



IN THE HIGH COURT OF ORISSA AT CUTTACK

W.P.(C) No.28552 of 2025

Pragnya Parimita Jena* *Petitioner

Mr. Manas Pati, Advocate

-versus-

Union of India and others* *Opp. Parties

Mr. Rakesh Behera, C.G.C.

CORAM:

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.K. SAHOO

THE HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE S.S. MISHRA

Order No.

**ORDER
24.10.2025**

02. This matter is taken up through Hybrid arrangement (video conferencing/physical mode).

In pursuance of the order dated 17.10.2025, learned counsel for the petitioner has filed the copy of the counter affidavit.

This writ petition has been filed by the petitioner Pragnya Parimita Jena challenging the order dated 04.09.2025 passed by the learned Central Administrative Tribunal, Cuttack Bench, Cuttack in O.A. No.260/00108 of 2025 under Annexure-1.

The petitioner filed the aforesaid O.A. with the following prayers:-

"i) To quash the rejection of candidature of the applicant in final scrutiny list dated 25.02.2025 under Annexure-A/6.

ii) To direct the respondents more



particularly respondent no.4 to consider the candidature of the applicant for the post of Deputy Superintending Archaeological Chemist taking into consideration her qualification under Annexure-1 series and Annexure-9 wherein M.Sc. in Analytical Chemistry has been considered as equivalent to M.Sc. in Chemistry by respondent no.3 and 4.

iii) Any other appropriate order(s) may kindly be passed which would be deemed fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case."

The opposite parties filed the counter affidavit and the petitioner filed the rejoinder to the counter affidavit filed.

The learned Tribunal has been pleased to hold that no injustice has been caused to the petitioner in the decision making and taking process of the matter in rejecting her candidature to appear at the examination in question due to lack of essential qualification provided in the RR/Notification.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that the petitioner was allowed to appear in the interview as per the order of this Court dated 07.05.2025 passed in W.P.(C) No.12632 of 2025 and the observation made by the learned Tribunal that the petitioner has not submitted any certificate establishing the qualification of M.Sc. in Chemistry being equivalent to M.Sc. in Analytical Chemistry is erroneous and the petitioner has the qualification of B.Sc. from Osmania University and



she has also the qualification of M.Sc. in Analytical Chemistry from Osmania University and therefore, in terms of the advertisement dated 25.05.2024, it cannot be said that the petitioner has not got either the essential qualification or the experience.

Issue notice on the question of admission indicating therein that the matter shall be disposed of finally at the stage of admission.

Since Mr. Rakesh Behera, learned Central Government Counsel has filed the appearance memo on behalf of the opposite parties, which is taken on record, let extra copies of the writ petition be served on him by next week.

List this matter in the week commencing from 01.12.2025.

Counter affidavit, if any, be filed in the meantime after serving a copy thereof on the learned counsel for the petitioner.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(S.S. Mishra)
Judge

I.A. No.17931 of 2025

03. This is an application seeking for a direction to the opposite parties to keep one post of the Deputy



Superintending Archaeological Chemist (DSAC) in Archeological Survey of India reserve till disposal of the writ petition.

Learned counsel for the petitioner submits that in respect of reserved category, advertisement no.10/2024 dated 25.05.2024 was made only for one such post.

Considering the submissions made by the learned counsel for the respective parties, it is directed that any appointment made in respect of the reserved category pursuant to the advertisement no.10 of 2024 dated 25.05.2024 for the post of Deputy Superintending Archaeological Chemist (DSAC) in Archeological Survey of India shall be subject to the outcome of the writ petition.

Accordingly, the I.A. stands disposed of.

Urgent certified copy of this order be granted on proper application.

(S.K. Sahoo)
Judge

(S.S. Mishra)
Judge