

HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA AT HYDERABAD

MAIN CASE No: W.P.No.17422 of 2026

PROCEEDING SHEET

Sl. No.	DATE	ORDER	OFFICE NOTE
	08.06.2026	<u>SK, J</u> <u>W.P.No.17422 of 2026</u> Notice before admission. Sri N.Bhujanga Rao, learned Deputy Solicitor General of India, takes notice on behalf of the respondent No.1, waives further notice and seeks time to file counter. Sri Mahesh Raje, learned Standing Counsel, takes notice on behalf of the respondent Nos.2 to 6, waives further notice and seeks time to file counter. The Registry is directed not to issue notice to the respondents in view of the above waiver. Learned counsel appearing on both sides submit that this matter is connected with W.P.No.12445 of 2026, therefore, requests this Court to post W.P.No.12445 of 2026 along with this matter. In view of the request made by the learned counsel appearing on both sides, the Registry is directed to post W.P.No.12445 of 2026 along with this matter. Post after four (4) weeks. List on 06.07.2026. SK, J <u>I.A.No.1 of 2026</u> Heard Sri Avinash Yadav, learned counsel for the petitioners, Smt. P.N.V. Mahalakshmi, learned counsel representing Sri N.Bhujanga Rao, learned	Transferred to I.O. folder before corrections, if any.

		Deputy Solicitor General of India, appearing for the respondent No.1 and Sri Mahesh Raje, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.2 to 6. Learned counsel for the petitioners submits that the petitioners are questioning Office Order <i>vide</i> No.CHO(HR)/Rectt/3/124/2016/258 dated 15.01.2026 issued by the respondent No.3 and the subsequent corrigendum dated 05.02.2026 issued by the respondent No.3 for amending the educational qualification for the post of Junior Technician (Printing/Control) under the category of W-I has been restricting eligibility only to ITI certified candidates in printing and other unrelated trades while excluding Diploma Holders in Printing Technology, as illegal and arbitrary. Learned counsel for the petitioners further submits that the said impugned notifications are the subject matter before the High Court of Madhya Pradesh and initially, the learned Single Judge of the High Court of Madhya Pradesh granted an interim order dated 14.05.2026 in W.P.No.17744 of 2026 and the same was challenged before the Division Bench by the respondent No.2 herein by filing Writ Appeal No.1749 of 2026 and the learned Division Bench of High Court of Madhya Pradesh, Jabalpur modified the order on 27.05.2026 of the learned Single Judge and permitted the Diploma Holders to apply for the recruitment test and appear in the recruitment process. However, their results shall not be declared without leave of the Court and the appellants therein would be at liberty to conclude the recruitment process as per the rules and such recruitment process would remain subject matter of final adjudication of	
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		the writ petition. Learned counsel for the petitioners further submits that the impugned notification was challenged before the High Court of Bombay and the High Court of Bombay, Aurangabad Bench passed an interim order dated 02.06.2026 in W.P.No.5474 of 2026 permitting the petitioners therein to file their applications and directing the respondents to accept such applications and process further in accordance with the other conditions of the recruitment. However, their result shall not be declared without the leave of the Court and granted liberty to the respondents to conclude the recruitment process as per rules and such recruitment process would remain subject matter of final adjudication of the writ petition. Learned counsel for the petitioners further submits that the impugned notifications were challenged in Writ-A No.8909 of 2026 before the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad and the High Court of Judicature, Allahabad passed an interim order dated 02.06.2026 and permitted the petitioners therein to apply for the recruitment test and appear in the recruitment process, however, their results shall not be declared without leave of the Court and also further directed that, in case the time for making an application had expired, the same shall be extended up to 10.06.2026 so as to entertain the applications filed by the petitioners therein through online process and requisite portal shall also be opened. In view of the above circumstances, the learned counsel for the petitioners requested this Court to pass similar orders as passed by other High Courts directing the respondents to entertain the applications filed by the petitioners and similarly situated diploma	
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	holders for the post of Junior Technician (Printing) and Junior Technician (Control) under Post Code Nos.05 and 06 respectively under the category of W-1 pertaining to Security Printing Press (SPP), Hyderabad, Telangana, in the notification Advt. No.CNPN/HR/Rect./01/2026 dated 20.04.2026. On the other hand, learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.2 to 6 submit that the last date of submitting applications expired on 03.06.2026. Therefore, the question of entertaining the applications filed by the petitioners does not arise. Learned Standing Counsel further submits that the petitioners in the other High Courts approached those Courts before the last date of application. In the instant case, the petitioners approached this Court after the expiry of the last date of application. In view of the same, learned Standing Counsel requested this Court not to grant any interim order and seeks time to file counter. After hearing both sides and on perusal of the material available on record, this Court is of the considered view that the petitioners are questioning the amendment to the service rules issued in Office Order dated 15.01.2026 and also the corrigendum dated 05.02.2026 issued by the respondent No.2 restricting the eligibility criteria for the post of Junior Technician (Printing/Control) under the category of W-1 for the ITI certified candidates in Printing and other unrelated trades while excluding Diploma Holders in Printing Technology. The said impugned notifications have been challenged before the High Court of Madhya Pradesh and other High Courts, which have granted interim orders permitting the petitioners therein to apply and appear in the recruitment process with a	
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	direction not to announce any result while leaving the respondents at liberty to conclude the recruitment process. Any person selected and appointed would not claim any equity over and above the rights of the writ petitioners therein in case the writ petition is ultimately allowed in future and also the respondents therein are at liberty to arrive at an appropriate modality to accept the applications of the diploma holders, whether by online mode or by offline mode, as per their administrative convenience. In the interim order passed by the High Court of Judicature at Allahabad, it was clearly mentioned that if the time for making an application had expired, the respondents have to extend the time up to 10.06.2026 for entertaining the applications filed by the Diploma Holders. This High Court was closed for summer vacation from 07.05.2026 onwards and reopened today i.e., 08.06.2026. During the period of summer vacation, this Court has not entertained writ petitions relating to service matters. In view of the same, the petitioners have approached this Court today by way of lunch motion and the High Court of Allahabad has already granted an interim order and extended the time for application up to 10.06.2026. Therefore, the contention of the learned Standing Counsel appearing for the respondent Nos.2 to 6 cannot be taken into account as the petitioners did not approach this Court earlier point of time. In view of the above circumstances, there shall be an interim direction to the respondents to permit the petitioners and similarly situated diploma holders to apply for the recruitment test in pursuance to the notification Advt. No.CNPN/HR/Rect./01/2026 dated	
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		20.04.2026 for the posts of Junior Technician (Printing) and Junior Technician (Control) under Post Code Nos.05 and 06 respectively under the category of W-1 pertaining to Security Printing Press (SPP), Hyderabad, Telangana through online or offline mode as per administrative convenience of the respondent authorities on or before 15.06.2026 and permit them to appear in the recruitment process, in the notification. However, their results shall not be declared without leave of the Court and the respondents are at liberty to conclude the recruitment process as per rules and such recruitment process would remain subject matter of final adjudication of the writ petition. Any person selected and appointed would not claim any equity over and above the rights of the writ petitioners in case the writ petition is ultimately allowed in future. SK, J Note: CC by 09.06.2026 (B/o.) krk	
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