

IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.A. No.230 of 2009

Srimati Dei @ Puspallata Panda ***Appellant***
Mitali Jesthi, Advocate
-versus-
State of Orissa & Another ***Respondents***
Mr. S.N.Das, ASC

CORAM:
THE CHIEF JUSTICE
JUSTICE R.K.PATTANAIK

Order No.

ORDER
16.02.2022

- 4.
1. The challenge in the present appeal is to an order dated 23rd November, 2009 passed by the learned Single Judge dismissing the Writ Petition (Civil) in 10831 of 2009 filed by the Appellant.
 2. The Appellant applied for the post of Anganwadi helper in Tadas Ramchandrapur, Anganwadi Centre in the district of Puri. She was, however, not selected. Respondent No.4 was instead selected.
 3. The ground on which the Appellant was seeking preference was that she was a widow. The learned Single Judge observed that even assuming such preference was to be given, and she is given an extra 10 marks in the selection, she would still finish only in the 3rd position in the merit list and therefore, could not have been selected.

4. Learned counsel for the Appellant drew the attention of the Court to the Notification dated 24th November, 1997 issued by the Government of Orissa, Women & Child Development Department which states that 'preferences should be given to an orphan, widow, separated divorced or deserted women'. However, learned counsel for the Appellant was unable to contest the fact that even assuming the Appellant is given such preference and an additional 10 marks' weightage is given, she is still would not make it to the top of the merit list.

5. Consequently, this Court finds no reason to interfere with the impugned order of the learned Single Judge.

6. The writ appeal is dismissed.

7. An urgent certified copy of this order be issued as per rules.

The seal of the Orissa High Court is a circular emblem. It features the Ashoka Lion Capital in the center, with the motto 'Satyameva Jayate' in Devanagari script below it. The words 'HIGH COURT' are written in an arc at the top, and 'ORISSA' is written in an arc at the bottom. Two stars are positioned on either side of the central emblem.

(Dr. S. Muralidhar)
Chief Justice

(R.K.Pattanaik)
Judge