IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK
WP(C) No. 36382 of 2026
CNR No. ODHC010864622026

Naresh Pattnaik	***.....***	***Petitioner***
		Mr. K.C. Sahu, Advocate
	-versus-	
State of Odisha & Ors.	***.....***	***Opposite Parties***
		Mr. C.K. Pradhan, AGA

CORAM:
THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY
ORDER
04.11.2026

Order No. 01

1. This matter is taken up through hybrid mode.

2. Heard Mr. K.C. Sahu, learned counsel appearing for the Petitioner and Mr. C.K. Pradhan, learned Addl. Govt. Advocate appearing for the Opp. Parties.

3. Petitioner has filed the present writ petition inter alia with the following prayer:-

> *"It is therefore humbly prayed that the Hon'ble Court be pleased to pass following relief(s):*
>
> *(i) The Hon'ble Court be pleased to Allow the writ petition;*
>
> *(ii) The Hon'ble Court be graciously pleased to quash the impugned stipulation contained in Clause-4 (i) relating to acceptance of "Scorecard of GATE 2024, 2025 & 2026 for only consideration" with further directing the Opp. Party no.2 for accepting the GATE 2023 Scorecard in respect of the petitioner which is valid till 31.03.2026 in the same manner as has been done in case of the last*

recruitment as per advertisement no. 19 of 2023/24 under Annexure-4 (Series) by suitably modifying or issuing corrigendum to that effect in order to be eligible the GATE 2023 Scorecard holders so also the petitioner for participating in the recruitment for the post of Asst. Executive Engineer (Civil) in respect of the present advertisement no. 13 of 2026/27 dtd.09.10.2026 under Annexure-3 for the interest of justice.

(iii) The Hon'ble Court be pleased to pass any other Writ(s), Direction(s), Order(s) as this Hon'ble Court may be deemed fit and proper;

And for this act of kindness, the petitioner shall as in duty bound ever pray;"

4. It is contended that in the advertisement issued by the Odisha Public Service Commission vide Advertisement No. 13/2026-27 under Annexure-3 on dtd.09.10.2026, Petitioner is aggrieved by the stipulation contained under Para 4 (i) so far as GATE Score is concerned.

4.1. It is contended that illegally and arbitrarily a stipulation has been made that GATE score since is valid for 3 years, so the GATE Score of 2024, 2025 and 2026, will only be considered.

4.2. It is contended that since in Para 3 of the advertisement in question, the age of a candidate will be reckoned as on the 1st day of January 2026, on the face of such stipulation contained so far as age is concerned, stipulation with regard to GATE score could not have been made otherwise. It is accordingly contended that Petitioner be allowed to take part in the selection process by making the application.

5. Mr. C.K. Pradhan, learned Addl. Govt. Advocate appearing for the State-Opp. Party on the other hand taking this Court to Annexure-2, contended that Petitioner last appeared the GATE-2023 and in the certificate available under Annexure-2, validity of the said certificate is up to 31st March, 2026.

5.1. It is contended that since the advertisement has been issued on 09.10.2026 and Petitioner's GATE score is valid up to 31st March, 2026, no illegality or irregularity can be found with the stipulation so contained in the Advertisement and Petitioner being an ineligible candidate cannot be permitted to take part in the recruitment process.

6. Having heard learned counsel appearing for the Parties, considering the submissions made and since it is not disputed that Petitioner last appeared GATE -2023 and the certificate issued in his favour is valid up to 31st March, 2026 so available under Annexure-2, this Court is not inclined to interfere with the stipulation contained under Para 4 (i) of the advertisement dt.09.10.2026, nor is inclined to permit the Petitioner to participate in the selection process being an ineligible candidate.

7. Accordingly, this Court is not inclined to entertain the writ petition and dismiss the same.

(BIRAJA PRASANNA SATAPATHY)
Judge

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Reason: Authentication
Location: High Court of Orissa, Cuttack
Date: 06-Nov-2026 17:57:56