



**HIGH COURT OF TRIPURA
AGARTALA
WP(C) No. 583 of 2025**

Dr. Ramananda Ghosh Tarafdar,
S/O: Sri Ranendranath Ghosh Tarafdar,
R/O: Vill: Vidyanagar, P.O: Kirtantali,
P.S: Kailashahar, Dist: Unokoti, PIN: 799279.

----- Petitioner(s)

Versus

- 1. The State of Tripura,**
Represented by its Secretary,
Department of Higher Education,
Govt. of Tripura, New Secretariat Building,
P.O: Secretariat, P.S: New Capital Complex,
Dist: West Tripura, PIN: 799010.
- 2. The Director,**
Department of Higher Education,
Govt. of Tripura, Office Lane, P.O: Agartala,
P.S: West Agartala, Dist: West Tripura, PIN: 799001.
- 3. The Joint Director,**
Department of Higher Education,
Govt. of Tripura, Office Lane, P.O: Agartala,
P.S: West Agartala, Dist: West Tripura, PIN: 799001.
- 4. Tripura Public Service Commission,**
Represented by its Secretary, Akhaura Road,
P.O: Agartala, P.S: West Agartala, Dist: West Tripura,
PIN; 799001.
- 5. The Controller of Examinations,**
Tripura Public Service Commission,
Akhaura Road, P.S: West Agartala,
P.O: Agartala, Dist: West Tripura, Pin: 799001.
- 6. The Under secretary,**
Tripura Public Service Commission,
Akhaura Road, P.O: Agartala, P.S: West Agartala,
Dist: West Tripura, Pin: 799001.
- 7. The Secretary,**
General Administration (P&T) Department,
Govt. Of Tripura, New Secretariat Building,
P.O: Secretariat, P.S: New Capital Complex,
Dist: West Tripura, Pin: 799010.

----- Respondent(s)

For Petitioner(s)	: Mr. Arijit Bhounik, Adv. Ms. Ishpa Chakma, Adv. Ms. Priyanka Chakraborty, Adv.
For Respondent(s)	: Mr. Kohinoor N. Bhattacharyya, GA. Mr. Kundan Pandey, Adv.
Date of hearing	: 07.09.2026
Date of delivery of judgment	: 14.09.2026
Whether fit for reporting	: Yes

HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE BISWAJIT PALIT
Judgment & Order

The petitioner has filed this present writ petition seeking the following reliefs:-

- i. **Issue Notice upon the Respondents.**
- ii. **Call for the records.**
- iii. **Issue Rule calling upon the Respondents to show cause as to why the Petitioner shall not be granted one time age relaxation for participation in the selection process Vide Advt. No. 5/2025 for the post of Asst. Professor (Zoology subject).**

AND

Issue Rule calling upon the Respondents to show cause as to why the Notification dated 7th March, 2025 issued by TPSC truncating the right of age relaxation for certain subjects/disciplines shall not be set aside and quashed,

AND

Issue Rule calling upon the Respondents to show cause as to why the communication dated 25th March, 2025 whereby the Respondents rejected the prayer of the Petitioner for granting age relaxation shall not be set aside and quashed.

- iv. **And after hearing the parties be pleased to make the Rule absolute.**

AND/OR

Pass any other order/orders as deemed fit and proper.

AND

For this act of kindness your humble Petitioner as in duty bound shall ever remain grateful.”

2. Heard Learned Counsel Mr. Arijit Bhaumik, appearing on behalf of the petitioner also heard Learned Government Advocate Mr. Kohinoor N Bhattacharyya, appearing on behalf of the State respondents and Learned Counsel Mr. Kundan Pandey, appearing on behalf of the TPSC.

3. It is the case of the petitioner that, against an advertisement vide No.05/2025, the petitioner applied for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor in Zoology, Group-A Gazetted, in the Government (General) Degree Colleges. In the said advertisement, cut-off date was fixed on 40 years as on 07.03.2025. According to petitioner, as on the cut-off date, i.e., 07.03.2025, the petitioner was aged 40 years and 6 days.

