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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**

+ W.P.(C) 9012/2015 & CM No.20364/2015 (for directions)

RAJAT BHATNAGAR & ORS.

..... Petitioners

Through Ms. Pritha Srikumar Iyer with Ms.
Nayantara Narayan, Advocates.

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ORS.

..... Respondents

Through

Mr. Bhagwan Swarup Shukla, CGSC
with Mr Rachit Goel, Advocate for
respondent No.1.

Mr. Anil Kaushik with Mr. Rajinder
Singh, Mr. Shreshth Jain and Mr.
Tanmay Mehta, Advocates for
respondent No.2/FDDI.

Mr. Apoorv Kurup and Mr. V.C.
Shukla, Advocates for respondent
No.3/UGC.

Mr. Amitesh Kumar with Mr.
Shashank Shekhar Singh and Ms.
Priti Kumari, Advocates for
respondent No.4/Mewar University.

CORAM:

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJEEV SACHDEVA

ORDER

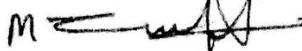
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15.07.2016

Learned counsel for the respondent No.1 submits that consequent to order dated 05.05.2016, the respondent No.1 has filed an additional affidavit stating that the Government is continuously

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New Delhi**

working on finding a solution to the problem faced by Footwear Design & Development Institute (FDDI) (respondent No.2) in grant of degree to its students. It is stated that the option of obtaining "deemed to be University" status from the Ministry of Human Resource Development in consultation with the UGC is being explored for resolving the issue of award of degrees to FDDI students. Inter Ministerial Committee meeting was held on 22.04.2016 and FDDI was directed to make an application for consideration of the Ministry of Human Resource Development for conferment of the "deemed to be University" status. Such an application, it is stated, has been filed by FDDI. The affidavit records that completion of due process for obtaining the status of "deemed to be University" by FDDI is likely to take a few months.

Learned counsel appearing for the University Grants Commission (UGC) submits that the application was scrutinised and there were certain defects which were pointed to FDDI and FDDI was required to clear the defects. Learned counsel appearing for FDDI submits that all defects which were pointed out were cured and necessary explanations were also rendered to UGC. Learned counsel for the UGC submits that a fresh letter has been issued on 14.07.2016 to FDDI. A copy of letter dated 14.07.2016 has been handed over to counsel for FDDI.

The officers of FDDI are directed to appear before the concerned Deputy Secretary or such other concerned Officers, who may be designated by the Deputy Secretary, alongwith the requisite documents and clarifications on 19.07.2016. FDDI is directed to cure


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all the defects and satisfy all queries and requirements of the UGC. Learned counsel appearing for FDDI submits that on certain issues, relaxation has been sought by FDDI.

The respondent No.3, UGC is directed to consider the request of FDDI in light of the affidavit filed by the Union of India that the current issue needs to be resolved expeditiously keeping in view the interest of the students, needless to state that the same shall be in accordance with law. Sympathetic consideration would be required to be given in view of the affidavit of the Government of India.

Respondent No.3 shall take a decision within three weeks from the date of the submission of the requisite documents and clarifications by FDDI.


Renotify on 19.08.2016.

Interim orders and arrangement fixed by the orders dated 14.12.2015 and 06.01.2016 shall continue to operate.

Dasti under the signatures of the Court Master.

JULY 15, 2016
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Sd/-

SANJEEV SACHDEVA, J