

255 24-07-2026
AKG
Ct. 237

CPAN 1344 of 2024
&
CAN 1/2026 (Application is not in File)
in
WPA 8441 of 2020

Sanchita Saha Ray
Vs.
Prof. Bhaskar Gupta & Ors.

Mr. Ekramul Bari,
Sk. Imtiaz Uddin
...for the Petitioner
Mr. Soumya Majumder, Sr. Adv.
Ms. Sanjukta Dutta
...for the Jadavpur University

The writ petitioner had instituted the writ petition seeking finalisation of the selection process for the post of Assistant Professor in the Department of Computer Science at Jadavpur University.

By a judgment and order dated August 11, 2023, this Court, inter alia, held that the Selection Committee comprising the members who were present at the first meeting should reconsider the matter, observing that the statutory framework governing the selection process does not permit a member of the Selection Committee, who was absent at the time of the interview, to subsequently participate in the consideration of a candidate's candidature.

The Court further held as follows:

“Given the above conclusions, it is my view that the second meeting held on July 30, 2019, wherein the Chancellor’s nominee was allowed to participate, cannot be deemed valid. Therefore, the decision of the said meeting is set aside.

The Vice Chancellor is free to endorse the recommendation of the first meeting held on March

25, 2019, within two weeks from the date of communication of this order.

Should the Vice-Chancellor endorse the recommendation of the selection committee, the appointment letter to the petitioner shall be issued within a span of two weeks thereafter. Should the Vice-Chancellor opt not to concur with said recommendation, he shall refer it back to the selection committee, detailing the reasons for reconsideration. The only members present during the petitioner's interview on March 25, 2019 should be entrusted with their reconsideration process.

In the event that the Vice Chancellor remains unconvinced by the re-evaluated perspective of these members, he may escalate the matter to the Chancellor, accompanied by reasoning. In that event, the Vice Chancellor is expected to expediate the conveyance of its decision.

Given the submissions from both parties indicating the current absence of a Vice-Chancellor at the University, this order shall be enforced upon the assumption of duty by a new Vice-Chancellor."

The present Vice-Chancellor of the University was a member of the first Selection Committee that considered the candidature of the writ petitioner. He assumed office as the Vice-Chancellor on November 3, 2025. In view of this subsequent development, it would not be appropriate for the present Vice-Chancellor, who had participated in the deliberations of the first Selection Committee, to consider the candidature of the writ petitioner in terms of the judgment and order dated August 11, 2023.

Having regard to the peculiar facts and circumstances of the case, this Court is of the view that the candidature of the writ petitioner should instead be considered by the

Chancellor of the University on the basis of the recommendation made by the first Selection Committee. The decision of the Chancellor in this regard shall be final.

Accordingly, CPAN 1344 of 2024 and CAN 1 of 2026 stand disposed of.

Urgent certified *website* copies of this order, if applied for, be made available to the parties upon compliance with the requisite formalities.

(Kausik Chanda, J.)