4. It was further submitted that, by a subsequent notification dated 06.03.2025, the last date for submission of the online application was extended up to 07.03.2025 (5.30 PM), and the last date for receipt of all necessary documents (hard copy) was extended till 17.03.2025 (Annexure-2).

5. It was further submitted that, as the petitioner had exceeded the age of 40 years as on the cut-off date, so he submitted a representation (Annexure-5) seeking consideration of

relaxation of the upper age limit for appointment to the post of Assistant Professor against the said Advertisement vide No.05/2025. But, as no action was taken on the said representation, the petitioner approached this Court by filing a writ petition, which was registered as WP(C) No.139/2025. The said writ petition was, however, dismissed by a Coordinate Bench of this Court by judgment and order dated 28.04.2025.

6. Thereafter, the petitioner preferred an appeal, being WA No. 62/2025. In the said appeal, a direction was issued to the petitioner to submit a representation in the light of notification dated 10.03.2025. However, the said representation was also not considered. Subsequently, in compliance with the judgment and order passed by the Hon'ble Division Bench, the petitioner submitted a further representation (Annexure-10). However, the TPSC, by communication dated 25.08.2025 (Annexure-11), rejected the petitioner's representation seeking acceptance of his candidature on the ground that he had crossed the upper age limit of 40 years as on the cut-off date.

7. At the time of hearing, Learned Counsel for the petitioner drawn the attention of the Court to the fact that the petitioner had applied for the post of Zoology pursuant to the TPSC notification dated 10.03.2025 (Annexure-7), whereby one-time age relaxation was granted. Learned Counsel also drawn the attention of the Court to the memorandum dated 20.08.2025 (Annexure-8), wherein the GA (P&T) Department, under Clause 4, granted

exemption from participating in the fresh recruitment process, subject to the petitioner furnishing documentary evidence in support of his claim for age relaxation.

8. It was also submitted that a similar advertisement had been issued in the year 2022; however, at that time, the petitioner was below 40 years of age and, therefore, no age relaxation was required. Although, the petitioner had appeared in the selection test pursuant to the said advertisement of 2022, but was unsuccessful. It was, accordingly, submitted that the benefit of the notification dated 10.03.2025 (Annexure-7) be extended to the petitioner in respect of the recruitment process initiated pursuant to Advertisement No. 05/2025.

9. It was further submitted that the TPSC, by another notification dated 07.03.2025, had granted age relaxation in respect of candidates applying for the posts of Sanskrit, Commerce, etc. However, no such relaxation was extended to the applicants for the post of Zoology. Consequently, the petitioner has been deprived of the benefit of the age relaxation granted pursuant to the notification dated 10.03.2025 (Annexure-7).

10. It was also submitted that initially, an advertisement was issued in the year 2017, which was subsequently cancelled. Thereafter, the GA (P&T) Department, by memorandum-cum-notification dated 20.08.2018 (Annexure-8), granted age relaxation to the eligible candidates. The petitioner is also covered

by the said memorandum-cum-notification issued by the GA (P&T) Department, Government of Tripura.

11. It was further submitted that, during the year 2022, age relaxation was granted in respect of the subjects of Sanskrit, Zoology and Commerce. However, since the petitioner was not in need of any age relaxation at that time, being below the prescribed age limit, he did not avail the said benefit under the said scheme. Learned Counsel, therefore, urged that the respondent TPSC be directed to consider and extend the benefit of age relaxation to the petitioner in respect of the said post pursuant to Advertisement No. 05/2025.

Finally, Learned Counsel, Mr. Bhaumik, submitted that the notification of the GA (P&T) Department, i.e. Annexure-8, supports the case of the petitioner. He, accordingly, urged before the Court that the writ petition be allowed.

