

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

Appeal No. 6326 of 2025

V Satya Venkatarao : Appellant
Vs

CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai : Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated January 31, 2025 (received by the respondent through RTI MIS Portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated February 13, 2025, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/25/00041) dated March 03, 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. **Ground of appeal** – The appellant, in his appeal, has raised dispute only with respect to response to query no. 1 in his application. The appellant has submitted that he had sought information pertaining to issuance of vigilance clearance by SEBI and that the reply of the respondent was only from the perspective of Vigilance Department of SEBI.
3. **Query no. 1 in the application** - The appellant, vide query no. 1 in his application dated January 31, 2025, sought the following information:

“1. Copy of the relevant rules and regulations followed for the issue of Vigilance clearance to the employees of SEBI at the time of appointments, promotions, forwarding of applications for outside employment, and at the time of retirement and acceptance of resignations .”
4. **Reply of the Respondent** - The respondent, in response to query no. 1 in the application, informed that the Vigilance Department does not provide vigilance clearance to the employees of SEBI. It only provides vigilance status of the employee on the basis of available information.

5. I have perused the application and the response provided thereto. I note that appellant in his appeal has submitted that he had sought information pertaining to issuance of vigilance clearance by SEBI and the reply of the respondent was only from the perspective of Vigilance Department of SEBI. I note that the information sought by appellant is very specific. In my view, the respondent was obliged to ascertain availability of the requested information with SEBI and whether the same may be provided to the appellant in accordance with the provisions of the RTI Act. On consideration, I find that the application has not been adequately addressed and the same warrants reconsideration.
6. Considering the above observations, I remit the application to the respondent for de novo consideration of query no.1 in the application and sending appropriate response to the appellant in terms of RTI Act, within 30 days from the date of receipt of this order.
7. The appeal is accordingly disposed of.

Place: Mumbai
Date: March 27, 2025

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