



JAMMU AND KASHMIR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

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Subject: Provisional Select List for the post of Child Psychologist (Ancillary Staff) in GMC Udhampur, Kathua & Doda in Health & Medical Education Department – Disposal of Representation.

Notice

Dated: 10.07.2026

WHEREAS, the Health & Medical Education Department referred six (06) posts of Child Psychologist (Ancillary Staff) under Open Merit Category for Government Medical College Handwara, Udhampur, Anantnag, Rajouri, Doda and Kathua to this Commission for selection of suitable candidates; and

WHEREAS, these posts were advertised vide Notification Nos. 30-PSC (DR-P) of 2022 dated 30.12.2022, 31-PSC (DR-P) of 2022 dated 30.12.2022, and 28-PSC(DR-P) of 2023 dated 08.06.2023; and,

WHEREAS, the prescribed qualification for the post was as under:

“M.A./M.Sc. in Psychology with M.Phil. in Clinical Psychology, OR M.A./M.Sc. in Psychology with Clinical Psychologist Certification, along with a minimum of two years of experience in Child/Adolescent Mental Health/Clinical Psychology from an NMC and duly recognized by UGC”; and,

WHEREAS, the cut of date for determination of eligibility was fixed as:

30-PSC(DR-P) of 2022 dated 30.12.2022:	31.01.2023
31-PSC(DR-P) of 2022 dated 30.12.2022:	31.01.2023
28-PSC(DR-P) of 2023 dated 08.06.2023:	30.06.2023

WHEREAS, the written test was conducted on 03.11.2023, and the result thereof was declared vide Notification No. PSC/Exam/S/2024/20 dated 29.04.2024, in pursuance of Rule 42 of J&K Public Service Commission (Conduct of Examination) Rules, 2022 and Rule 31 of J&K Public Service Commission (Business & Procedure) Rules, 2021, as amended upto date, whereby a total of 30 candidates were provisionally declared qualified, subject to verification of documents at the interview stage; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Ankita Choudhary (Roll No. 5900031) who had applied for the posts in GMC Udhampur, Doda and Kathua, appeared in the written test, and was provisionally declared qualified for both Notification No. 28-PSC(DR-P) of 2023 (GMC Doda & GMC Kathua) and in Notification No. 30-PSC(DR-P) of 2022 for GMC Udhampur; and,

WHEREAS, upon scrutiny of documents submitted by all candidates after the written test, it was found that Dr. Ankita Choudhary did not possess the requisite relevant qualification for the post, and accordingly, her candidature was rejected vide Notice dated 26.06.2024; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Ankita Choudhary filed an appeal before the Appellate Authority of this Commission against the said rejection, and the Appellate Authority took the following decision:

"The candidate does not have the requisite experience of two years in Child/Adolescence mental health/clinical Psychology as the experience produced by the candidate reveals that she is employed as Child Psychologist in GMC Doda w.e.f. 09/2022 and her experience upto the cut of date is 04 months and 22 days. Hence the plea of the candidate is devoid of merits and is accordingly rejected."

WHEREAS, the Appellate Authority upheld the rejection of the candidate for being devoid of merit; and,

WHEREAS, in order to obtain clarity on the prescribed qualification, the J&K Public Service Commission sought clarification from the Health & Medical Education Department vide Commission letter No. JKPSC/DR/Asstt.Prof/H&ME/2022 dated 22.10.2024; and,

WHEREAS, the Health & Medical Education Department, vide letter No. ME-Gztd/270/2022-02 (CC:7034182) dated 31.12.2024, clarified that:

- i. The Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) is the recognizing body responsible for education, certification and regulation of rehabilitation sciences, including the profession of Child/Clinical Psychologists, as per the provision of RCI Act, 1992 and the Mental Health Care Act, 2017;
- ii. A Professional Certificate issued by RCI along with a valid Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) number is the only valid certification for the post; and

WHEREAS, the Commission in its 21st Meeting held on 16.07.2025, initially decided to call Mr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan and Mr. Masood Maqbool, whose cases stood on a different footing, for interview under directions passed by the Hon'ble CAT, Srinagar vide Order dated 06.09.2024, holding them otherwise ineligible; and,

WHEREAS, in light of the aforesaid clarification, the documents of Dr. Ankita Choudhary were re-examined, and it was found that she did not possess the requisite qualification and/ or experience (RCI Professional Certificate with valid CRR registration), as clarified by the Health & Medical Education Department, and accordingly, her candidature was again rejected vide Notice dated 04.08.2025; and,

WHEREAS, the Commission, vide decision dated 14.11.2025, approved the candidature of Mr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan and Mr. Masood Maqbool in view of the definition of

the Clinical Psychologist given in Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, in Section-2(g), the clarification issued by the Rehabilitation Council of India vide letter No. 3-2/RCI-2012 dated 20.11.2012, and the clarification furnished by the Health & Medical Education Department vide letter No. ME-Gztd/270/2022-02 (CC:7034182) dated 31.12.2024;

WHEREAS, the case of Dr. Ankita Choudhary was distinguished from those of Mr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan and Mr. Masood Maqbool, as her documents did not satisfy the eligibility criteria even upon further examination under the Commission's decision dated 14.11.2025, and she was accordingly not included in the Interview Notice dated 30.03.2026; and,

