



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

(226)

**CWP NO.3069 of 2021
DATE OF DECISION: 14.10.2025**

Poonam Setia

.....Petitioner

VERSUS

State of Haryana and others

.....Respondents

CORAM HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present Mr. Hitesh Chauhan, Advocate, for
Mr. Suresh Kumar Kaushik, Advocate,
for the petitioner.

Mr.Aakash Singla, Additional Advocate
General, Haryana.

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (ORAL)

The petition has been filed *inter alia* seeking a writ of *certiorari* quashing the letter/order, dated 21.10.2020, Annexure P-12, whereby the second respondent has directed all the Principals of Government colleges, including the third respondent, to disengage services of petitioner with immediate effect in terms of Policy dated 04.03.2020, Annexure P-8.

2. As per facts on record, in brief, the petitioner was initially engaged as ineligible Extension Lecturer in the respondent College on 11.08.2014, and continued working as such upto 12.04.2016. Vide the order of same date, she was relieved from service. It was challenged by filing CWP No. 14463 of 2016, which was disposed of by this Court vide order dated 15.02.2018, in terms of directions issued in CWP No. 16975 of 2014,



there was workload for the post and no eligible candidate was available. In compliance of the directions, she was allowed to rejoin the College on 04.04.2019, and worked therein till 24.10.2020. In view of Policy for engagement of eligible Extension Lecturers, dated 04.03.2020, the petitioner was relieved from service vide impugned order dated 24.10.2020, Annexure P-13, which was challenged by her by filing the instant petition. And vide interim order dated 11.02.2021, interim directions were issued in the same terms as issued in CWP No.179 of 2021, which read as under:

To be listed along with CWP-19035-2020. Interim observations in terms of the order dated 27.11.2020 passed by the Coordinate Bench in CWP-19035-2020 would hold good even qua the present petitioners.

Finally, this matter was clubbed with CWP No. 14660 of 2020 titled *Lalita Sharma and others v. State of Haryana and others*, in which following interim directions had been issued:

....In the meantime, the petitioners be allowed to continue on their respective posts till the next date of hearing.

This is how the petitioner continues in service.

3. Learned State counsel contends that being ineligible the petitioner has no right to continue in service. She does not possess the prescribed minimum qualification of National Eligibility Test (NET) or Ph.D, as specifically averred in the written statement; a fact which remains undisputed. It is further contended that the Policy for engagement of eligible Extension Lecturers dated 04.03.2020, was upheld by a Division Bench of this Court vide judgment dated 22.09.2020, passed in CWP No. 6968 of 2020 titled *Suman Devi and others v. State of Haryana and others*. The Policy requires that ineligible Extension Lecturers are to be disengaged from

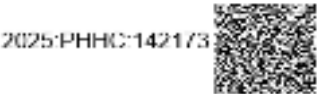


service, except where interim orders have been granted in their favour by this Court. This was conveyed to the Colleges vide impugned office memo dated 21.10.2020, for relieving the ineligible Extension Lecturers. It has also been contended that the connected petitions, CWP No.179 of 2021, CWP No. 19035 of 2020, have already been decided by this Court along with CWP No. 15379 of 2020 titled *Manisha Yadav v. State of Haryana and others*, whereby relying upon the directions issued by the Division Bench in *Suman Devi* case *ibid* disengagement of the petitioners therein in terms of Policy dated 04.03.2020 on account of being ineligible has been upheld. Accordingly, the petitioner has no right to continue in service.

4. Submissions made by learned counsel for the parties have been heard and considered.

5. It remains undisputed on record that the petitioner was engaged as ineligible Extension Lecturer and has been allowed to continue in service only on account of interim directions, dated 11.02.2021, issued by this Court in the light of similar directions issued in connected matters, CWP No.179 of 2021 and CWP No.14460 of 2020, which have already been dismissed. It has also not been disputed that she lacks eligibility for engagement as Extension Lecturer in terms of Policy dated 04.03.2020, which requires that ineligible Extension Lecturers have to be disengaged. And the Policy has been upheld by the Division Bench in *Suman Devi* case *ibid*. Accordingly, no exception can be taken to the impugned letters/orders relieving the petitioner in terms of the Policy.

6. Accordingly, finding no merit in the petition, the same stands dismissed.



7. In all fairness to the petitioner, at this stage, learned State counsel has submitted that the Policy dated 04.03.2020 stands amended vide notification dated 13.05.2020, which entitles the erstwhile ineligible Extension Lecturers, who have acquired requisite qualifications upto 30.06.2023, to seek re-engagement afresh in terms therewith. In case the petitioner has acquired the qualification prior to the cut off date, i.e, 30.06.2023, she can represent to the respondents with reference to the amendment.

8. Liberty is granted to the petitioner to seek fresh engagement in the light of amendment to the Policy, dated 13.05.2020, provided she fulfills the conditions enumerated therein.

14.10.2025
mamta

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

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