



MINERVA ACADEMY
FOOTBALL CLUB

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To,
The General Secretary
All India Football Federation

Thursday, 8th December, 2016

Subject: Promotion of Runners Up Minerva AFC to I-league after exit of 2nd Division Champions- Dempo SC

Dear Mr. Das,

After the official announcement of Dempo SC's withdrawal from the I-league 2016-17 today, We Minerva AFC would request you to announce the promotion of Minerva AFC to I-league as runners up of the 2nd Division League 2015-16 without any further delay so that we may start our preparations in top gear.

As per Sector 2 article 18 of the 2nd Division I-league regulations, one team will be promoted from the 2nd Division to the I-league for the 2015-16 season. As winners of the 2nd Division League 2015-16, Dempo were all set to qualify for the 2016-17 I-league but since their withdrawal announcement, we are the natural successors to this great honour having earned it after finishing runners up and remaining in contention for the 2nd Division League title till the very last match of the gruelling 6 month league.

We would request you to please promote Minerva as Runners up of the 2nd Division League as guided by regulations and as is our natural and legal right. Since the inception of the I-league, 2 or sometimes even 3 teams have been promoted each year from the 2nd Division. This year the number of teams being promoted was dropped to only one and now if you do not promote us, it will be the first year that no team is promoted from the 2nd Division at all. **The whole idea and motivation behind the 2nd division league and over 100 matches played therein by 12 clubs over 6 months and the Crores of rupees spent by both clubs and AIFF in the process is the ultimate prize of promotion to the I-league.** If no team is promoted then the whole exercise of conducting the 2nd division league can be considered is a waste of time and resources of all participants and against the principles of natural justice.

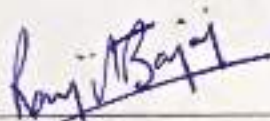
As you know Minerva already has complete infrastructure in place for training as well as Guru Nanak Stadium for conducting I-league home matches. We already have fully functional and AIFF approved grassroots and youth development program and entry of Minerva will ensure representation to Punjab a state full of football talent but no platform for youngsters.

Previously, AIFF has so graciously cancelled the relegation of Aizwal FC from the I-league and now we are waiting for your announcement of promotion of Minerva to the I-league. Please expedite your announcement to promote Minerva in the interest of all.

Please note that this demand to promote us from 2nd Division League does not affect or cancel our I-league Corporate entry bid which was submitted earlier.

Looking forward to a positive response.

Yours Sincerely,


Ranjit Bajaj, CEO



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