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Subject: Provisional Select List for the post of Assistant Professor, Geography, in Higher Education Department – disposal of representation thereof.

NOTICE Dated: 15 .11.2023

Higher Education Department vide letter HE/Coll/Coord/Apptt/A.P./2021 dated: 05.07.2021 and No. HED-GAZ/85/2022-04 dated: 13.04.2022, referred eight (08) posts (OM: 05, RBA: 01, SC: 01, ST: 01), of Assistant Professor (Geography) to the J&K Public Service Commission, for selection; and,

Whereas, the J&K Public Service Commission, vide Notification No. 06-PSC (DR-P) of 2023 dated: 01.03.2023, advertised the said post; and,

Whereas, again, vide letter No. HED-GAZ/85/2022-04 dated: 24.03.2023, the Higher Education Department, referred three (03) posts, (OM: 01, ALC/IB: 01, EWS: 01), of Assistant Professor (Geography) to the J&K Public Service Commission for selection; and,

Whereas, the J&K Public Service Commission, vide Notification No. 17-PSC (DR-P) of 2023 dated: 15.05.2023, advertised the said posts; and

Whereas, the written test was conducted on 27.08.2023 and the result of the written test was declared vide Notification No. PSC/Exam/S/2023/57 dated: 05.10.2023; and,

Whereas, the viva-voce of the candidates was conducted on 18th and 19th of October, 2023; and,

Whereas, the provisional Select List was issued vide Notification No. 84-PSC(DR-P) of 2023 dated 30.10.2023, subject to objections, to be received within five days; and,

Whereas, in response to the above Notification, 04 objections have been received from the following candidates:

- 1. Mr. Intikhab Muneer.
- 2. Mr. Lucky Sharma.
- 3. Gagan Kumar.
- 4. Mohd Shafi Dar.



Whereas, Mr. Intikhab Muneer has stated that he had appeared for the post of Assistant Professor, Geography, under EWS category, and had attached the copy of EWS category certificate, validity of which had already expired, along with the application form. He has further stated the he had timely submitted the application for renewal of his EWS category certificate in the concerned Tehsil office, however, the said application was not processed, timely, and in the meantime the date of submission of application was over. He has requested that his candidature may be accepted on the basis of the EWS certificate submitted at the time of interview; and

Whereas, Mr. Lucky Sharma has stated that only one of his research publications was considered and other research publication was rejected for the reason that the Journal is not in UGC-CARE list. However, his paper titled "Computational Analysis for assessment of water, Sanitation and Hygiene Status and its implications on Empowerment of Gujjar Tribe in Shiwalik Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir, India" is in Web of Science indexed and the list of Web of Science indexed journal shows the presence of journal in it and its coverage till 2022. Since, the paper was published in 2022, it comes under UGC-CARE list, as such, he has been deprived of 0.5 marks, which may be awarded to him.

Whereas, Mr. Gagan Kumar has stated that on the day of interview, his two research publications were considered and other 05 research publications were rejected citing the reason that the journals are not listed in UGC-CARE list at present, although the research papers were Peer Reviewed and were in UGC approved Journal prior to release of UGC-CARE list in 2018-19 by UGC. He has further stated that on the very next day of the interview all the Peer Reviewed research papers that were in UGC approved Journal before 2018 were considered in respect of some candidates, who appeared in the interview, and weightage was also given.

Whereas, Mr. Mohd Shafi Dar has challenged the NET qualification certificate of the provisionally Selected Candidate, namely, Mr. Basit Ishaq on the ground that RBA category is not counted in OBC category in UGC-NET.

Whereas, the objections have been examined in the following manner:

Mr. Intikhab Muneer

As per the check-sheet prepared at the time of interview, the EWS category certificate of the candidate was found to have been issued on 19.04.2022 which expired on 18.04.2023. The candidate submitted another EWS certificate at the time of interview, which has been issued in his favor on 19.09.2023 i.e. after the cut-off date viz 16.06.2023, meaning that the candidate was not possessing EWS

category certificate on the cut-off date of Notification or even on the date of advertisement of the Notification. As such, representation has no merit.

Mr. Lucky Sharma

The candidate had submitted only following 02 papers at the time of interview which have been accepted and points, as admissible, have also been awarded.

i. Assessment of Community Resilience and Natural Hazards in Bhaderwah, Jammu & Kashmir.

ii. Computational Analysis for assessment of water, Sanitation and Hygiene Status and its implications on Empowerment of Gujjar Tribe in Shiwalik Himalayas of Jammu and Kashmir, India.

As such, representation has no merit.

Mr. Gagan Kumar

The evaluation of research publications is the exclusive domain of the experts and their decision is accepted as final by the Commission. The experts have accepted only 02 research publications, for which the points have been awarded. The candidate has not mentioned specific names of the candidates whose Peer Reviewed research papers that were in UGC approved journals were accepted by the experts next day of the interview. Hence, complaint is vague and not specific.

Mr. Mohd Shafi Dar

The selected candidate, namely, Mr. Basit Ishaq has qualified the NET, from UGC in the relevant subject, however, there is no mention of any category on the NET certificate.

Now, therefore, the above representations are disposed off, being devoid of any merit and are, hence, rejected.

(Bashir Ahmad Dar) JKAS

Secretary

Dated: 15.11.2023

J&K, Public Service Commission

No: PSC/DR-HE/Assistant Prof/2023

Copy to the:

1. Principal Secretary to the Government, Higher Education Department, Civil Secretariat, Jammu/Srinagar.

2. I/C website.