PUNJAB STATE INFORMATION COMMISSION

Red Cross Building, Near Rose Garden, Madhya Marg, Sector 16, Chandigarh. Ph: 0172-2864111.



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(To be substituted for the order bearing same date)

Kuldeep Chand Bhargav, # 131, Geeta Vihar, Threekay Road, Ludhiana – 142021

Versus

Public Information Officer, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana. First Appellate Authority, o/o Registrar, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana.

Appeal Case No. 2750 of 2019

PRESENT:

Kuldeep Chand Bhargav (Appellant) Kapil Bansal, APIO (for the Respondent) 99140-22015

ORDER:

- 1. The RTI application is dated **23.5.19** vide which the appellant has sought information as enumerated in his RTI application. First appeal was filed with the First Appellate Authority (FAA) and second appeal was filed in the Commission on **29.7.19** under Section 19 of the Right to Information Act, 2005 (RTI Act). The first hearing of this appeal case was held in the Commission **30.8.19** wherein the respondent PIO was directed to submit a pointwise reply to the appellant's RTI request.
- 2. The respondent PIO represented by Kapil Bansal, APIO, has submitted a written response to the appellant's RTI application with a copy to this Commission through which he has denied disclosure of the information sought by the appellant. This is on the premise that the Punjab & Haryana High Court, where the appellant and the university are presently engaged in litigation, has expressly forbidden such disclosure.
- 3. The appellant too, today, submitted counter reply wherein he has contended that the information he has requested has nothing to do with the subject matter of the litigation pending in the High Court at Chandigarh.
- 4. In the interim, the Deputy Registrar, Punjab State Information Commission, Sh. Shingara Singh, has apprised this bench that the appellant has similar appeals pending before the honourable State Information Commissioner Sh. Avtar Singh Kaler (Appeal Cases 3212 & 3213 of 2019).
- 5. In light of this, it would be prudent and in the larger interest of Justice that this appeal case AC 2750 of 2019- be transferred to SIC Avtar Singh Kaler's Bench after obtaining requisite approval from the honourable Chief Information Commissioner.page 2.

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6. All further hearings to be notified afresh.

Sd/(ASIT JOLLY)
State Information Commissioner

Chandigarh. 11.10.19