



**125 IN THE HIGH COURT OF PUNJAB AND HARYANA AT
CHANDIGARH**

**LPA-2854-2025 (O&M)
Date of Decision: 22.09.2025**

**SUSHMA KUMARI @ SUSHMA SHEKHAWAT
... APPELLANT
VS.
STATE OF HARYANA AND OTHERS .. RESPONDENTS**

**CORAM: HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE ROHIT KAPOOR**

Present: Mr. Arun Sharma, Advocate,
for the appellant.

Mr. Pankaj Middha, Addl. A.G.Haryana.

ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA, J. (ORAL)

CM-7187-LPA-2025

Prayer in the present application is for condonation of delay of 42 days in filing the present appeal.

For the reasons stated in the application, the same is allowed and delay of 42 days in filing the present appeal is condoned.

LPA-2854-2025 (O&M)

Learned Single Judge has rejected the claim of the appellant for consideration for appointment to the post of Extension Lecturer (Chemistry) at Rajiv Gandhi Government College for Women, Bhiwani, on the ground that she neither possessed a Ph.D. degree nor had cleared the National Eligibility Test (NET), which were essential qualification for the said post.

The judgment of the learned Single Judge has been assailed on the ground that the appellant subsequently acquired a Ph.D. degree in July, 2024.

Learned State counsel points out that the relevant date for examining the eligibility of a candidate was 30.06.2023 and on such date, the eligibility of the appellant was not shown to exist.

It is by now well settled that the eligibility of a candidate has to be examined with reference to the last date fixed for filing of the application. See: *Divya Vs. Union of India and Ors, 2023 INSC 900.*

The policy for recruitment clearly prescribes that eligibility has to be examined with reference to 30.06.2023.

Once the appellant's eligibility is not established as on the relevant date, no exception can be taken to the decision of the learned Single Judge in rejecting the claim of the appellant.

The appeal is devoid of merit and is accordingly dismissed.

All pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

(ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA)
JUDGE

(ROHIT KAPOOR)
JUDGE

22.09.2025

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Whether speaking/reasoned : Yes/No

Whether Reportable : Yes/No