

**Jyotsna Thakur & Ors. Vs. State of H.P. & Ors.**

**CWP No.6202 of 2025**

13.10.2025 Present: Ms. Nitika Khidtta and Mr. Nishant Khidtta, Advocates, for the petitioners.

Mr. Rajat Choudhry, Assistant Advocate General, for respondents No.1 to 3.

Mr. Manohar Lal Sharma, Advocate, for respondent No.4.

Mr. Shiv Pal Manhans, Senior Panel Counsel, for respondent No.5.

**CMP No.24474 of 2025**

Applicants/petitioners seek to place on record some documents stated to be received by them under the Right to Information Act. Learned counsel appearing for the respondents have no objection for allowing the prayer made in the application.

Accordingly, the application is allowed. The documents appended therewith are ordered to be taken on record, subject to all just exceptions.

The application stands disposed of.

**CMP No.7727 of 2025**

**2.** Heard. In this application, petitioners seek interim relief qua office letter dated 03.04.2025 (Annexure P-12), in terms of which, their services as Young Professionals were discontinued. The said office letter also contained a recital that if approval to continue the services of Young Professionals is received by the respondents, the petitioners shall be accordingly informed.

**3.** Respondent No.3-Labour Commissioner-cum-Director of Employment, Himachal Pradesh addressed an office letter dated 10.10.2018 (Annexure P-1) to respondent No.4 (NIELIT) for deployment of manpower on outsource basis including for 10 Career Counsellors and 09 Young Professionals. 08 Young Professionals were to be appointed in 08 districts, i.e. Solan, Mandi, Kullu, Bilaspur, Kangra at Dharamshala, Chamba, Hamirpur & Sirmour at Nahan and one in the State Headquarter. Young Professionals were to be appointed on outsource basis for the project period as per eligibility criteria laid down by the Government of India. In terms of said office communication, Young Professionals were to be appointed for one year in the first instance. Their further continuance was to depend on the Asian Development Bank funds, which was at the disposal of H.P. Kaushal Vikas Nigam. Terms of appointment of outsource manpower was to cease automatically in the event of non-receiving of funds from the Asian Development Bank or completion of project period or filling up of the post on regular/contract basis, as the case may be.

**4.** Pursuant to a skill test/interview conducted by respondent No.4, petitioners were appointed as Young Professionals on outsource basis against the project during the year 2019-20.

On 28.09.2024 (Annexure P-6), respondent No.3 sent a communication to respondent No.4, conveying that contract of Young Professionals on outsource basis had been extended till duration of the project period, i.e. 31.12.2024.

On 22.02.2025 (Annexure P-9), respondent No.3 sent an office communication to all District Employment Officers, Himachal Pradesh to the effect that the matter regarding continuation of engagement of Young Professionals beyond 31.12.2024 was taken up with H.P. Kaushal Vikas Nigam, but no approval had been received from it regarding continuation of the project period relating to Young Professionals; Therefore, services of Young Professionals could not be continued. In terms of the said office communication, services of the Young Professionals were discontinued forthwith with the stipulation that in case approval to continue them is received, the Young Professionals would be informed accordingly. Relevant portion of the same reads as under:-

*“Subject: Regarding continuation of Project Period regarding Young Professionals and Career Counsellors.*

*Sir,*

*I am directed to refer this office letter of even no. dated 28.09.2024 on the subject cited above. In this context, it is submitted that the matter regarding continuation of engagement of Young Professions and Career Counsellors beyond 31-12-2024 was taken up with HPKVN, but no approval has been received from HPKVN regarding continuation of the project period related to Young Professionals and Career Counsellors.*

*In that case the services of Young Professionals and Career Counsellors cannot be continued. Hence, the services of these Young Professionals and Career Counsellors be discontinued forth with. If approval to continue them is received, you will be informed accordingly.”*

The same decision was conveyed under office letter dated 03.04.2025 (Annexure P-12).

In the above background, the petitioners had instituted this writ petition on 07.04.2025 seeking following substantive reliefs:-

- “i. That the impugned order dated 03.04.2025 (Annexure P-12) may kindly be quashed and set aside with further directions to the respondents to allow the petitioners to work as Young Professionals under the said project which has been extended and transferred to Directorate of Technical Education, Sundernagar Mandi (as is clear from Annexure P-13 & P-14) or any other project which are being executed by the respondents.*
- ii. That the respondents may kindly be directed to consider the cases of the petitioners for regularization after allowing them to continue as Young Professionals under the same project or any other project which are being executed by the respondents.*
- iii. That the break period, w.e.f. 22.02.2025 till the date of redeployment, be regularized and held to be in continuity with all consequential benefits.”*

Interim prayer was also made through this application seeking stay of office letter dated 03.04.2025 with further directions to the respondents to allow the petitioners to work as Young Professionals.

**5.** Respondents have filed reply to the main writ petition. Petitioners have also placed on record a copy of office letter dated 20.06.2025 (Annexure P-15) alongwith

CMP No.17316 of 2025. Being relevant, contents of the letter are extracted hereinafter:-

*“Kindly refer to the GoHP letter dated 12.06.2025 requesting for loan extension beyond 30.06.2025 (copy enclosed).*

*2. The above request of GoHP has been examined in this Department. Considering the progress of the project on skill component of DMF targets related to employment and livelihood opportunities (other than civil site construction), it has been decided to accede to the request of GoHP for final extension of another six months, i.e., till 31.12.2025 with the following conditions:*

- i. No new work will be awarded during the period of extension;*
- ii. Commitment charges and other charges owing out of the extension will be borne by the GoHP from their own resources.*

*4. GoHP is being requested to make available funds and adequate cash flow to the PIA for timely implementation of project. GoHP is being asked to complete the project by 31.12.2025 as no request for further extension will be considered for this project under any circumstance. GoHP is also being advised to make assessment of loan savings and surrender the loan savings, if any, so as to save the interest and commitment charges, thereon.”*

In terms of above office communication, request of the State of Himachal Pradesh for extension of Himachal Pradesh Skill Development Project by six months, i.e. till 31.12.2025, has been accepted subject to conditions mentioned therein.

Since the services of the petitioners had not been terminated, but only discontinued under the impugned office letters w.e.f. 22.02.2025 only for want of approval of extension of the **project period** and since the project period has now been extended by 31.12.2025, there shall

be a direction to the respondents to redeploy the petitioners as Young Professionals on the same terms & conditions forthwith.

The application stands disposed of.

**CWP No.6202 of 2025**

List the matter for consideration after two weeks.

October 13, 2025  
*Mukesh*

Jyotsna Rewal Dua  
Judge