12. The State respondents have filed a counter affidavit. In paragraph 7 of the said counter affidavit, it has been stated as under:

"7. That, in response to the contents of paragraphs-5 & 6 of the writ petition, the answering respondents state that the Commission published as advertisement vide Advt. 19/2017 dated 26-09-2017 for the post of Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject, which was cancelled on the basis of Memo vide No. F. 20 (1)GA(P&T)/18 DATD 20-08-2018 issued by GA (P&T) Department, Govt. of Tripura wherein it is mentioned that candidate intending to avail one time age relaxation have to submit documentary evidence of their participation in Advertisement No.19/2017 dated 26-09-2017

for the Assistant Professor, Govt. of Degree College. As per Memo dated 20-08-2018 it is categorically mentioned that "as regards to the candidate who had participated in the cancelled recruitment process, they are to be given one time relaxation in upper age limit to enable them to participate one in the fresh recruitment process subject to providing documentary evidence of their participation in the earlier process for the same post(s)"

Therefore, the commission floated an advertisement vide Advt. 08/2022 dated 24-03-2022 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject and then a Notification dated 26-04-2022 for giving One time relaxation in upper age limit in the recruitment process of Assistant Professor in Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject in pursuance of Memo. No F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20-08-2018. In the recruitment process vide Advt. 08/2022, the petitioner also participated in the same recruitment process.

Subsequently, the commission floated an advertisement vide Advt.05/2025 dated 30-01-2025 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College and then to two Notifications dated 07-03-2025 & 10-03-2025 for giving one time relaxation in upper age limit for the subjects of Philosophy, Sanskrit, Economics, Psychology, Physics, Chemistry, Statistics, Commerce, ETCE & Environment Science in the fresh recruitment process of Assistant Professor vide Advt. No.05/2025 in pursuance of Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20-08-2018 in which Zoology subject was not included because one time relaxation in upper age limit for Zoology subject already given vide Notification dated 26-04-2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. It is pertinent to mentioned here that the copies of the Advt.05/2025 and Notification dated 07-03-2025 & 10-03-2025 are annexed as Annexure-1, 7 & 12 in the writ petition. As per the memo. of GA (P&T) Department dated 20-08-2018 and the commission's Notification dated 07-03-2025 & 10-03-2025, the petitioner is not entitled to get the benefit of age relaxation in the ongoing recruitment process vide Advt. No.05/2025, because, following the cancellation of the recruitment process related to Advertisement No.19/2017 for Zoology subject, the onetime relaxation in upper age limit already given vide Notification dated 26-04-2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. The one time relaxation in upper age limit mentioned in

the Memo a one time basis and the No. F.20(1)/GA(P& T)/18 dated 20-08-2018 is applicable strictly on petitioner cannot claim one time age relaxation as and when he desires or as per convenience. Therefore, the allegation of the petitioner is not maintainable and strongly denied.

Copies of the Advt. No.19/2017, copy of the cancelled Notification dated 02-01-2019, copy of the Advt. No.08/2022, copy of the Notification dated 26-04-2022 and copy of the application of the petitioner applied in the Advt. No.08/2022 are annexed hereto and respectively marked as Annexure-R/1,R/2,R/3,R/4 & R/5."

Referring to the aforesaid averments, Learned GA submitted that, since the petitioner has failed to make out any case in his favour, the present writ petition is liable to be dismissed.

13. The respondents TPSC has also filed a counter affidavit. In paragraphs 5, 6, 8, 9, 10 and 13 thereof, the said respondent has asserted as under:

"5. That the answering respondents state that the Commission published an advertisement vide Advt. 19/2017 dated 26.09.2017 for the post of Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject, which was cancelled on the basis of Memo vide No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 issued by GA (P&T) Department, Govt. of Tripura wherein it is mentioned that candidate intending to avail one time age relaxation have to submit documentary evidence of their participation in Advertisement No.19/2017 date 26.09.2017 for the Assistant Professor, Govt. Degree College. As per Memo dated 20.08.2018 it is categorically mentioned that "as regards to the candidate who had participated in the cancelled recruitment process, they are to be given one time relaxation in upper age limit to enable them to participate once in the fresh recruitment process subject to providing documentary evidence of their participation in the earlier process for the same post(s)."

