to SEBI. I find that the respondent has adequately addressed the queries by providing the information available with him. In view of the same, I do not find any deficiency in the respondent’s response.

6. Further, the appellant, in his appeal, requested to impose penalty on the respondent under Section 20(1) of the RTI Act. In this regard, I note that as per Section 20(1) of the RTI Act, the Central Information Commission or the State Information Commission has the powers to impose a penalty against the Central Public Information Officer or the State Public Information Officer, while deciding on a complaint or a second appeal. Hence, I find that this request is beyond the purview of the First Appellate Authority. Accordingly, the same does not warrant consideration at this stage.
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: March 25, 2022

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