

Himachal Pradesh University Vs. Dr. Vijay Kumar Sharma

Item No. (D-1 & D-2)

LPA No.179 of 2026 a/w LPA No.180 of 2026

21.04.2026

Present: Ms. Devyani Sharma, Senior Advocate with Mr. Devender Kumar Sharma, Advocate, for the appellant(s).

Mr. Sanjeev Bhushan, Senior Advocate with Mr. Sparsh Bhushan, Advocate, for the respondent(s).

Caveat No.116 of 2026 in LPA No.179 of 2026 and Caveat No.117 of 2026 in LPA No.180 of 2026.

Caveats stand discharge.

LPA No.179 of 2026 and LPA No.180 of 2026

Inter alia contends that initially the writ petitioners-appellants were appointed as Project Officer on contractual basis way-back on 22.07.2010 by the Institute of Integrated Himalayan Studies (UGC Centre of Excellence) functioning with the appellants-University and keeping in view their long service, they were regularized on 15.07.2016.

2. It is submitted that there is a three tier post structure starting from Project Officer, Research Officer and Senior Research Officer and there was no further provision for promotion. The representation dated 01.08.2022 **(Annexure P-8)** thereafter was filed for being re-designated as Assistant Professor which was directed to be considered/decided vide order/judgment dated 02.11.2022 by this Court.

3. On 06.07.2023 (**Annexure R-I/B**), the rejection was made by the Registrar of the University that the maximum of the pay-scale had already been granted to the appellants and promotion from stage-3 to stage-4 under the UGC Career Advancement Scheme is not tenable. The said order was not subject matter of challenge in the writ petition(s) and it has been allowed by the learned Single Judge by granting them the relief as such for re-designation.

4. It is submitted that the posts of an Assistant Professor as such are placed in a different cadre by a separate recruitment process followed by the University. Therefore, by virtue of re-designation, the Project Officers cannot be put into the cadre of Assistant Professor which aspect has not been addressed by the learned Single Judge.

5. Issue Notice. Mr. Sparsh Bhushan, learned counsel appears and waives service of notice on behalf of the respondent(s).

6. Till further orders, the operation of the impugned judgment shall remain stayed.

7. Accordingly, the proceedings are deferred for **22.06.2026.**

(G.S. Sandhawalia)
Chief Justice

(Bipin C. Negi)
Judge

21st April, 2026
(Munish Thakur)