

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JHARKHAND AT RANCHI
W. P. (C) No. 6048 of 2025

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1. Divyom Chauhan (Minor), aged 13 years, S/O Devendra Singh, Quarter No. 35/1/1, Road No. -13, Adityapur, PO- Adityapur, PS- RIT, Seraikella-Kharsawan, Jharkhand
 The petitioner being minor is represented by his father and natural guardian Mr. Devendra Singh **..... Petitioner**

Versus

1. The Union of India
2. The Secretary, Ministry of Defense, Government of India, Secretariate Building, Raisina Hill, New Delhi-110004
3. The Commandant, Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC), Dehradun, Uttranchal-248003
4. The Assistant Admin & Trg Officer for Commandant, Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC), Dehradun Cantt, Uttranchal-248003
5. The State of Jharkhand
6. The Secretary, Department of Home, Jail and Disaster Management, 2nd Floor, Project Bhawan, Dhurwa, Ranchi, Jharkhand-834004 **..... Respondents.**

CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANJAY PRASAD

For the Petitioner	: Ms. Shilpi, Advocate
For the UOI	: Mr. Prashant Pallav, ASGI
	Ms. Shivani Jaluka, AC to ASGI
For the State	: Mrs. Rukmini Kumari, AC to SC Mines-III

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ORDER

06/13.11.2025 This writ petition has been filed on behalf of the petitioner for following reliefs:-

- (i) For issuance of an appropriate writ(s)/order(s)/or direction(s) particularly a writ in the nature of Mandamus commanding upon the respondents, particularly respondent no 02 to provide admission/consider the candidature of the petitioner for Admission in RIMC in July 2025 course as he has been duly selected and kept in the Reserve Category for admission in July 2025 session from the State of Jharkhand;

(ii) For issuance of an appropriate writ(s)/order(s)and/or direction(s) particularly a writ in the nature of Mandamus commanding upon the respondent no 02 to provide the latest status of the petitioner for admission in RIMC in July 2025 session;

(iii) For issuance of an appropriate writ(s)/order(s)and/or direction(s) particularly a writ in the nature of Mandamus commanding upon the respondent no 02 to bring on record the details of the reserve and quota candidates from all states finally selected from the All India Merit list who have taken admission.

2. Heard Ms. Shilpi, learned counsel for the petitioner and Mr. Prashant Pallav, learned Additional Solicitor General of India for the respondents-Union of India and Mrs. Rukmini Kumari, learned AC to SC Mines-III for the State.

3. It is submitted by the learned counsel for the petitioner that the respondent no. 2 is not considering the candidature of the petitioner for Admission in RIMC in July 2025 course, although he has been duly selected and kept in the Reserve Category for admission in July 2025 session from the State of Jharkhand. It is submitted that the respondent no. 2 may further be directed to bring on records the list of reserve quota candidates from all the State finally selected from all India Merit List, who have taken Admission.

It is submitted that the petitioner had applied for admission in Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC), Dehradun Cantt, Uttranchal, which was established in the year 1922 is a premier institution and preparing cadets for the National Defence Academy (NDA) after class XII. The

Admission process to this institution requires exceptional merit and hard work and an all India Examination is conducted twice a year for admission into class VIII in the institution/college. The admission process is in a 3 tier system with Written Examination, Viva and thereafter a Medical Examination to be conducted at respective allocated centers (through respective State governments) in all States of India. It is submitted that the petitioner also applied for admission in July 2025 and appeared for examination in December 2024 at Amar Shaheed Thakur Vishwanath Shahdeo Zila School, Albert Ekka Chowk, Ranchi and was placed at Serial No- 37 in All India Merit List published by the RIMC with a total of 276.63 marks and was kept in the RESERVE category for admission (after written examination and viva). Thereafter vide letter dated 05/06/2025 the petitioner was called for a medical examination at MH, Namkum and vide letter no EE/Dec /20024 dated 05.06.2025 was informed that in case he is found fit and placed in State/All India Merit list he shall be issued the order for joining by the Commandant, RIM, Dehradun (Respondent No -02). Subsequently he was informed that he has cleared the medical examination and the same was informed to RIMC through registered post subsequently. It is submitted that thereafter the petitioner is waiting for his admission/joining letter since June 2025 but till date has not received any information. The 1st list for joining was published/declared by RIMC on 26.07.2025, 2nd list on 19.08.2025 and finally the 3rd list has been published on 08.09.2025 (all lists pasted at RIMC gate, Dehradun). It is submitted that till date a total of 27 male candidates have been offered final joining which includes candidates placed at

