OFFICE OF THE FIRST APPELLATE AUTHORITY (Appointed under the Right to Information Act, 2005) The Institute of Company Secretaries of India ICSI House C-36, Sector-62, Institutional Area Noida - 201 309 (U.P.)

Appeal No.400/2023

IN THE MATTER OF:

Shri Valand Ravi Mukeshbhai B/24,Akshardham society,vastral, Ahmedabad -382418 Appellant

Vs.

Central Public Information Officer (EXAM) The Institute of Company Secretaries of India C-37, Sector 62, NOIDA- 201309 Respondent

Date of Order: 29th October, 2023

ORDER

- The Appellant has filed first Appeal- No. ICSOI/A/E/23/00400 on 04.10.2023 under Section 19(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 in connection with Response Ref No. ICSOI/R/E/23/22298 dated 27.09.2023 against the Central Public Information Officer (CPIO) (hereinafter referred to as Respondent) of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India.
- (2) The Appellant vide his application dated 04.09.2023 has requested to provide the certified copies of answer books for CS Executive Examination held in June 2023 for the subjects:426. SECURITIES LAW & CAPITAL MARKET 427. ECONOMICS, BUSINESS AND COMERCIAL LAW 425. CORPORATE & MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTING 428. FINANCIAL & STRATEGIC MANAGEMENT.
- (3) The Appellant has informed in the instant appeal that "No response within time limit".
- (4) The reply of the Respondent against the instant appeal is as under: -

"It is submitted that the requisite information as sought by the Applicant (Appellant hereinafter) in his RTI Application ICSOI/R/E/23/22298 dated 04.09.2023, was made available in public domain and was freely available without any cost at link https://cc.icsi.edu.

Further, the Appellant was informed about the said link and the procedure to fetch the information in response to his above mentioned RTI Application vide letter dated

27.09.2023(copy of letter enclosed). An announcement in this regard has also been published on the website of the Institute (copy of announcement attached).

Furthermore, in the instant Appeal the Appellant sought his certified copies of Answer Books once again. However, this is to inform that the certified copies were to be provided to the Appellant through the portal only after registration at link https://cc.icsi.edu which had not done by the Appellant.

It is also to submit that the Answer Books of the CS Examination, June 2023 have been disposed of in accordance with the Record Retention Schedule of Directorate of Examinations, ICSI and hence, the same cannot be provided.

Record Retention schedule of the Institute is in public domain and available at Institute's website www.icsi.edu.

The contents as above made in the RTI reply stands as it is and are candid".

- (5) This Office has carefully considered the application, the response, the appeal and the records made available and finds that the matter can be decided based on the material available on record.
- (6) The requisite information as sought by the Appellant was freely available in public domain without any cost at Link https://cc.icsi.edu as intimated by CPIO EXAM to the appellant vide communication dated 27.09.2023.

This Office concurs with the submission of the Respondent that since Answer books of CS Examination Session June 2023 have been disposed off in accordance with the Record Retention Schedule of Directorate of Examination of ICSI, hence the same cannot be provided.

The appeal is accordingly disposed of.

Sd/-

(Sonia Baijal) First Appellate Authority

Copy to:

- Shri Valand Ravi Mukeshbhai B/24,Akshardham society, Vastral, Ahmedabad -382418
- 2. Central Public Information Officer (EXAM) The Institute of Company Secretaries of India C-37, Sector 62, NOIDA- 201309
- 3. Directorate of IT For publishing on the website