

ORDER SHEET

WEST BENGAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL

Bikash Bhavan, Salt Lake, Kolkata – 700 091.

Present-

The Hon'ble Sayeed Ahmed Baba, Officiating Chairperson and Administrative Member

Case No. – OA 705 OF 2023

ANIRBAN KHATUA & ORS. - VERSUS - THE STATE OF WEST BENGAL & ORS.

Serial No. and Date of order	For the Applicants	:	Mr. Gautam Pathak Banerjee, Advocate
	For the Respondent No.1	:	None
<u>1</u> 12.10.2023	For the Respondent No.2 and 3, P.S.C., West Bengal	:	Mr. Saurav Bhattacharjee, Advocate
	For the Respondent No.4, Vidyasagar University	:	Ms. Debjani Sengupta, Advocate

The matter is taken up by the single Bench pursuant to the order contained in the Notification No.638-WBAT/2J-15/2016 (Pt.-II) dated 23rd November, 2022 issued in exercise of the powers conferred under section 5(6) of the Administrative Tribunals Act, 1985.

Let affidavit of service filed by the learned counsel on behalf of the applicant be kept on record.

On consent of the learned counsels for the parties, the case is taken up for consideration sitting singly.

The applicants in this application have prayed for a direction to the respondent authorities to allow them to participate in the selection process for the post of "Fisheries Field Assistant" to be conducted by the Public Service Commission. From the submissions of the learned counsels and the records in the application, it appears that for the post of "FFA", the required educational qualification is 3 (three) years' Bachelor's Degree in Science with Industrial Fish and Fisheries as a major or vocational subject from a recognized University.

Since the applicants are degree holders of three years B.Sc. (Hons.) in Aquaculture Management, they were not eligible to apply for the post.

Appearing on behalf of the respondent No.4, Vidyasagar University, Ms. Debjani Sengupta, learned counsel files a copy of the University's correspondence dated 11.05.2023 addressed to the Secretary, Department of Fisheries. In the letter,

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the Secretary of the Department has been informed that the three year B.Sc. (Hons.) Degree in Aquaculture Management is comparable syllabus with the three year Bachelor Degree in Science with Industrial Fish and Fisheries. Expressing support for the applicants, who were students of the University, the Registrar of the University requests the Secretary of the Fisheries Department to consider allowing the applicants to participate in the recruitment test for the post of Fisheries Field Assistant.

After hearing the submissions of the learned counsels and considering the facts and circumstances of the matter, this application is disposed of by giving opportunity to the applicants to furnish their individual representations before the respondent No.1, Secretary, Department of Fisheries praying for allowing them to participate in the recruitment process conducted by the Public Service Commission for the post of Fisheries Field Assistant. If such individual representations are filed by the applicants, the same may be considered and the final decision taken in the light of the University's opinion about both the courses being similar in nature.

Since none has appeared on behalf of the State respondents and since the Tribunal has been informed that the last date for the online application is 1st November, 2023, the Secretary, Department of Fisheries is directed to consider and take such final decision before the last date of the online application.

The application is disposed of.

(SAYEED AHMED BABA)
OFFICIATING CHAIRPERSON
and MEMBER (A)

SCN.