

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.00047/2025

IN THE MATTER OF:

Mr. Dyot Singh
Vill Godhi korba, H.no.207
pin-495683, SF 825
CSEB colony, kosabadi korba
Chattisgarh
Pin: 495677

Appellant

Vs.

Central Public Information Officer
The Institute of Company Secretaries of India
'ICSI House', 22, Institutional Area, Lodi Road,
New Delhi – 110003

Respondent

Date of Order: 4th August 2025

ORDER

- (1) The Appellant has filed first Appeal- No. ICSOI/A/E/25/00047 on 11.07.2025 under Section 19(1) of the Right to Information Act, 2005 in connection with Response vide letter dated 11.07.2025 against the Central Public Information Officer (hereinafter referred to as Respondent) of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India.
- (2) The Appellant vide his RTI Application No. ICSOI/R/E/25/02095 dated 18/06/2025 has requested the following information:

“Respected Sir/Madam,

I am seeking the following information under the provisions of the Right to Information Act, 2005:

1. The number of Company Secretaries currently registered with your Institute belonging to the following categories:

Scheduled Castes (SC)
Scheduled Tribes (ST)
Other Backward Classes (OBC)
General Category

2. Kindly provide the year-wise and state wise data if available, or the latest consolidated data as of the current date.

I request that the information be provided in a digital format (PDF or Excel) to the email address given below, or by post to the address provided.”

- (3) The Appellant has submitted in his instant appeal regarding the reply provided by the Respondent to the RTI queries as under:

“I, Dyot Singh, am filing this First Appeal under Section 19(1) of the RTI Act, 2005 against the unsatisfactory and incomplete reply received from the CPIO of the Institute of Company Secretaries of India on July 11, 2025. I had sought the following information:

1. The number of Company Secretaries currently registered with your Institute belonging to SC/ST/OBC/General categories.
2. Year wise and state wise breakup or latest consolidated data.

However, the reply received merely states: Data not maintained. This response is inadequate and in violation of the obligations under Section 4(1)(a) of the RTI Act, 2005, which mandates every public authority to maintain its records duly catalogued and indexed in a manner that facilitates the right to information. It is respectfully submitted that: Category wise data is mandatorily collected by ICSI during student/member registration. If the information is available but not compiled, the CPIO is still duty bound to facilitate access, or transfer the query to the concerned records department under Section 6(3). The denial, without any justification or clarification on non-availability, reflects non-compliance with both the letter and spirit of the RTI Act. I therefore request the First Appellate Authority to: Direct the CPIO to provide the information as originally requested. In case such information genuinely does not exist, provide a certified declaration stating the reasons, and identify the authority responsible for such data management.”

- (4) The reply of the Respondent against the instant appeal is as under: -

““Our reply remains the same as provided in RTI Reply dated 11.07.2025.”

The category wise and the state wise data of the members is not maintained by the Institute.

Further, it is to inform that the “the public authority under the RTI Act, 2005 is not to create or collate information; or to interpret information. Therefore, the information which is readily available in the format/content can only be provided to the appellant and not as per the choice of the information seeker. The reply(ies) to the query(ies) cannot be created and designed in the manner and wish of the appellant.

Therefore, the contents made in the RTI reply stands as it is and the appeal deserves to be dismissed.”

- (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.

This office concurs with the submissions of the Respondent in his reply to the instant appeal.

The appeal is accordingly disposed of.

Sd/-

(Asit Kumar Rath)
First Appellate Authority

Copy to:

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Chattisgarh
Pin: 495677
2. Central Public Information Officer
The Institute of Company Secretaries of India
'ICSI House', 22, Institutional Area, Lodi Road,
New Delhi - 110003
3. Directorate of IT - For publishing on the website