Thereafter, the Commission floated an advertisement vide Advt. 08/2022 dated 24.03.2022 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject and then a Notification dated 26.04.2022 for giving one time relaxation in upper age limit in the recruitment process of Assistant Professor in Govt. General Degree College including Zoology subject in pursuance of Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018. In the recruitment process vide Advt. 08/2022, the petitioner also participated in the same recruitment process.

Subsequently, the Commission floated an advertisement vide Advt. 05/2025 dated 30.01.2025 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College and then two Notifications dated 07.03.2025 & 10.03.2025 for giving one time relaxation in upper age limit for the subjects of Philosophy, Sanskrit, Economics, Psychology, Physics, Chemistry, Statistics, Commerce, ETCE & Environment Science in the fresh recruitment process of Assistant Professor vide Advt. No.05/2025 in pursuance of Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 in which Zoology subject was not included because one time relaxation in upper age limit for Zoology subject already given vide Notification dated 26.04.2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. It is pertinent to mention here that the copies of the Advt. 05/2025 and Notification dated 07.03.2025 & 10.03.2025 are annexed as Annexure-1, 7 & 12 in the writ petition. As per the Memo of GA (P&T) Department dated 20.08.2018 and the Commission's Notifications dated 07.03.2025 & 10.03.2025, the petitioner is not entitled to get the benefit of age relaxation in the ongoing recruitment process vide Advt. No.05/2025, because, following the cancellation of the recruitment process related to Advertisement No.19/2017 for Zoology subject, the one-time relaxation in upper age limit already given vide Notification dated 26.04.2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. The one-time relaxation in upper age limit mentioned in the Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)18 dated 20.08 2018 is applicable strictly on a one-time basis and the petitioner cannot claim one time age relaxation as and when he desires or as per convenience. Therefore, the allegation of the petitioner is not maintainable and strongly denied.

Copies of the Advt. No. 19/2017, copy of the cancelled Notification dated 02.01.2019, copy of the Advt. No. 08/2022, copy of the Notification dated 26.04.2022 and copy of the

application of the petitioner applied in the Advt. No. 08/2022 are annexed hereto and respectively marked as Annexure-R/1, R/2, R/3, R/4 & R/5.

6. That the respondents most humbly state that the General Administration (Personnel & Training) Department, Govt. of Tripura issued a Memorandum dated 20.08.2018 whereby in paragraph No.4 it was mentioned as follows:-

"4. As regards the candidates who had participated in the cancelled recruitment process, they are to be given one time relaxation in upper age limit to enable them to participate once in the fresh recruitment process subject to providing documentary evidence of their participation in the earlier recruitment processes for the same post(s)."

So, as per the Memorandum dated 20.08.2018 issued by General Administration (Personnel & Training) Department, Govt. of Tripura it was specifically, mentioned that one time age relaxation would be given against cancelled recruitment process. In the present case one-time age relaxation for the post of Assistant Professor in Zoology subject have already been given in the subsequent Advertisement No.08/2022. So, it is crystal clear that the writ petitioner is not entitled to get any further age relaxation as prayed in the writ petition. Moreover, the present writ petition is itself not maintainable in the eye of law and as such the present writ petition is liable to be dismissed.

A copy of the Memorandum dated 20.08.2018 issued by General Administration (Personnel & Training) Department, Govt. of Tripura is annexed hereto and marked as Annexure-R/6.

