पावर ग्रिंड कारपोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड POWER GRID CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED सूचना का अधिकार अधिनियम 2005 के अंतर्गत आपीलीय अधिकारी APPELLATE AUTHORITY UNDER THE RTI ACT, 2005 केन्द्रीय कार्यालय', सौदामिनी', प्लाट नं.2, सैक्टर- 29, गुड़गांव, हरियाणा-122001

CORPORATE CENTRE, 'SAUDAMINI', PLOT No.2, SECTOR-29, GURGAON, HARYANA- 122001

Ref: C/CP/AA/RTI Act, 2005

Date: 29th November, 2019

Appellant:

M/s Shilpi Agarwal, R/O Quarter No B-7,, Income-Tax Colony,

Opposite Old High Court,, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Pin:380009

Public Authority: POWERGRID

Respondent: Sr. GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.

ED (HR), Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon

ORDER

Grounds of Appeal

The Appellate Authority has received an online Appeal PGCIL/A/2019/60074 dated 8th October 2019 from M/s Shilpi Agarwal. Earlier, the appellant herein had filed an online RTI application bearing number PGCIL/R/2019/50391, dated 5th September 2019, with the CPIO Corporate Centre, POWERGRID seeking information related to Mr. Ashish Agrawal. The instant appeal has been filed by the appellant on the ground that CPIO has not provided the requisite information to him.

Decision

On receipt of the appeal, relevant papers and information provided by the CPIO vide letter dated 30th September 2019 were perused. The appellant herein is seeking following information pertaining to Mr. Ashish Agrawal (an employee of POWERGRID.)

i. Present Office Address of Mr. Ashish Agrawal?

- ii. Present Residential Address of Mr. Ashish Agrawal?
- Certified copy of the Salary slips of Ashish Agrawal for the month of March 2018, April 2018, March 2019, April 2019, August 2019.
- iv. Certified copy of the latest immovable Property Return filed by Mr. Ashish Agrawal.

It can be seen that the information at Sr. No. (i) was provided however, other information namely related to salary slips, and immovable property return of Shri Agarwal was denied on the ground that the information sought for was qualified to be personal information as defined in clause (j) of section 8(1) of the RTI Act. In fact a notice as required under section 11 (1) was given to Shri Agarwal for making submissions on the issue whether the information related to his salary slips, and immovable property return should be disclosed or not. Shri Agarwal vide his letter dated 14th November 2019, has submitted that no information pertaining to him should be shared with the appellant. In fact Shri Agarwal has categorically mentioned in his written submission that the information if disclosed would endanger his as well as his family members' life.

In my considered opinion the appellant herein has not been able to establish that a larger public interest would be served by disclosure of this information. It is evident that the appellant is seeking information related to financial aspects of Shri Agarwal and this information qualifies to be the personal information as defined in clause (j) of section 8(1) of the RTI Act. This view is in line with the view taken by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the matter of **Girish Ramchandra Deshpande versus Central Information Commissioner and others** wherein it was held that the information related to movable and immovable properties is personal in nature and its disclosure is exempted under section 8(1) (j), unless a

larger public interest warrants its disclosure. That being the fact, in my opinion the CPIO has rightly denied the information to the appellant.

The appeal is accordingly, disposed of.

(Sanjeev Singh)

ED (CMG) & Appellate Authority

To: M/s Shilpi Agarwal, R/O Quarter No B-7,, Income-Tax Colony, Opposite Old High Court,, Navrangpura, Ahmedabad, Pin:380009

Copy to: (i) Sr. GM (CP) & CPIO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon.

- (ii) ED (HR), Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon
- (iii) ED (FIN), Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon
- (iii) Dy. CVO, Corporate Centre, POWERGRID, Gurgaon