

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

CWP-613-2021 (O&M)
Date of decision:- 11.01.2021

Utkarsh Sharma

...Petitioner (s)

Versus

Panjab University, Chandigarh and others

...Respondent(s)

CORAM: **HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE RAVI SHANKER JHA, CHIEF JUSTICE**
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN PALLI

Present: Mr. Utkarsh Sharma (petitioner-in-person).

(The aforesaid presence is being recorded through video conferencing since the proceedings are being conducted in virtual Court)

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RAVI SHANKER JHA, C.J. (ORAL)

The petitioner has filed this petition praying for a direction to the respondent-authorities to grant him an additional weightage of 2% of the marks obtained by him for having attended the NSS B Certificate Course while considering his case for grant of admission in the B.A./B.Com LL.B Hons. course.

The petitioner submits that as per clause 12.1 of the Panjab University Hand Book of Information for the session 2020-2021, as the petitioner has attended two NSS camps, he is entitled to weightage of 2% of the marks obtained. It is submitted that the respondent-authorities by the impugned communication/order dated 07.12.2020 have denied the same to the petitioner on the ground that one of the camps attended by the petitioner was only for five days and, therefore, the benefit of 1% marks for attending that camp cannot be awarded to the petitioner. The petitioner submits that the interpretation given to clause 12.1 by the respondent No. 1 - university is misplaced and misconceived and is not borne out from a bare perusal of clause 12.1 C. (b). It is admitted that the clause does not provide or prescribe that camp should be of seven days and that even if the petitioner has attended two camps out of which one was for seven days and nights, he would be entitled to the award of 2% weightage of marks.

We have heard the petitioner at length as well as perused the relevant clause of the Hand Book of Information for the Session 2020-2021 which reads as under:-

“12.1. Weightages:

C. X X X X X X X X

(b) N.S.S.

The accreditation of A, B & C certificate & weightage 1%, 2% & 3% for NSS volunteers.

1. ‘A’ Certificate 1% of obtained marks
completed one year (120 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp. (one camp)

2. ‘B’ Certificate 2% of obtained marks
completed two years (240 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp. (two camps)

3. ‘C’ Certificate 3% of obtained marks
completed three years (360 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp. (three camps)”

A bare perusal of the clause indicates that it provides for weightage of 1%, 2% and 3% for NSS volunteers. Weightage of 1% marks is available to those possessing ‘A’ certificate and have completed one year (120 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp (one camp); weightage of 2% marks is available to those possessing ‘B’ certificate and have completed two years (240 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp (two camps) and weightage of 3% marks is available to those possessing ‘C’ certificate and have completed three years (360 hours) and participated in seven day and night camp (three camps).

A bare perusal of the clause indicates that for claiming 2% weightage of marks, the candidates possessing ‘B’ certificate should have completed two years i.e. 240 hours and participated in two seven day and night camps each.

Admittedly, in the instant case, the petitioner has participated in two camps, but the first one was for five days and the second one was for seven days. The authorities taking note of the aforesaid factual aspect have awarded 1% weightage to the petitioner instead of 2% as it was mandatory and

necessary for the students to have participated in two camps each for seven day and night for claiming 2% weightage.

Admittedly, as the petitioner does not possess the necessary qualification for claiming 2% weightage having not attended two camps of seven days and night each, the respondent-authorities have denied 2% weightage to the petitioner in accordance with clause 12.1 C. (b) of the Hand Book of Information for the Session 2020-2021. Thus, we do not find any illegality or perversity in the order passed by the respondent No. 1 – university.

The petition being meritless is accordingly dismissed.

(RAVI SHANKER JHA)
CHIEF JUSTICE

(ARUN PALLI)
JUDGE

11.01.2021
Amodh

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