8. That with reference to the statements made in paragraph No.9 of the writ petition, the answering respondent states that as far as fixing the cut of date for calculating the age which was 07.03.2025 is concerned if it is otherwise mentioned in the requisition/Recruitment Rules/ Service Rules, the Commission norms is to keep almost in all the advertisement calculate the upper age limit as on the closing date as mentioned in the published advertisement. It is also to be mentioned that the petitioner applied in earlier advertisement vide Advt. No. 08/2022 for the post of Asstt. Professor in Zoology subject

where the upper age was calculated on the closing date of the said advertisement. Now the petitioner stated that to determine the upper age limit of the petitioner as on the date of the publication of advertisement. The Petitioner during the recruitment process in respect of Advt. No. 08/2022 submitted his application where the closing date was the date of calculation of age and he did not raise any objection at that time. In that instant case the petitioner is trying to determine the date of calculation of age as per his wish and trying to dictated/overcool the Commission's norms of calculation of the age on the closing date. Therefore, the allegation of the petitioner is not maintainable and strongly denied.

A copy of the requisition letter along with Recruitment Rules for Advt. No. 05/2025 is annexed hereto and marked as Annexure-R/7.

9. That with reference to the statements made in paragraph No.12 & 13 of the writ petition, the answering respondent states that in response of the representation dated 24.07.2025, the Commission re-examine the matter and rejected the prayer of the petitioner as per the Memo of GA (P&T) Department dated 20.08.2018 and the Commission's Notification dated 07.03.2025 & 10.03.2025, the petitioner is not entitled to get the benefit of age relaxation in the ongoing recruitment process vide Advt. No. 05/2025, because, following the cancellation of the recruitment process related to Advertisement No. 19/2017 for Zoology subject, the one-time relaxation in upper age limit already given vide Notification dated 26.04.2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. The one-time relaxation in upper age limit mentioned in the Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 is applicable strictly on a one-time basis. Therefore, the allegation of the petitioner is not maintainable and strongly denied vide letter No.F.No.8(1-4)-LEG/HC-372/TPSC/2025-825 dated 25.08.2025.

10. That with reference to the statements made in paragraph No.15 of the writ petition, the answering respondent denies that all candidates who participated in the cancelled selection process are entitled to age relaxation for once on submission of documentary evidence of participation in the cancelled selection process. The respondents state that one-time relaxation in upper age limit mentioned in the Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 is applicable strictly on a one-time basis and the

said relaxation have been already given vide Advt. No.08/2022 dated 24.03.2022 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject, so now the petitioner cannot claim age relaxation on the basis of Memo dated 20.08.2018 or Notification dated 10.03.2025 issued by TPSC.

13. That with reference to the statements made in paragraph No.18, 19 & 20 of the writ petition, the answering respondent states that the petitioner is not entitled to get the benefit of age relaxation in the ongoing recruitment process vide Advt. No. 05/2025, because, following the cancellation of the recruitment process related to Advertisement No. 19/2017 for Zoology subject, the one-time relaxation in upper age limit already given vide Notification dated 26.04.2022 in connection with the Advt. 08/2022 for the post of Assistant Professor. The one-time relaxation in upper age limit mentioned in the Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 is applicable strictly on a one-time basis. Therefore, the allegation of the petitioner is not maintainable and the claim of the petitioner was rejected by issuance of the letter No.F.No.8(1-4) LEG/HC-372/TPSC/2025-825 dated 25.08.2025."

14. However, at the time of hearing, Learned Counsel, Mr. Pandey, appearing on behalf of the respondent-TPSC, drawn the attention of the Court to the fact that an advertisement had been issued by the TPSC in the year 2017, which was subsequently cancelled. He further submitted that the GA (P&T) Department, Government of Tripura, vide notification dated 20.08.2018 (Annexure-8), had already granted one-time age relaxation in respect of the candidates covered by the said notification.

15. He further submitted that the petitioner had thereafter applied for the post of Zoology pursuant to the advertisement issued in the year 2022, but was unsuccessful in the selection process. Therefore, according to Learned Counsel, the petitioner

cannot claim the benefit of age relaxation indefinitely under the notification dated 20.08.2018 (Annexure-8).

