

IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT CHANDIGARH

1. CWP No.20430 of 2011 (O&M)

Om Parkash

...Petitioner

Vs.

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents

2. CWP No.20432 of 2011 (O&M)

Avtar Singh and others

...Petitioners

Vs.

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents

3. CWP No.14314 of 2011 (O&M)

Kuldip Singh and others

...Petitioners

Vs.

State of Haryana and others

...Respondents

Date of Decision: 09.02.2018

CORAM:- HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAJIV NARAIN RAINA

Present: Mr. Sushil Jain, Advocate,
for the petitioner(s) in CWP Nos.20430 and 20432 of 2011.

Mr. Jagmohan Singh Bhatti, Advocate,
for the petitioners in CWP No.14314 of 2011.

Ms. Shruti Jain Goyal, AAG, Haryana.

RAJIV NARAIN RAINA, J. (Oral)

1. This order will dispose of CWP No.20430 of 2011 titled *Om Parkash vs. State of Haryana and others*, CWP No.20432 of 2011 titled *Avtar Singh and others vs. State of Haryana and others* & CWP No.14314

of 2011 titled *Kuldip Singh and others vs. State of Haryana and others*.

2. These cases are covered by the recent decision of the Supreme Court in *Orissa Lift Irrigation Corp. Ltd. v. Rabi Sankar Patro and others*, M.A. Nos.1795-1796 of 2017 in Civil Appeal Nos.17869-17870 of 2017 concerning validity of technical diplomas and degrees obtained through the off campus distance education mode. There is hardly any distinction between diplomas and degrees in engineering as far as the technical education is concerned and they all fall within the ambit of the judgment of the Supreme Court.

3. The question is not one of earning diplomas or degrees from deemed Universities as suggested by the learned counsel for the petitioners but the validity of a diploma in engineering earned through the distance education mode without classroom or laboratory and practical work for purposes of employment in State service and promotion. Therefore, diplomas held by the petitioners cannot secure for them promotions to higher posts.

4. Para.3 of the orders of the Supreme Court dated January 22, 2018 point out only to the validity of diplomas conferred by deemed to be Universities through distance education mode was not subject matter of the judgment. The clarification has been issued in MA No.38 of 2018 in C.A. No.17907 of 2017. This does not mean that the Supreme Court has put its imprimatur on the validity of such diplomas as a recognised qualification for purposes of appointment and promotion in services under the State.

5. No ground for interference is made out.

6. The petitions are dismissed.

(RAJIV NARAIN RAINA)
JUDGE

09.02.2018
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<i>Whether speaking/reasoned</i>	<i>Yes</i>
<i>Whether reportable</i>	<i>No</i>