



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

Sr. No.112

CWP No.4971 of 2026
Date of Decision: 16.04.2026

Dr. Basanti

.... Petitioner

Versus

Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak

.... Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present: Mr. Sardavinder Goyal, Advocate, and
Mr. Nishant Sindhu, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. A.S. Virk, Advocate, and
Mr. Nilesh Kant Goyal, Advocate,
for the respondent-University.

TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA, J. (ORAL)

The petition has been filed *inter alia* seeking a writ of *certiorari* quashing clause 51 of advertisement 01/2025 to the extent post of Associate Professor (Biochemistry) has been advertised therein; the claim is in violation of the University Grants Commission (Minimum Qualifications for Appointment of Teachers and other Academic Staff in Universities and Colleges and other Measures for the Maintenance of Standards in Higher Education) Regulations, 2018 (hereinafter referred to as 'the 2018 UGC Regulations'). Further, a writ of *mandamus* has been sought directing the respondent University to conduct interviews for the post in question and appoint the petitioner against it.

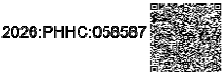
2. Learned counsel for the University, on instructions, has submitted that total four candidates had applied for the post in question, of whom only one candidate, i.e., petitioner, was found eligible. In these circumstances, it was decided not to conduct the interviews. He further



submits that the decision to re-advertise the posts will be taken by the University in due course.

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that the University's decision of not to conduct the interviews is violative of the 2018 UGC Regulations. He has referred to Table 2 of the Regulations prescribing 'Methodology for University and College Teachers for calculating Academic/Research Score', to contend that in terms therewith on receiving the applications the University was required to make assessment of candidates based upon the material produced, such as copy of publications, project sanction letter, utilisation and competition certificate, etc. The process had to be undergone leading to the interviews which could not have been cancelled. He also submitted that the post was advertised earlier also by the University twice over, vide advertisements PR-01 and PR-08 of 2024, as mentioned in the instant advertisement itself, but appointments were not made. The decision not to make the appointments again is arbitrary, and a direction needs to be issued to make assessment as per methodology provided in Table 2 and make appointments.

4. Considering the submissions, this Court is not inclined to entertain the petition. The decision taken by the University not to hold interviews is for the reason only one of the applicants/petitioner has been found eligible. It goes without saying that the higher academic positions in the University are required to be filled by making selection out of the pool of best available talent. And in case due to adequate number of applicants not being there, it has been decided not to conduct the interviews, no exception can be taken to it. The impugned clause 51 incorporated in the advertisement is also to that effect. It provides, '*... the process of shortlisting/selection will be carried out for filling up only that many advertised posts which satisfy*



candidates e.g. if there are 7 eligible applicants for three advertised posts, then selection shall be made only against two posts’. The decision of not holding the interviews has been taken in the light of this clause in the advertisement, and this Court finds nothing arbitrary or illegal about it for the reasons already recorded hereinbefore. The reliance placed by learned counsel for the petitioner on Table 2 in the 2018 UGC Regulations is misplaced, as it cannot be read as a mandate to the University to hold interviews even if 1:3 ratio between the advertised posts and eligible applicants is not met. The methodology, including the academic/research scores provided under Table 2, is only to make assessment of scores of the candidates for the purpose of selection on the basis of their academic accomplishments, and such process is to be carried out only when the University decides to go ahead with the selection in terms of stipulation in the advertisement, which is not the case.

5. Accordingly, finding no merit in the petition, it stands dismissed.

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)
JUDGE

16.04.2026
Maninder

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