

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

Appeal No. 7100 of 2026

Abhishek Gautam : Appellant

Vs

CPIO, SEBI, Mumbai : Respondent

ORDER

1. The appellant had filed an application dated September 02, 2026 (received by SEBI through RTI MIS portal) under the Right to Information Act, 2005 (“**RTI Act**”). The respondent, by a letter dated September 22, 2026, responded to the application filed by the appellant. The appellant filed an appeal dated September 22, 2026 (Reg. No. SEBIH/A/E/26/00355). 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. **Queries in the application** - The appellant, in his application, sought the following information:

“ Provide the following information regarding PACL registration numbers U016273xxx and U016365xxx for applicant Kamlesh Kumari

1 Applicant successfully applied for refund on SEBI portal in 2019 State the exact action taken on these applications in the last 7 years and under which legal provision they have been kept pending

2 Despite clear orders from the Honorable Supreme Court to refund all eligible small investors state the exact legal grounds under which applicants refund has been blocked with the status Land has been allotted

3 Provide certified details of the allotment deed number registry document khasra number and specific location of the plot allegedly allotted against these two registration numbers as per data provided by PACL Ltd

4 If SEBI PACL Committee does not possess any physical or documentary evidence of land allotment against these accounts state which officer or department is responsible for blocking the legal refund of the applicant

5 Applicant holds both original bond certificates and outstanding cash receipts State the exact legal timeline to rectify this incorrect data and receive the actual principal refund of 60000 rupees directly into the bank account”

3. **Reply of the Respondent** – The respondent, in response to the application, informed that the information sought is not available with SEBI. Further, 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. The respondent, in his response, has categorically mentioned that the requested information is not available with SEBI. In this context, I note that the Hon’ble Central Information Commission (**CIC**) in the matter of *Sh. Pattipati 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.
6. 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.
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: October 12, 2026

RUCHI CHOJER

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