16. It was further submitted that, in the year 2017, the TPSC had issued an advertisement inviting online applications for various subjects, including the post of Zoology. However, the said advertisement was subsequently cancelled for certain reasons. Thereafter, in the year 2022, another advertisement was issued inviting online applications for the post of Zoology along with other subjects.

Learned Counsel thereafter submitted that the TPSC, by its subsequent notification dated 26.04.2022 (Annexure-R/4), granted age relaxation in respect of the post of Sanskrit only, for candidates belonging to the SC and UR categories, as Advertisement No. 01/21 did not contain any posts under the SC and UR categories.

17. In respect of Zoology, he further submitted that the TPSC had also granted age relaxation only to candidates belonging to the UR category pursuant to Advertisement No. 01/2021, as the said advertisement did not contain any post under the UR category. In respect of Commerce, he submitted that the TPSC had also granted age relaxation only to candidates belonging to the SC category, as Advertisement No. 01/2021 did not contain any post under the SC category.

18. Now, referring to the memorandum dated 07.03.2025 (Annexure-12), he further drawn the attention of the Court to the

fact that the TPSC, by the said memorandum, had granted age relaxation in respect of the post of Sanskrit only to candidates belonging to the SC category, as Advertisement No. 01/2021 and Advertisement No. 08/2022 did not contain any post under the SC category. Similarly, in respect of Commerce, age relaxation was granted only to candidates belonging to the SC category, as Advertisement No. 01/2021 and Advertisement No. 08/2022 did not contain any post under the SC category.

19. According to Learned Counsel, since there was no scope for granting any further age relaxation in respect of the post of Zoology, so no such exemption was granted by the TPSC this time. He further submitted that the present petitioner is neither eligible nor entitled to claim any further age relaxation on the ground that he is entitled to such relaxation against Advertisement No. 05/2025, particularly after the one-time age relaxation granted by the GA (P&T) Department in respect of the recruitment pursuant to the advertisement issued in the year 2022.

20. It was further submitted that, in this regard, a Coordinate Bench of this Court had dismissed the writ petition filed by the petitioner on the ground that the matter involved a policy decision, which was subsequently affirmed by the Division Bench in W.A. No. 62/2025. However, liberty was granted to the petitioner to submit a representation before the TPSC. Accordingly, the petitioner submitted a representation, which was duly considered by the TPSC. Thereafter, by order dated 25.08.2025 (Annexure-11), as

relied upon by the petitioner, the TPSC rejected his claim. Learned Counsel, therefore, submitted that nothing further survives for adjudication in the present writ petition and prayed for dismissal of the same.

21. Heard Learned Counsel appearing for both the parties and perused the writ petition, the documents annexed thereto, and the counter affidavits filed by the respondents.

22. Admittedly, the petitioner applied for the post of Zoology pursuant to Advertisement No. 05/2025. It is also an admitted position that, as on the cut-off date, i.e. 07.03.2025, the petitioner was above 40 years of age. He, therefore, submitted a representation seeking age relaxation; however, the same was not considered by the concerned authority.

It is also an admitted position that, seeking age relaxation, the petitioner had earlier filed a writ petition, being W.P.(C) No. 139 of 2025, which came to be dismissed by judgment dated 28.04.2025. For the sake of convenience, the relevant paragraph 12 of the said judgment is reproduced hereinbelow:

“[12] Challenges to the decisions relied on by Mr. Datta, learned counsel as made by Mr. Roy Barman, learned senior counsel that in those cases the Recruitment Rules itself mentioned as to how the cut-off date for determination of age was to be calculated and therefore same are not applicable in the instant case. But as in the instant Recruitment Rules, as indicated earlier, same is not mentioned, therefore, the selecting authority i.e. the TPSC was obliged to fix such date for due implementation of the said clause of age limit as available in the Recruitment Rules.

