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* **IN THE HIGH COURT OF DELHI AT NEW DELHI**
+ **W.P.(C) 1981/2026**
AYAAN CHOPRA

.....Petitioner

Through: Mr. Pranjal Kishore and Mr. Nagarjun
Sahu, Advocates

versus

UNION OF INDIA & ANR.

.....Respondent

Through: Mr. Shekhar Kumar with Mr. Vivek
Nagar GP for R1
Mr. Sanjay Khanna, Ms. Pragya Bhushan, Ms.
Vilakshana Dayma, Mr. Saurabh Pandey, Ms.
Anshu Kumari, Advs. for NTA/R2

CORAM:
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE JASMEET SINGH
ORDER
12.02.2026

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1. This is a writ petition filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India seeking the following prayers:-

“a. Issue an appropriate writ, order or direction directing the Respondents not to count the Petitioner’s attempt at the JEE Main – 2026 Session 1 Examination on 28.01.2026 and to treat the same as non-est;

b. Issue an appropriate writ, order or direction directing the Respondents to permit the Petitioner to take an additional attempt at the JEE Main – 2026 during the Session – 2 Examination to be held in April, 2026.



c. Issue an appropriate writ, order or direction directing the Respondents to treat the Petitioner as a verified candidate for the JEE Main - 2026 Session 2 Examination to be held in April, 2026 and to ensure that the Petitioner is not made to suffer any procedural impediment or delay on account of his being treated as a non-verified candidate.”

2. The brief facts of the case are that the petitioner is an 18-year old candidate who had appeared JEE (Main) 2026 - Session 1 held on 28.01.2026 (Shift II).
3. It is the case of the petitioner that since there was an issue with the verification process and he wrote his paper under uncertainty, his attempt should be treated as non-est and not as a regular attempt. Reliance is placed on ***Shlok Bhardwaj v. UoI passed in WP(C) 981/2026*** in this regard.
4. For the said reasons, issue notice.
5. Mr. Nagar, learned government pleader and Mr. Khanna, learned counsel accepts notice on behalf of the respondent Nos. 1 and 2 respectively, seek and are granted 4 weeks to file a reply.
6. List on 18.03.2026.

JASMEET SINGH, J

FEBRUARY 12, 2026 / (MS)