

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

CWP-23081-2021

Date of Decision: 15.11.2021

MANEET

.....Petitioner

Versus

STATE OF HARYANA AND ANOTHER

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ARUN MONGA

Present : Mr. Jagjeet Beniwal, Advocate
for the petitioner.

Ms. Rajni Gupta, Addl. A.G., Haryana.

ARUN MONGA, J. (ORAL)

Petitioner, herein, *inter alia*, seeks issuance of a writ in the nature of *mandamus* directing the respondents to appoint him on the post of Water Pump Operator Grade-II after considering his case on the basis of Merit List as per Gradation Priority.

2. Having un-successfully participated in the selection process on the post of Water Pump Operator Grade-II in Outstanding Sports Person (General Category), the petitioner is before this Court alleging certain irregularities qua the said selection process. It is a settled position that any challenge to the selection process or the criteria adopted therein or the procedure prescribed therefore, if at all, is to be made prior to the initiation of the selection process and not after the same has begun and/or least of all when the same has culminated into the selection of the candidates.

Concededly, all the selected candidates have joined on their respective posts.

That apart, neither the rules of the game can be changed once the match has begun nor even the goal post can be shifted. No matter, howsoever, meritorious candidate may claim himself to be.

3. That apart, in the present case, the writ petition has been filed quite belatedly on or around 03.11.2021, whereas, the result of the written test was declared on 28.06.2017 and the final declaration thereof was published on 04.01.2018.

4. In the premise, the writ petition is not maintainable on the ground of delay and laches alone. Be that as it may, even otherwise, the petition lacks any merit and no grounds to interference are made out.

5. Dismissed.

November 15, 2021
gurpreet

(ARUN MONGA)
JUDGE

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