

**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

Date of decision: 09.11.2016

CWP No.23266 of 2016

Vikram & another

...Petitioners

Vs.

Uttar Haryana Bijli Vitran Nigam Ltd. & another

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJIV NARAIN RAINA

Present: Ms. Alka Chatrath, Advocate, for the petitioners.

RAJIV NARAIN RAINA, J. (ORAL)

From the table made in para.22 of the petition, Ms. Alka Chatrath, learned counsel argues that the petitioners are higher in merit than Kani Ram, Sunil Kumar, Parmod Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Gopal Kumar, Sukhbir & Naveen Sheokand, who have been offered appointment as Assistant Linesman in August 2016 in the respondent-Nigam. The petitioners have been selected at merit No.198 and 265 respectively and the candidates lower in merit namely Kani Ram, Sunil Kumar, Parmod Kumar, Sunil Kumar, Gopal Kumar, Sukhbir & Naveen Sheokand, who were selected in the waiting list at merit No.221, 247, 238, 271, 225, 259 and 261 respectively belonging to General Category have already been appointed and candidates at Sr. Nos.232, 172, 291 belonging to SC category have been appointed.

When asked how has this happened, Ms. Chatrath submits that in cases of the present kind that the respondent-Nigam offers appointment when directed by Court. This is a rather interesting way of settling rights of

candidates who are higher in merit in the category. If this is the position then there is no need to issue summons and put the Nigam to notice only to perpetuate a bad habit formed in the Nigam to go by Court orders alone with no sanctity attached to merit in the selection process.

In the circumstances, Ms. Chatrath's contentions appear to be weighty that the petitioners' demand notice dated September 30, 2016 (P-18) deserves to be paid attention to by the authorities in the Nigam. Accordingly, a direction is issued to the respondents to take up the demand notice forthwith, examine the case of above-said selected candidates as against the case of the petitioners and accord them parity of treatment according to their merit position. Let this exercise be completed within a fortnight and in case, the petitioners deserve appointment according to their merit position in the category applied for then they would be offered consideration for appointment within the next three weeks after completing the formalities.

With these observations and directions, the petition stands disposed of.

09.11.2016
Vimal

[RAJIV NARAIN RAINA]
JUDGE

Whether speaking/reasoned: *Yes/No*

Whether Reportable: *Yes/No*