

DIRECTORATE OF SCHOOL EDUCATION,  
CHANDIGARH ADMINISTRATION  
SCHOOL-I BRANCH,  
2<sup>ND</sup> Floor, Additional Deluxe Building, Sector-9, Chandigarh

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**ORDER**

No. DSE-UT-S2-11(386)2025/597353

Dated: 05-03-2026

WHEREAS, the applicant Ms. Poonam has filed the OA No. 215/2025 titled as 'Poonam Vs. Education Department, U.T. Chandigarh & Others' before the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Chandigarh Bench, Chandigarh under Section 19 of the Administrative Tribunal Act 1985 praying therein as under:-

(ii) That impugned action of respondents in declaring the candidature of the applicant for the post of Special Educator (JBT) as ineligible be quashed/set aside.

(iii) That appropriate directions in the nature of mandamus be issued to respondent Education Department, Chandigarh Administration that by taking into consideration the Circular dated 25.01.2018 (A-11) issued by Rehabilitation Council of India, the case of the applicant for her appointment to the post of Special Educator (JBT) under SC category be reconsidered in the right perspective as possessing the requisite 01 year diploma certificate equivalent and at par with 02 years diploma holders and thereafter being meritorious at Serial No.04 in the merit list of SC category candidates, she be issued appointment letter against the said post of Special Educator (JBT) as per her merit from the due date with all consequential benefits in the interest of justice.

AND WHEREAS, the Hon'ble Tribunal vide order dated 15.12.2025 has allowed the above said OA filed by the applicant with the following directions: -

*"In view of the aforesaid, the Tribunal hereby allows the OA filed in this case and directs the respondents to consider her case for appointment to the post of Special Educator (JBT) after seeking clarification, if any, required from RCI within a period of four weeks from the date of receipt of a certified copy of this order. No order as to costs."*

AND WHEREAS, the Essential Qualification prescribed for the post of Special Educator (JBT) as per Advt. 02/2023 and notified Recruitment Rules is as under:-

"The candidate should possess the essential qualification as on the Closing date of submission of application.

- (i) Graduation or its equivalent from a recognised University  
(ii) Two years Diploma (Special Education) or its equivalent recognized by RCI with at least 50% marks in aggregate and valid registration with RCI.

In view of the DOPT letter of 25.11.2019 candidate shall fulfil the condition regarding ICT as under for the post of Special Educator (TGT) and Special Educator (JBT):

"Certificate of ICT skill course i.e. course on computer concepts (CCC) 80 hours from a Govt recognized institutions OR a reputed institution which is an ISO 9001 certified OR Department of Electronics Accreditation of Computer Course (DOEACC) of Govt. of India OR from NIELIT and its authorized institutions at the time of their appointment." This condition must be satisfied before issuing of appointment letter."

AND WHEREAS the applicant Mrs. Poonam, was possessing Ten months Diploma in Vocational Training and Employment (Mental Retardation) from institute recognized from Rehabilitation Council of India and she was declared in-eligible as she was not having requisite qualification on the closing date of submission of application as per the notified Recruitment Rules and advertisement issued by the department.

**AND WHEREAS**, the RCI vide letter dated 25.01.2018 has clarified that one year full time diploma and two year diploma approved by the council are equivalent qualification and eligible to become a teacher provided that such diploma has valid CRR registration number. It is necessary to inform here that the applicant Ms. Poonam has done "Diploma in Vocational Training & Employment (Mental Retardation) (Ten Months Course) from Manipal Academy of Higher Education, Deemed University from Training Centre Govt. Institute for the Mentally Handicapped, Chandigarh in the year 2006. However, the applicant has done 10 month diploma which cannot be considered equivalent and at par with 1 year full time diploma in Special Education, therefore the applicant cannot be considered eligible for the post of Special Educator (JBT) even considering the qualification prescribed vide letter dated 25.01.2018.

**AND WHEREAS** the Rehabilitation Council of India vide circular no. F.No7-128/RCI/2021 dated 12.05.2021 has prescribed the qualification as D.Ed in Special Education or its equivalent from a RCI recognised institute and must be registered with RCI for the post of Special Education Teachers- Primary Teacher (PRT) in the Model Recruitment Rules for the Rehabilitation Professional & Personnel RCI. However, the applicant Mrs. Poonam, possessing Ten months Diploma in Vocational Training and Employment (Mental Retardation) from institute recognized from Rehabilitation Council of India, which is not as per the qualification prescribed as per letter/circular dated 25.01.2018, 12.05.2021, Advt. and RRs for the post of Special Educator (JBT) notified by the department, therefore, she was declared in-eligible.

**AND WHEREAS**, in compliance of order dated 15.12.2025 passed by the Hon'ble Tribunal in O.A. No. 215/2025, this Department has sought the clarification from Rehabilitation Council of India through email dated 05.03.2026 and in response to this RCI has shared the following clarification:

*"The reference before RCI has been made by Department of Education Chandigarh to clarify whether "Diploma in Vocational Training & Employment (Mental Retardation) (Ten months course)" is equivalent with "Two years Diploma in Special Education" or not. The answer is No. It may be noted that the Diploma in Vocational Training is meant for the person above 18 years for their vocational training whereas 2 years Diploma is meant for students/child at primary level. In this regard the model recruitment rule 2021 as well as circular dated 11.01.2012 issued by RCI may be referred".*

Accordingly, this department has reconsidered the candidature of Ms. Poonam (D/o Sh. Sudesh Kumar), Roll No. 120862, who was shortlisted for the post of Special Educator (JBT) and upon careful scrutiny and as per clarification received from RCI, it has been found that she does not fulfil the requisite essential qualifications for the said post. Accordingly, her candidature is hereby rejected.

This issues with the approval of the competent authority.

  
Director, School Education  
Chandigarh Administration

To

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W/o Sh. Desh Raj  
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