

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

C.W.P No. 5704 of 2013

Date of decision : 21.04.2016

Deepak Sharma

...Petitioner

versus

H.S.S.C. & anr.

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MS. JUSTICE RITU BAHRI

Present: Mr. Ashok K. Sehrawat, Advocate for
Mr. Rajbir Sehrawat, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. Keshav Gupta, A. A.G., Haryana.

RITU BAHRI, J. (Oral)

The petitioner is seeking direction to the respondents to issue appointment letter to him on the post of Agriculture Development Officer, in pursuance to the advertisement No. 5/2009, category no. 1 dated 28.08.2009.

Respondent no. 1 advertised 97 posts of the Agriculture Development Officer in the Department of Agriculture Haryana. Out of those 42 posts were meant for General Category and remaining for reserved categories. The number of posts was subsequently enhanced to 194 vide corrigendum dated 16.04.2010. The last date for submission of the application form was 29.09.2009. The petitioner had applied for the said post i.e. Agriculture Development Officer well within the time and thereafter the petitioner was interviewed for the said post and selected for the post, as per the result declared by respondent no. 1 (Annexure P-4). He

was selected but was not given offered the appointment letter. On scrutiny, it was found that the petitioner did not fulfill the prescribed eligibility qualification of B. Sc. (Honors) in Agriculture, as per service rules.

Learned counsel for the petitioner had relied upon the judgment passed in LPA No. 1638 of 20-14 titled as Rakesh and anr vs. State of Haryana and others and connected cases, decided on 30.10.2015 whereby controversy with regard to the qualification has now been settled.

A perusal of the judgment reveals that this Court directed an Experts Committee, to examine and consider the issue of equivalency of both the degrees i.e. B.Sc (Hons.) and B. Sc. (Agriculture), which was essential qualification for the above said posts and submits its report, the order was passed on 17.11.2014. In pursuance to the said order, the Experts Committee had submitted its report to the government to the effect that both the degrees i.e. B.Sc (Hons.) and B.Sc. (Agriculture) are equivalent and the government had accepted the said report and affidavit was filed to this effect and accordingly, the above LPA was disposed of by giving directions to the government to take necessary action in accordance with aforesaid decision.

Thus, once the Experts Committee had submitted its report to the government to the effect that both the degrees i.e. B.Sc (Hons.) and B.Sc (Agriculture) are equivalent and the government had accepted the said report and affidavit was filed to this effect, the petitioner be also issued appointment letter.

Accordingly, the writ petition is allowed in terms of LPA No. 1638 of 2014 and the respondents are directed to issue appointment letter to

the petitioner on the post of Agriculture Development Officer, in
accordance with his merit with all consequential benefits.

April 21st, 2016
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(RITU BAHRI)
JUDGE