

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

(220A)

CWP-8544 of 2014

Date of Decision: 24.10.2016

Anil Kumar

... Petitioner

V/S

Haryana Public Service Commission and another

... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL

Present: Mr. S.K. Tripathi, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Mr. H.N. Mehtani, Advocate
for respondent No.1.

Mr. Harish Rathee, Senior DAG, Haryana.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J. (ORAL)

The petitioner has challenged the letters dated 31.01.2014 and 21.02.2014 (Annexures P4 and P7) wherein the petitioner has been held ineligible for interview to the post of District Welfare Officer. The petitioner had applied for the post of District Welfare Officer (Group III) in the Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Haryana in pursuance to advertisement issued by the respondents on 22.11.2013. In the qualifications prescribed for this post, a candidate had to possess a Master's Degree in Social Work or Sociology or Economics as well as five years field experience in Development or Welfare Department of the Central or any State Government. The petitioner has been held ineligible for participating in the interview on the ground that the five years experience certificate which he had furnished in support of his candidature pertained to a period even prior to the petitioner having acquired essential qualification of Master's.

I have heard the learned counsel for the parties and perused the

The question which arises for determination in the instant case is whether the experience gathered by the petitioner even prior to acquiring the Master's degree would count for computing experience in terms of the advertisement.

Learned counsel for the respondents has placed reliance upon judgment of a co-ordinate Bench of this Court in the case of Bhupinder Singh v. State of Haryana bearing CWP No.33877 of 2014 decided on 30.6.2015 wherein it has been held that the experience acquired before obtaining the minimum qualification cannot count for experience holding the candidate eligible for participating in the interview. A perusal of this judgment in the case of Bhupinder Singh (supra) reveals that it pertains to the very advertisement for the post of District Welfare Officer issued on 22.11.2013 wherein the petitioner in the instant case is also seeking appointment.

Indisputably, the experience gathered by the petitioner pertains to a period before his acquiring the minimum qualification of Master's degree as prescribed in the advertisement. Therefore, there is no infirmity in the action of the respondents in holding the petitioner ineligible for want of requisite experience.

In the result, the petitioner stands dismissed.

October 24, 2016

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**(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE**

Note:

Whether speaking/reasoned	:	Yes / No
Whether reportable	:	Yes / No