Srinagar: 0194-2312629 (f) 2312631

Subject:- WP © No. 2305/2021 Subika Jamwal v/s UT of J&K & others.

Notice Dated: 23-08-2023

Whereas, the Hr. Education Department vide indent No. HE-Coll/Coord/ APPTT/AP/2017 dated 18.10.2017, referred 10 posts (OM=07, RBA=01,SC=01 & ST=01) of Assistant Professor, Bio-Technology to the Public Service Commission, for selection; and,

Whereas, the Commission notified the above posts vide Notification No.10-PSC(DR-P) of 2017 dated 27.10.2017 and in response 333 application forms were received; and,

Whereas, during scrutiny of the documents of the candidates, it was noted that there is no clarity on equivalence of various degrees with the minimum prescribed qualification; and,

Whereas, the matter was taken up with the Higher Education Department for clarification; and,

Whereas, the Higher Education Department furnished the Minutes of the meeting of the Equivalence Committee held on 10.09.2020. As per the decision of the Equivalence Committee, M. Tech in Bio Technology, M.Sc in Fish Biotechnology, M.Sc in Animal Bio-Technology, M.Sc in Medical Bio-Technology, M.Sc in Marine Bio-Technology & M.Sc in Molecular Science and Human Genetics, were not held equivalent to the qualification prescribed for the post viz. Master's Degree in relevant subject i.e M.Sc Bio-Technology; and,

Whereas, the shortlisting/rejection Notice for the post of Assistant Professor, Biotechnology was issued under endorsement No PSC/DR/A.P-Bio-Technology/H.E/2019 dated 05.08.2021 in which, among others, the candidature of Subika Jamwal D/o Surinder Singh Jamwal was also rejected for not possessing the requisite qualification, in terms of the Minutes of the Equivalence Committee held on 10.09.2020; and,

Whereas, after compilation of the data with respect to the weightage points and ratio to be adopted for shortlisting of the candidates for interview as per rule 51 of J&K Public Service Commission (Business & Procedure) Rules 1980, as amended from time to time, the cut-of merit under OM category was notified as 34.92. Accordingly, 21 candidates were called for interview under OM category, conducted on 20.09.2021 and 21.09.2021; and,

Whereas, on the basis of overall performance in the interview and in pursuance of Rules 51 of the J&K Public Service Commission (Business & Procedure) Rules 1980, as amended from time to time, and other related parameters, the provisional Select List was issued vide Notification No. 84-PSC(DR-S) of 2021 dated 03.11.2021; and,

Whereas, the recommendation in respect of the selected candidates was forwarded to the Hr. Education Department vide letter No. PSC/DR/AP/Bio-technology/Hr. Edu/2019 dated 28.01.2022, and one post, under OM category, was kept reserved on the directions of the Hon'ble High Court; and,

Whereas, the Division Bench of the Hon'ble High Court at Jammu while disposing of the WP(C) No. 2305/2021-titled Subika Jamwal Vs UT of J&K & Ors directed as under :-

"Be that as it may, the Committee which has considered the issue of equivalence of degrees in terms of meeting dated 10.09.2020 shall consider the degree obtained by the petitioner on the same parameters and in case the degree is found to be valid for purposes of allowing the petitioner to sit in the interview in terms of advertisement in question, the petitioner shall be permitted to be interviewed by the same Committee, which interviewed the other candidates and the merit of the petitioner would be taken into consideration for filling up the post in question. It is further ordered that till the validity of degree of the petitioner and the resultant appearance in the interview process is considered and the petitioner is interviewed, one post of Assistant Professor in the field of Bio Technology shall not be filled up. Order impugned is set-aside.

Disposed of as above."

Whereas, subsequently, the Hr. Education Department vide communication No. HED-Adm/29/2023-04 dated 17.5.2023, furnished the report of the Equivalence Committee constituted by the Higher Education Department, who have opined that the degree possessed by the Petitioner Subika Jamwal is equivalent for the post of Assistant Professor (Biotechnology); and,

Whereas, the case has been further examined in view of the report of the Higher Education Department. Even though the M. Tech Degree in Bio-Technology of the petitioner is considered, she still falls below the cut-of merit under OM category which is 34.92. Her merit is 33.77, as per the following breakup:-

10 <sup>th</sup> %age	10 <sup>th</sup> (02)	12 <sup>th</sup> %age	12 <sup>th</sup> (03)	UG %age	UG(06)	PG %age	PG(25)	Exp.	Total
86.2	1.72	71	2.13	87	5.22	86.8	21.70	3	33.77

Now, therefore, the claim of Ms. Subika Jamwal D/O Surinder Singh Jamwal for the post of Assistant Professor, Bio –Technology in Higher Education Department, notified vide Notification No. 10-PSC (DR-P) of 2017 dated 27.10.2017, having been considered in light of the report of the Equivalence Committee furnished by Higher Education Department vide No. HED-Adm/29/2023-04 dated 17.05.2023, is found devoid of merit and is hereby rejected.

(Bashir Ahmad Dak)JKAS

Dated: 23 -08-2023

Secretary

J&K Public Service Commission

No: PSC/Adm/11/2023(E-7112099)

## Copy to the:-

1. Mr. F.A Natnoo, Advocate Standing Counsel for information and necessary action.

2. Pvt. Secretary to Hon'ble chairman, PSC for information of the Hon'ble Chairman.