

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE ABHINAND KUMAR SHAVILI

WRIT PETITION No.12924 of 2002

ORDER:

This writ petition is filed seeking Writ of Mandamus declaring the action of the respondents in not considering the cases of the petitioners for appointment to the post of Village Electricity Workers on consolidated pay as per Lr.No.GM(TR)/AS(TR)/PO.II/A1/561/2001, dated 24-5-2002 issued by the 1st respondent, as illegal and arbitrary and consequently to direct the respondents to consider the case of the petitioners as Village Electricity Workers on consolidated pay forthwith.

Heard Si Jalli Kanakaiah, learned counsel for the petitioners and Si S. Ravindranath, learned Standing Counsel for the respondents.

It is contended by the petitioners that as per the decision of the then A.P. Electricity Board, the third respondent had called for suitable and eligible candidates for selection to the post of Village Electricity Workers who worked under the Gram Panchayats. In pursuance of the same, they appeared for the selection to undergo training under the control of the fourth respondent. They were selected for training and after completion of their training, they were paid the stipend also and were also appointed as Village Electricity Workers in different villages during the years 1988 to 1990. But after rendering considerable length of service by them, the respondents had issued a letter dated 24.5.2002 revising the

policy in respect of appointment of Village Electricity Workers on contract basis.

The grievance of the petitioners is that the respondents are planning to fill up the vacancies for the post of Village Electricity Workers with surplus staff of A.P. Transco in the place of the petitioners and they are not considering the cases of the petitioners in terms of the said policy enunciated *vide* letter dated 24.5.2007. In those set of circumstances, the present writ petition is filed.

Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners would contend that the petitioners are fully eligible and qualified for appointment as Village Electricity Workers but the respondents are not considering their cases for the post of Village Electricity Workers.

Learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondents would contend that the eligible candidates were considered and given appointment as Village Electricity Workers/Junior Linemen on contract basis. Since the petitioners did not come up within the zone of consideration, their cases were not considered.

Having considered the rival submissions of both the parties, this Court is of the view that as the petitioners had completed the selection process and worked as Village Electricity Workers for some period, the case of the petitioners can be considered for appointment to the post of Village Electricity Workers, if they are eligible and suitable. Accordingly, the respondents are directed to consider the case of the petitioners to the post of Village Electricity Workers in terms of the latest policy decision of the respondents and also in terms of the letter dated 24.5.2002 and

pass appropriate orders, within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order.

The Writ Petition is disposed of accordingly.

Miscellaneous petitions pending if any, shall stand closed. No costs.

ABHINAND KUMAR SHAVIL, J

Date: 17/09/2018
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Dated:17/09/2018

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