sl nos 38, 53, 57, 61, 75, 78, 84, 86 and 90 who are much below in All India Merit list in written examination and viva that had been conducted prior to the preparation of the final All India Merit. It is submitted that even father of the petitioner had submitted application under RTI Act, but no information detail was provided to the petitioner and hence respondents may be directed to take admission of the petitioner.

4. On the other hand, learned counsel for the respondent nos. 3 and 4 that the writ petition is not maintainable and fit to be dismissed as there is no cause of action in the State of Jharkhand. It is submitted that the action of the Respondent is not illegal. It is submitted that the Petitioner is not entitled to admission at RIMC, Dehradun since after being placed in the reserved category for the sole seat allocated for the State of Jharkhand and the Petitioner did not make the grade as per the State Merit List or the All India Merit List. It is submitted that as per the admission procedure, the seat(s) allocated to each State is filled first as per the State Wise Merit List and after such allocation, the seats, if remaining vacant, are filled from All India Merit List. The total number of candidates selected to join RIMC, Dehradun in any given term is decided and fixed by the Army Training Command based on infrastructural guidelines and classroom strength. This number varies from term to term. It is submitted that RMC, Dehradun is a Category -A Defence Training Establishment administered by the Ministry of Defence, Government of India through Headquarter Army Training Command. Its primary objective is to train cadets for admission to the National Defence Academy, which is a

similar Category Institution. The cadets are selected on the basis of their performance in an All India Entrance Examination by following a Standard Operating Procedure for the selection of candidates. It is submitted that clearing the Written Examination, Viva-voce and Medical Examination does not give any right or guarantees of admission. The selection process just helps to determine and find out the best candidates for the vacant seats available for any academic session. It is not necessary that every year the vacancy is of 36 students for admission in RIMC. The number of vacant seats is determined by a process followed by the Standard Operating Procedure. It is submitted that the maximum total strength of RIMC for students is 250 for the entire college (as per sanction of Government of India, Ministry of Defence) and the number of vacant seats for admission are fixed/approved within the framework of infrastructural and logistical facilities available at RIMC including the vacancy created due to exit of cadets on medical grounds or voluntary withdrawal. It is submitted that the Petitioner took the December 2024 Examination for admission to RIMC, Dehradun and secured a total of 276.63 marks in the written and viva examination.. It is submitted that since the Petitioner failed to meet the grade as per the State Wise Merit List for the State of Jharkhand as well as in the All India Merit List, he could not be offered admission at RIMC, Dehradun.

5. It is submitted that the admission process for the July 2025 term has been finalized with a total of 28 boy candidates admitted on the basis of the State Wise and the All India Merit List. The candidates mentioned at Sl. No. 38 (J&K-1 seat), Sl. No. 75 (Manipur-1 seat), Sl. No. 78 (Gujarat-1 seat), Sr. No.

86 (Maharashtra-2 seats) and Sl. No. 90 (Chhattisgarh-1 seat) have been selected on the basis of State Wise Merit List to fill the respective State Wise vacancy. It is submitted that the candidate who has been selected for the reserved seat of State of Jharkhand has scored 305.19 and the Petitioner has scored 276.63 only.

