

Avni Koundal Vs. UOI & Ors.

CWP No. 7516/2025

24.04.2026 Present: Mr. Vaibhav Tanwar, Advocate, for the petitioner.

Mr. Ajay Chauhan, CGC, for respondents No.1, 5 & 6.

Mr. Y.P.S. Dhaulta, Mr. L.N. Sharma, Additional Advocates General, Ms. Seema Sharma, Ms. Menka Raj Chauhan, Mr. Sikander Bhushan, Deputy Advocates General and Mr. Rajat Chaudhary, Assistant Advocate General, for respondents No.2 to 4.

Learned Central Government Counsel states that reply to the amended writ petition is being filed today. Let the same be placed on record, if in order.

2. Learned counsel for the parties have invited attention to the office communication dated 11.03.2026 issued by the Deputy Commissioner (Examinations), Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti, conveying insertion of the following proviso to the twin eligibility conditions imposed in the prospectus upon candidates seeking admission in JNV: -

"However, if a student is a resident of a district but studies in a school located in another district within a maximum radial distance of 10 km from his/her residence, he/she shall be considered for admission in the district of residence. The distance between the place of residence and the school must be duly certified by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti official concerned. Further, the rural or urban category shall be determined based on the location of the school where the candidate is studying class V as in the case of other candidates."

3. Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the

petitioner had studied Class 5th from a school located in District Una. Though the petitioner is resident of District Kangra, but resides within a distance of 1.5 kms from District Una. Petitioner could neither secure admission in JNV in District Kangra nor in JNV in District Una on account of her not meeting the twin eligibility conditions. For this reason, during the pendency of the present petition, the petitioner had taken admission in Class 6th in a school at District Una. However, the petitioner would be willing to get admitted in JNV in District Kangra in view of the relaxation of condition as conveyed in office letter dated 11.03.2026.

4. Let learned Central Government Counsel to obtain instructions regarding admission of the petitioner in Class 7th in JNV in District Kangra, *inter alia*, keeping in view the pendency of this writ petition, subsequent admission of the petitioner in Class 6th in a school at District Una, and the decision taken by the respondents with regard to relaxation of the twin eligibility conditions in office letter dated 11.03.2026.

List on **07.05.2026**.

Jyotsna Rewal Dua
Judge

24th April, 2026 (Rohit)