COURT No.2 ARMED FORCES TRIBUNAL PRINCIPAL BENCH: NEW DELHI

15.

OA 1843/2019

Col Anil Kak (Retd.) Applicant

VERSUS

Union of India and Ors. Respondents

For Applicant : Mr. S S Pandey, Advocate

For Respondents: Mr V Krishnan, proxy for Mr. Harish V

Shankar, Advocate

CORAM

HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE ANU MALHOTRA, MEMBER (J) HON'BLE REAR ADMIRAL DHIREN VIG, MEMBER (A)

ORDER 13.09.2023

Time is sought on behalf of the respondents to file the counter affidavit not filed till date in terms of proceedings dated 25.11.2019, 03.03.2020, 30.07.2020, 10.11.2020. As directed on 21.04.2023, the right of the respondents to file the counter affidavit was to stand automatically closed if the counter affidavit was not filed within three weeks. However, in the interest of a fair adjudication of the *lis*, it is considered essential to allow the prayer made on behalf of the respondents to file the counter affidavit subject to costs of Rs.5,000/~ to be deposited with the Armed Forces(PB) Bar Association. On submission of the receipt of Rs.5000/~ towards costs, the respondents may file the counter affidavit within two weeks.

2. The oral prayer for waiver of the costs is declined. Further the prayer for reduction of costs is also declined.

- 3. Re-list for final hearing on 27.09.2023.
- 4. A copy of this order be given Dasti to the respondents, as prayed.

(JUSTICE ANU MALHOTRA) MEMBER (J)

(REAR ADMIRAL DHIREN VIG) MEMBER (A)

<u>CHANANA</u>