

03.10.2025
rc/ct.no.06
Item No.24

WPA No. 23403 of 2025
Ajarul Shaikh
Versus
Union of India & Ors.

Mr. Debasish Kundu,
Mr. Sayan Mukherjee,
Ms. Doyel Dey ...for the petitioner

Mr. Indrajit Dasgupta
Mr. Tapan Bhanja ...for the UOI

Affidavit of service filed by the petitioner is taken on record.

Learned advocates for the petitioner and Union of India are present.

Heard learned advocates for parties.

This application is directed against the order passed by the respondent authorities in treating the petitioner as disqualified on the ground that his height is 169.6 cms instead of 170 c.ms.

It is held in different judicial pronouncements that the benefit of rounding off height is not accorded at this initial stage, namely the Physical Standard Test (PST), the candidate is precluded from qualifying to proceed to the subsequent stage of the Detailed Medical Examination (DME). Consequently, the relaxation provided in the guideline becomes illusory, as only those candidates who

have already met the strict 170 cm cut-off are eligible to appear for the Detailed Medical Examination. The Medical Board is therefore unable to apply the said relaxation, as the candidate is not presented before them.

It is also observed in the judicial decisions that a benefit conferred by the guideline must be interpreted in a manner that prevents it from being rendered nugatory. If the advantage of rounding off is not recognized at the initial measurement stage, it becomes ineffective at the subsequent stage.

Upon consideration the decision in the case of Anuj Bala Vs. Union of India & Ors. in WPA NBo. 21766 of 2025, this Court is of the view that the petitioner whose height is recorded as 169.6 cms should be declared to be eligible for Detailed Medical Examination.

Thus, this writ petition is allowed.

The respondent authorities shall treat the petitioner to be qualified with regard to the Physical Standard Test.

At this stage, learned counsel for the Union of India prays for stay of this order. Such prayer is considered and rejected.

There shall be, however, no order as to costs.

Urgent certified website copy of this order, if applied for, be supplied to the parties upon compliance with all requisite formalities.

(Biswaroop Chowdhury,J)

