

2026:PHHC:069631



IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB & HARYANA
AT CHANDIGARH

109

CWP-5483-2026

Date of decision: May 05, 2026

KIRAN BALA

...Petitioner

Versus

HARYANA STAFF SELECTION COMMISSION AND ANOTHER

...Respondents

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA

Present: Mr. Kulwant Singh Dhanora, 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 order dated 07.11.2024, Annexure P-20, passed by respondent no.2, whereby the petitioner's candidature for the post of Cutting and Sewing Instructor (Theory), Category No.46, against advertisement 12/2019, has been rejected. Further, a direction has been sought to the respondents to consider the petitioner eligible for the post on the basis of her degree of Bachelor of Science (Fashion Design) which is equivalent to a degree in Apparel/Dress Design/Garment Manufacturing, the requisite qualification.

2. Learned counsel for the petitioner contended that the petitioner was not afforded due opportunity of hearing before rejection of her candidature, which made the decision unsustainable in law being violative of the Principles of Natural Justice. He also submitted that the degree of B.Sc. (Fashion Design) which has been awarded to the petitioner by the Kalinga

University, Naya Raipur (Chhattisgarh), is equivalent to the requisite qualification and should be so considered by the respondents.

3. Learned State counsel, however, points out that the relevant requisite qualification for the post in terms of the advertisement is the following:

Full time Bachelor degree in Apparel/Dress Design/Garment Manufacturing from any Institute/University recognized by National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)/All India Council of Technical Education/State Board of Technical Education of any State Government with one year practical/teaching experience or Full time regular mode diploma.

He has also shown the original selection record to point out that in the application form the petitioner has mentioned her qualification as Graduation from Vinayaka Missions Research Foundation, Salem (Tamil Nadu) dated 20.08.2015, obtaining 378 marks out of 600 (sixty-three per cent). However, at the time of scrutiny of documents, she submitted her final year Detailed Marks Card (DMC) issued by the Kalinga University for the degree of B.Sc. (Fashion Design). Considering the petitioner's candidature on merit, she was recommended for appointment as General category candidate bearing roll no.1219460226, vide announcement dated 21.10.2022, Annexure P-16. As mentioned in note (1) thereto, her selection was subject to verification of biometrics, socio-economic marks and other qualifications by the concerned Department. The degree submitted by the petitioner was verified by the Departmental Verification Committee which passed the impugned order dated 07.11.2024, observing as under:

It is stated that you appeared before Committee No.3 to have your original documents examined for the post of Cutting and Sewing Instructor, Category No.46 (Theory) against Advertisement No.12/2019. After examining your documents, Committee No.3 prepared the following report:

- (i) Bachelor of Science (Fashion Design) instead of Apparel/Dress Design/Garment manufacturing.
- (ii) TTC in Cutting & Sewing.

You were informed of the above objections in the Directorate's letter dated 15.01.2024. In addition, the following advice was received from the Departmental Service Rules Committee on 02.08.2024.

“Kiran Bala, the candidate has passed B.A. in History Pol. Science from Vinayaka Mission University in 2015 through distance education which is not relevant degree. The candidate has also uploaded a statement of marks of passing Bachelor of Science (Fashion Design) from Kalinga University which is not uploaded at the time of main application form. Further this degree is not as per Service Rules.”

In view of the above facts, you do not fulfill the requisite qualifications for the post. Ultimately your candidature for the post of Cutting & Sewing Instructor, Category No.46(Theory), Advt. No.12/2019 is cancelled.

It is, therefore, apparent that the petitioner was duly heard, and both her degrees, i.e., B.Sc. (Fashion Design) from Kalinga University and B.A. (History Political Science) from Vinayaka Mission University (VMU), Salem (Tamil Nadu), were considered in support of her candidature, which was finally rejected on the ground that the same did not meet the requisite qualifications.

4. Heard.

5. Considering the submissions, this Court is not inclined to entertain the petition on both the grounds agitated by learned counsel for the petitioner. A perusal of the impugned order itself makes it apparent that the petitioner was duly heard by the Departmental Verification Committee and was informed about the objections prior thereto vide letter dated 15.01.2024, which finds mention in the order itself. Only after considering her case and finding her not qualified in terms of the requirement of essential qualifications laid down in the advertisement, her candidature was rejected. *Secondly*, no case regarding equivalence of the petitioner's degree of B.Sc. (Fashion Design) to the requisite qualification has been made out. There is no document on record to establish the said equivalence.

6. In view thereof, there is no ground to entertain the petition and it stands dismissed.

May 05, 2026

Jaspreet Kaur

(TRIBHUVAN DAHIYA)

JUDGE

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Whether speaking/reasoned : *Yes/No*

Whether reportable : *Yes/No*