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W.P.No.25115 of 2021

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT MADRAS

DATED : 03.02.2026

CORAM :

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE T.VINOD KUMAR

W.P.No.25115 of 2021
and WMP.Nos.26466, 26467 and 26468 of 2021

Dr.Manikandan Rajagopal

... Petitioner

vs

All India Council for Technical Education
Rep by its Member Secretary
Ministry of Education,
Government of India
Nelson Mandela Marg
Vasant Kuni
New Delhi – 110 070.

... Respondent

Prayer: Writ Petition is filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India, praying to issue a Writ of Certiorarified Mandamus to cal for the records pertaining to the public notice in No.F.2-33/2020-21/AdminE/Rectt.Gr A, B & C/dated 12.11.2021 issued by the respondent and quash the same and direct the respondent to consider the name of the petitioner for interview to the post of Additional Director.

For Petitioner : Mr.A.Arasu Sanga Tamil

for Mr.K.S.Karthik Raja

For Respondent : Mr.B.Rabu Manohar, SCGC

ORDER

Heard the learned counsel appearing for the petitioner and the learned counsel appearing for the respondent and perused the records.



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2.The petitioner by the present writ petition has assailed the action of the respondent in not considering the appointment of the petitioner to the post of Additional Director of the respondent, pursuant to the advertisement caused by the respondent to fill up the vacancies by way of direct recruitment under Advertisement No.Admin.(Estt.)/02(01)2021 dated 12.02.2021.

3. The petitioner contended that under the aforesaid advertisement applications have been called for to fill up various vacancies including that of Assistant Director in the pay matrix Level-11 as per 7th CPC, numbering to 13 vacancies and that the petitioner being eligible to the post of Assistant Director, had applied to the same; and that the respondent by the public notice dated 12.11.2021 had rejected his application with remarks “*Less experience as per RR. Not Recommended*”.

4. The petitioner contended as per the advertisement caused by the respondent, the required experience is 8 years of service at Teaching or Research, Educational planning or Administration, Training; and that as he had worked as



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lecturer in Karunya University during the period between 2010-2015, and thereafter having worked at RAMP IT (an I.T. Company between 2015-2017) he has fulfilled the eligibility criteria of having teaching experience of 4 years, as specified in the advertisement. Thus, the rejection of his candidature by the respondent is illegal, arbitrary and he is liable to be appointed as Assistant Director.

5. The respondent filed counter affidavit.

6. The respondent by the counter affidavit contended that the petitioner did not have the requisite experience as per the advertisement caused for filling up the vacancy of Assistant Director post and as such experience of the petitioner was not considered.

7. I have taken note of the respective contentions urged.

8. Though it is vehemently contended on behalf of the petitioner of he having required experience of 8 years of service out of which 4 years of teaching,



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it is pertinent to note that the relevant Clause of experience mentioned in the advertisement reads as under :-

*“**Experience** : Eight years experience at supervisory level out of which, at least four years experience in Teaching or Research, Educational planning or Administration, Training in Central or State Government or University or other institutions of higher education or Autonomous Bodies or PSUs.”*

(Underlining supplied by Court)

9. A reading of the above clause in the advertisement dealing with experience specifies that the required experience of eight years should be at supervisory level, out of which at least 4 year experience should be in teaching or research, educational planning or Administration, Training. The advertisement further specifies that the experience in the above field is to be in Central or State Government or University or other institutions of higher education or autonomous body or PSUs.

10. Though, the petitioner had worked in an educational institution during the period from 2010-2015, the position in which the petitioner had worked



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is only as a lecturer and was not at Supervisory level like that of HOD. Thus, the experience possessed by petitioner as lecturer cannot be considered as meeting the eligibility criteria.

11. The petitioner thereafter had joined an Information and Technology company called RAMP IT and though worked as Chief Technology Officer and the said organisation cannot be considered as involved in teaching, research etc., as specified in advertisement and also not being a Central or State Government or University or other institution of higher education or Autonomous body or PSUs, for the petitioner to claim the experience gained by him in the said organisation is to be considered as meeting the experience criteria of 8 years experience at supervisory level.

12. Since, the petitioner did not fulfill the required experience criteria specified in the advertisement, the action of the respondent in rejecting the candidature of the petitioner with remarks of not having required experience in the considered view of this Court cannot be found fault.

13. The petitioner while claiming appointment to the post of Assistant



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Director without meeting the required experience criteria specified in the advertisement at Supervisory level of 8 years had approached this Court by assailing the action of the respondent in rejecting the application, on a misconceived notion.

14. Accordingly, the writ petition as filed is devoid of merits is dismissed. The petitioner is directed to pay a sum of Rs.10,000/- towards cost to the credit of High Court Legal Services Committee, Chennai within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a copy of this order. Consequently, connected miscellaneous petitions are closed.

03.02.2026

Speaking order / Non-speaking order

Index : Yes / No

Neutral Citation : Yes / No

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To

1. All India Council for Technical Education

Rep by its Member Secretary

Ministry of Education,

Government of India

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New Delhi – 110 070.



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2.The High Court Legal Services Committee,
Chennai.

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T. VINOD KUMAR, J.

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