

**CENTRAL ADMINISTRATIVE TRIBUNAL
PRINCIPAL BENCH**

OA 2619/2015

Reserved on 24.08.2018
Pronounced on 28.08.2018

Hon'ble Ms. Nita Chowdhury, Member (A)
Hon'ble Mr.S.N.Terdal, Member (J)

1. Papendra Singh
Aged about 25 years,
S/o Shri Banai Singh
R/o Village Sunari, Post Office-Bichpuri,
District-Agra-283105
Uttar Pradesh.(Currently unemployed).
 2. Sachin Kumar
Aged about 22 years,
S/o Sh.Ishwar Singh,
R/o Village- Doghat, Post-Doghat,
Distt.Baghpat-250622.
Currently unemployed.
- ... Applicants

(By Advocate: Mr. E.J.Verghese)

VERSUS

1. Union of India through the
General Manager, Northern Railway,
Baroda House, New Delhi-110001.
 2. Chairman,
Northern Railway,
Railway Recruitment Cell (RRC)
Lajpat Nagar-1, New Delhi-110024
 3. The Dy. Chief Personnel Officer,
Secretary,
Railway Recruitment Cell,
Northern Railway,
Lajpat Nagar, New Delhi-110024.
- ... Respondents

(By Advocate: Mr.R.V.Sinha with Mr.Amit Sinha, Mr. Vaibhav Pratap
Singh and Sh.A.K.Srivastava)

ORDER**Hon'ble Mr. S.N.Terdal, Member (J):**

Heard Mr.E.J.Verghese, counsel for applicant and Mr. R.V.Sinha, counsel for respondents, and perused the pleadings and all the documents produced by both the parties.

2. In the OA the applicant has prayed for the following reliefs:
 - "a Direct the respondents to appoint the applicant against the vacancies as applied for.
 - b. All consequential benefits pursuant to appointment.
 - c. Pass such other and further order(s) as this Hon'ble Tribunal may deem fit and proper in the facts and circumstances of the case in the interest of justice.
 - d. Award costs to the applicants for approaching this Hon'ble Tribunal for the same relief.
3. The crucial question arising in this case is whether the rejection of the appointment of the applicant on the mismatch in the handwriting/signature of the applicant available on the Application Form, ORM Sheet, D.V. papers etc. is sustainable at the final stage of the recruitment process.
4. The relevant facts of the case are that the applicant had applied for Group 'D' post in response to the Employment Notice No.220-E/Open Mkt./RRC/2012 dated 30.08.2012 published in the Employment News issued by the respondents. He had successfully cleared the written examination and physical efficiency test. He was provisionally found eligible for documents verification. But, however, at the time of documents verification, the respondents found that there is handwriting/signature mismatch on the relevant papers referred to above and on that basis the candidature of the applicant was rejected.

5. The counsel for the applicant vehemently submitted that no opportunity was given to the applicant to explain the mismatch in the handwriting/signature, as such there is violation of principle of natural justice and on that ground he has prayed for the above stated relief.

6. The respondents in their counter affidavit stated that the admission of the candidate at every stage of the recruitment process is purely provisional, subject to satisfying the prescribed condition and they have also stated that one of the conditions is that the candidate should fill up the application form in his/her own handwriting as per the conditions of the recruitment, and that during the examination of the applicant's case it was decided by the respondents(Northern Railway) to get the expert advice from Ex. Government Examiner for Questionable Documents duly nominated by the Ministry of Railways for the purposes of reference to matching the hand-writing/Signature on the relevant papers. The said Documents Expert after examining the relevant documents with reference to the applicant advised that the hand-writing/signature of the applicant do not match and accordingly his case was rejected by the competent authority. They have also submitted that as the competent authority after getting the Expert Advice have taken a conscious decision to reject the case of the applicant for appointment, the OA of the applicant should be dismissed. He has relied upon the judgment of Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of **Union of India & Another Vs. Sarwan Ram & Another** (SLP (C) No. 706/2014 and also the judgment of CAT/Chandigarh Bench in the case of **Deepak Vs. Union of India and another** (OA No. 1355/HR/2013) and also the judgments of CAT

Principal Bench in the case of **Devendra Kumar Vs. The General Manager(NR) and Others** (OA No. 2356/2014) and **Pradeep Kumar Vs. UOI Through the General Manager (NR) and Others** (OA No. 4143/2013 with connected OAs).

7. In view of the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court and also in view of the various judgments of the Tribunal, relied upon by the counsel for the respondents and in view of the facts and circumstances referred to above, the OA is dismissed. No order as to costs.

(S.N.Terdal)
Member (J)

(Nita Chowdhury)
Member (A)

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