WHEREAS, Dr. Ankita Choudhary filed OA No. 422/2026 (M.A. No. 444/2026) before the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, Jammu, and the Hon'ble CAT, vide its interim order dated 08.04.2026, directed that the applicant be allowed to appear in the interview/viva-voce at her own risk and responsibility, without any right flowing from such participation, and in compliance of the said order, she was allowed to appear in the viva-voce conducted on 09.04.2026; and,

WHEREAS, the viva-voce was conducted on 09.04.2026 at JKPSC Jammu with the assistance of Experts from outside UT, under Rule 44(ii) of the J&K PSC (Business & Procedure) Rules, 2021, and the Provisional Select List was notified vide Notification No. 25-PSC(DR-S) of 2026 dated 09.04.2026;

WHEREAS, in response to the aforesaid Notification, one representation has been received from Dr. Ankita Choudhary D/o Parveen Choudhary:

AND WHEREAS, the objections raised in the representation were examined in light of the clarification furnished by the Health & Medical Education Department, the decisions taken by the Commission from time to time, and the orders passed by the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal, and disposal is detailed here-in-below:-

SNO	Objections	Remarks/Disposal
1	That vide notice dated 26.06.2024, the Representee (Roll No. 5900031), along with similarly situated candidates including Mr. Ajaz Ahmad Khan (Roll No. 5900002), Ms. Saima Hafiz (Roll No. 5900029), and Mr. Masood Maqbool (Roll No. 5900007), were uniformly declared ineligible on identical grounds.	The candidature of Dr. Ankita Choudhary was rejected , as she did not possess the required two years experience. She had only 4 months and 22 days of experience as on cut-off date. This was also upheld by the Appellate Authority. As such the claim has no merit.
2	That vide notice dated 04.09.2024, a list of candidates shortlisted for interview was issued. Certain candidates, including Bilal Ahmed Telli, Jagmeet Singh, Zahoor Ahmad Wagay, Shabnam	The eligibility of every candidate was examined separately on the basis of the documents submitted. Only those candidates who fulfilled the prescribed eligibility conditions were shortlisted for interview,

	Ara. and Ms. Saima Hafiz, who stood on the same footing as the rejected candidates, were permitted to participate in the interview process.	whereas the Dr. Ankita Choudhary was found having less experience. As such the claim has no merit.
3	The applicant submits that Mr. Masood Maqbool continued to be treated as ineligible even after the first rejection.	The candidature of Dr. Ankita Choudhary was also re-examined in light of the clarification furnished by the Health & Medical Education Department and was again found not to fulfil the prescribed eligibility requirements. As such the claim has no merit.
4	The applicant alleges that Mr. Aijaz Ahmad Khan and Mr. Masood Maqbool were later called for interview despite having been declared ineligible earlier.	Their cases were reconsidered on the basis of directions of the Hon'ble CAT and after examining the relevant provisions of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, the clarification issued by RCI and the clarification furnished by the Health & Medical Education Department.
5	The applicant states that Mr. Masood Maqbool was ultimately selected despite having been rejected earlier.	
6	The applicant alleges that there was selective reconsideration of some candidates and unequal treatment.	The cases that were reconsidered were examined separately pursuant to court directions. The applicant's case was found to be distinguishable.
8	The applicant submits that the change in the status of Mr. Masood Maqbool from ineligible to selected was unexplained.	<p>The candidature of Mr. Masood Maqbool was reconsidered and accepted on the basis of specific judicial directions of the Hon'ble CAT, Srinagar, the decision of the Commission dated 14.11.2025, and the relevant clarifications and statutory provisions referred to therein.</p> <p>The change in his eligibility status was the result of a reasoned decision taken after examining the provisions of Section 2(g) of the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017, the clarification by RCI, and the clarification by the Health & Medical Education Department. The allegation of opacity is accordingly denied.</p>
10	The applicant states that RCI registration was introduced as a new eligibility condition after the advertisement.	The Health & Medical Education Department, being the indenting department for the posts, which clarified vide letter dated 31.12.2024 that a Professional Certificate issued by the Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) along with a valid Central Rehabilitation Register (CRR) number is the only valid certification for the post.

consistent with the provisions of the RCI Act, 1992 and the Mental Healthcare Act, 2017.

Therefore, the Commission is bound by the clarification issued by the indenting department regarding the nature of prescribed qualifications, and acted in accordance therewith. As such the claim is based on presumptions.

NOW, THEREFORE, the representation submitted by Dr. Ankita Choudhary is considered and hereby rejected being devoid of merit.


Majad Jhazgir, JKAS

Additional Secretary/DCoE
J&K Public Service Commission

Dated: 10.07.2026

No. PSC DR. Civil_Education/H&ME/2026

Copy to:-

1. Commissioner Secretary to Government, Health & Medical Education Department, Civil Secretariat, J&K.
2. P.A. to Secretary, J&K Public Service Commission for information of the Secretary, J&K PSC.
3. In charge website, J&K Public Service Commission for uploading of the Notification on the website.
4. Work file/Main file.