6. It is further submitted that the candidate at Sl. No. 53 was from the State of Uttar Pradesh who was initially placed in the All India Merit List since all the 3 (three) seats allocated to the State of Uttar Pradesh had been filled. However, one of the three candidates selected for Uttar Pradesh seat namely Shubham Singh was absent from the medical examination and did not report to RIMC for admission. Therefore, Nakshatra Saxena Sl. No. 57 was selected for the last seat of Uttar Pradesh.

7. It is further submitted that the candidate initially selected for the sole seat from Orissa was Varun Mohan Adal who was declared medically unfit and in his place the next reserve candidate from the State of Orissa, Swayam Gurupada Praharaj (Sl. No. 57) was admitted for the seat of Orissa.

8. It is submitted that the candidate initially selected for the sole seat from Uttarakhand was Pulkit Gahlaut who was declared medically unfit and in his place the next reserve candidate from the state of Uttarakhand, Lakshit Jimiwal (Sl. No. 61) was selected for the seat of Uttarakhand.

9. The candidates at Sl. No. 53, 57, 61 and 84 have been selected on the basis of All India Merit List.

10. It is submitted that the candidate initially selected for the sole seat from Madhya Pradesh was Kushagra Sahu who was unwilling to join and did not join and in his place the

next reserve candidate from the State of Madhya Pradesh Pradesh Varna Bisen (Sr. No. 84) was admitted.

11. It is submitted that the entire admission process was carried out with full transparency and in consonance to standard operating procedure. It is submitted that the entire vacancy for July 2025 is completed.

12. It is submitted that the candidates at Sl. No. 10, 13, 15 and 19 of the All India Merit list were taken strictly on the basis of merit to fill the total number of 28 vacancies which had been sanctioned by the Army Training Command. It is also submitted that that all these four candidates were placed much higher in the All India Merit List having secured 308.75, 303, 297.50 and 296.25 marks respectively whereas the score of the Petitioner was 276.63. It is wrong to say that the "Respondents have taken over and above quota candidates (from Reserve category)" and as such, the writ petition may be dismissed.

13. Having heard learned counsels for the parties and from going through the counter affidavit filed by the Union of India, it appears that the petitioner had applied for admission in Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC), Dehradun Cantt. Uttranchal and has appeared in examination and secured rank with 276.63 marks in the written and viva examination rank with 27 in All India Merit List and 2nd in the State Rank and he was kept reserved in the State of Jharkhand.

14. From the counter affidavit filed by the respondent-UOI, it reveals that they have taken specific plea that number of seats may vary each year and Respondent no. 2 has also taken the stand that it is not necessary to take admission on all 36 seats. It is also stated that they had filled only 28 seats out

of 36 seats in the year, 2025 on the basis of State Wise and All India Merit List and which has been mentioned at para -17, 18 and 19 of the counter affidavit and in support of the same even documents have enclosed as Annexure-B of the counter affidavit.

15. They have given list of selected candidate of boys also and reserve candidate for the term commencing July, 2025 and they have enclosed the merit list of boys for Rastriya Indian Military College (RIMC) Entrance Examination in December, 2024 for the term commencing July, 2025.

16. The distribution of vacancy of boys candidates vide Annexure-A, which reveals that they have selected one boy from Jharkhand at Serial No. 1 and they have also shown vacancy State wise.

17. It further appears that the petitioner is shown as Reserved Category as serial no. 1.

18. From the perusal of the counter affidavit, it appears that there is several other boys, who have secured more marks than the petitioner and who are of different States including reserve category.

19. It also appears from the SOP enclosed to the counter affidavit that filling of entire seats is not necessary for respondents could have filled.

20. In view of the above, this Court is of view that no relief can be granted to the petitioner at this stage.

21. Thus, W. P. (C) No. 6048 of 2025 is hereby dismissed.

Dated 11.11.2025
Kamlesh/

(Sanjay Prasad, J.)