



**IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH.**

150

CWP-14911-2025.

Date of Decision: 21.07.2025.

Ankita Saarsar

....Petitioner.

VERSUS

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. and others

....Respondents.

**CORAM : HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE DEEPAK MANCHANDA**

Present: Ms. Anshul Agnihotri, Advocate and
Mr. Anuj Y. Attri, Advocate for the petitioner.

Mr. Ashish Kapoor, Advocate for respondents No.1 and 2.

Mr. Deepak Bhardwaj, Advocate for respondents No.3 to 6.

ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL, J. (Oral)

The petitioner has impugned the order/communication dated 27.02.2024 (Annexure P-4), whereby she has been held ineligible for retail outlet dealership.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner has applied for retail outlet dealership in the category of Group-3 as per the advertisement under the head of “applicants who have not offered land in the application” (only applicable for locations advertised under SC/ST Category). However, the petitioner had been found eligible and was advised to offer suitable land by 17.01.2024, by the communication dated 19.10.2023 (Annexure P-3) otherwise, her application would be rejected. The petitioner

tried to arrange for land but could not do so and her candidature was cancelled, which was communicated to her on 27.02.2024 (Annexure P-4). She had also approached respondent-HSVP, but no action was taken.

3. Learned counsel for respondents No.1 and 2 submits that the petitioner had been found eligible for retail outlet dealership in Sector-22, Panchkula, but as she could not provide the land, the allotment was rightly cancelled.

4. Learned counsel for respondents No.3 to 6 submits that as there was no land available for allotment, the same could not be allotted to the petitioner.

5. Heard.

6. The petitioner had applied for retail outlet dealership in Group 3 under the head of “applicants who have not offered land in the application” (only applicable for locations advertised under SC/ST Category). Her candidature was considered as per the Note 2 of the Brochure, 2023 (Annexure P-1), which is reproduced hereunder:-

“Note 2: For locations advertised under SC/ST category

In case of locations where the applicant has not offered the land in the application (Group - 3) or if the offered land of all applicants under Group - 1 & Group - 2 got rejected due to not meeting the laid down criteria, then all such applicants shall be given an opportunity to offer land or alternate land (as the case may be) in the advertised location/stretch provided the applicant meet all other eligibility criteria.

A communication through SMS/e-mail would be sent to these-applicants to offer land/ alternate land within a period of 90 days from the date of offer letter.

On receipt of advice to offer land from OMCs the applicant

*should submit land offer online and indicate the category under which the land falls (Group - 1 or Group - 2). Upon selection, the provisionally selected candidate would be required to upload all the relevant documents pertaining to the land offered along with consent letter in the form of affidavit (**Appendix - III**) and/or Power of Attorney (Registered), if applicable.*

The applicants would be classified into two groups i.e., Group - 1 & Group - 2 based on the land offered by them.

In case the applicant(s) fail to offer land / alternate land within the specified period, the offer would be withdrawn, and application rejected under intimation to the applicant(s) through SMS/e-mail.

Only one opportunity would be given to the applicant, either for offering land (if applicant has not offered any land along with application form) or for offering alternate land given to applicants of locations advertised under SC/ST category (if the land offered by the applicant is found to be not meeting the laid down criteria during Scrutiny / land evaluation/ rejection of land after selection, for applicants who have offered land along with the application).”

It has been clearly stated in Note 2, that if applicant is asked to offer land, the needful has to be done within 90 days from the date of offer letter and only 01 (one) opportunity is to be afforded. In the event of the applicant failing to offer land, the application is liable to be rejected.

7. In the instant case, the petitioner had been afforded the opportunity to provide a suitable land in pursuance to letter sent to her dated 19.10.2023 (Annexure P-3) but she could not provide the land and, thereafter, her application was cancelled, vide the impugned communication dated 27.02.2024 (Annexure P-4).

8. Therefore, in view of the above we do not find any illegality in the impugned order/communication dated 27.02.2024 (Annexure P-4) as the petitioner failed to offer suitable land for setting up the retail outlet. Consequently, we do not find any merit in this petition which stands dismissed.

(ANUPINDER SINGH GREWAL)
JUDGE

(DEEPAK MANCHANDA)
JUDGE

21.07.2025
jitender

Whether speaking/ reasoned	:	Yes/ No
Whether Reportable	:	Yes/ No