

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

Sr. No.117

**CWP No.1256 of 2020  
DECIDED ON: January 17, 2020**

**MONIKA**

**..PETITIONER**

**VERSUS**

**NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, KURUKSHETRA  
AND ANOTHER**

**...RESPONDENTS**

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SUDHIR MITTAL**

Present: Mr. Vijay Kumar Sheoran, Advocate, for the petitioner.

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**SUDHIR MITTAL, J. (ORAL)**

The petitioner qualified her Master of Technology IV Semester, VLSI Design Examination in the year 2018. She was awarded 'D' Grade. Being aggrieved by the said grade, a representation dated 04.10.2018 was made to respondent No.1 but the same has been rejected vide order 05/06.11.2018.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the Standing Committee on Senate Affairs (SCSA) in its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 16.11.2017 had resolved to follow certain criteria for evaluation of M.Tech. dissertation examination. This resolution has been circulated vide letter dated 27.11.2017. According to the said resolution, a student is entitled to be granted 'A' Grade if, one paper has been accepted/published in a reference journal or two good quality papers have been published in peer review

conferences organized by institutions mentioned therein. The petitioner had published two good quality papers in peer reviewed conferences and thus, she was entitled to award of 'A' Grade. It is further submitted that another student namely Shital Rani, who was identically placed as the petitioner has been given 'A' Grade.

3. The resolution dated 16.11.2017 is reproduced below for ready reference:-

*The Standing Committee on Senate Affairs (SCSA) in its 53<sup>rd</sup> meeting held on 16.11.2017 vide item No.SCSA 53.2 reviewed the Grade Award criteria of M.Tech 4<sup>th</sup> semester scheme. It was resolved that following criterion is to be adopted for the evaluation of M.Tech. dissertation examination, now onwards.*

| Grade | Conditions to be fulfilled                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| A+    | One paper accepted/published in SCI/SCIF/Scopus/Web of Science indexed Journals and on the basis of performance during viva-voce examination.                                                                                                                                                |
| A     | One paper accepted/published in refereed journal or two good quality papers presented/full length papers published in peer reviewed conferences organized by IISC/IIT/NIT/IIIT/Premier R&D organization/ Professional societies and on the basis of performance during viva-voce examination |
| B/C/D | On the basis of performance during the viva-voce examinations.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

4. For award of 'A' Grade, one paper has to be accepted/published in a reference journal or two good quality papers have to be presented/published in peer review conferences organized by IISC/IIT/NIT/IIIT/Premier R&D organization/Professional societies and on the basis of performance in the viva-voce examination.

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5. The aforementioned criterion does not state that in case a publication has been done in accordance with the stipulation mentioned therein, the award of 'A' Grade is a must. A candidate has to be evaluated on the basis of viva-voce as well. Nothing has been argued regarding the award in the viva-voce examination nor is it the case of the petitioner that the examiner was biased against her.

6. Moreover, in matters regarding evaluation of the caliber of a student, Courts have no expertise and they cannot interfere in such academic matters.

7. The example of the other candidate namely Shital Rani relied upon by learned counsel for the petitioner does not help the petitioner as although Shital Rani may have the same number of publications in the same forum as the petitioner but she may have done extremely well in the viva-voce examination.

8. For the aforementioned reasons, there is no merit in the writ petition and same is dismissed.

**January 17, 2020**  
*Ankur*

**(SUDHIR MITTAL)**  
**JUDGE**

|                           |        |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Whether speaking/reasoned | Yes/No |
| Whether Reportable        | Yes/No |