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

+ W.P.(C) 1533/2018 & CM No.6298/2018

RANJAN PANDEY

..... Petitioner

Through: Mr.Sitesh Narayan Singh, Advocate

versus

UNION OF INDIA AND ORS.

..... Respondents

Through: Mr.Kirtiman Singh & Mr.Saeed
Qadri, Advocates

CORAM:

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE HIMA KOHLI

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE PRATIBHA RANI

ORDER

% **19.02.2018**

1. The present petition has been filed by the petitioner praying *inter alia* for setting aside the orders dated 07.07.2015, passed by the Medical Board and an order dated 16.09.2015, passed by the Appellate Board, of the respondents/Indian Air Force declaring him unfit for recruitment to the post of Airmen, Group 'Y' (non-technical).

2. At the outset, we have requested learned counsel for the petitioner to address us on the aspect of delay and laches in approaching the court for relief and that too in respect of the petitioner's recruitment, for which an advertisement had been issued by the respondents/Air Force in April, 2015. The only explanation sought to be offered by learned counsel for the petitioner for the inordinate delay of 3 years on the part of the petitioner in approaching the court for relief is that from December, 2015 till September, 2017, his father has been filing applications under the Right to Information

Act to gather information from the respondents/Air Force.

3. The said explanation sought to be offered by the learned counsel for the petitioner for approaching the court so belatedly, is untenable. Seeking information from the respondents/Air Force through the RTI route cannot be a ground for the petitioner to have sat back and that too in a case where he is seeking recruitment in respect of an advertisement issued by the respondents/Air Force in April, 2015.

4. The petition is dismissed, along with the pending application, as being hopelessly barred by delay and latches.

HIMA KOHLI, J.

PRATIBHA RANI, J.

FEBRUARY 19, 2018

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