Considering all these aspects, the Court finds no merit in the writ petition and accordingly, the same is dismissed.

Pending application(s), if any, shall also stand disposed of."

23. Aggrieved by the aforesaid judgment, the petitioner preferred an appeal before the Learned Division Bench. The Learned Division Bench, by judgment and order dated 22.07.2025 passed in W.A. No. 62/2025, disposed of the said appeal. The operative portion of the order of the Learned Division Bench, as contained in paragraph 5 thereof, reads as follows:

"[5] In view of the above submissions, since the Notification dated 10 March, 2025 was not filed along with the writ papers and the said notification indicates some kind of age relaxation and the representation which was made by the appellant on 03.03.2025 is also pending consideration, this Court finds that the matter needs re-examination. Accordingly, without going into the merits of the case, this writ appeal is disposed of directing the concerned respondent i.e. respondent No.4 (Secretary, TPSC) to consider the case of the appellant in the light of his representation dated 03.03.2025 and the aforesaid Notification dated 10th March, 2025 issued by the TPSC within 15(fifteen) days from today. The appellant is also at liberty to make any further representation along with all his relevant documents within 3(three) days from today, and in that case, on receipt of the same, the respondent No.4, i.e. the Secretary, TPSC shall decide the case of the appellant within 15 days from the date of such receipt."

24. Thereafter, the petitioner submitted a representation dated 24.07.2025 (Annexure-10), which was considered and rejected by the TPSC by communication dated 25.08.2025 (Annexure-11). The contents of the said communication dated 25.08.2025 read as follows:

**TRIPURA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGARTALA**

F.No.8(1-4)-LEG/HC-372/TPSC/2025-825 Dated, the 25th August, 2025

To,
Dr. Ramananda Ghosh Tarafdar,
Vill-Vidyanagar, P.O- Kirtantali,
Kailashahar, Unakoti Tripura,
Pin-799279, Mail Id:- ramananda.kls@gmail.com

Subject:- Prayer for accepting by candidature for the post of Assistant Professor in Zoology vide Advt. No. 05/2025, 30.01.2025 by granting one time age relaxation as per the Notification dated 10.03.2025 and the Judgment and order dated 22.07.2025 passed in W.A. No. 62/2025 by the Hon'ble High Court of Tripura.

Sir,

I am directed to refer to the subject cited above and to inform you that an advertisement vide Advt. 19/2017 dated 26.09.2017 for the post of Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject was floated by the Commission, which was cancelled on the basis of Memo vide No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 issued by GA (P&T) Department, Govt. of Tripura wherein it is mentioned that candidate intending to avail one time age relaxation have to submit documentary evidence either participation in Advertisement No. 19/2017 date 26.09.2017 for the Assistant Professor, Govt. Degree College. As per Memo dated 20.08.2018 it is categorically mentioned that "as regards to the candidate who had participated in the cancelled recruitment process, they are to be given one time relaxation in upper age limit to enable them to participate once in the fresh recruitment process subject to providing documentary evidence of their participation in the earlier process for the same post(s)."

Thereafter, the Commission floated an advertisement vide Advt. 08/2022 dated 24.03.2022 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College including Zoology subject and then a Notification dated 26.04.2022 for giving one-time age-relaxation in the recruitment process of Assistant Professor in Govt. General Degree College including Zoology subject in pursuance of Memo No.F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018. Being a candidate, you have also participated for the subject of Zoology against the Advt. 08/2022.

Now, the Commission floated an advertisement vide Advt. 05/2025 dated 30.01.2025 for Assistant Professor, Govt. (General) Degree College and then a Notification dated 10.03.2025 for giving one-time age-relaxation for the subject of Philosophy, Sanskrit, Economics, Psychology, Physics, Chemistry, Statistics, Commerce, ETCE & Environment Science in the fresh recruitment process of Assistant Professor vide Advt. No. 05/2025 in pursuance of Memo No.F. 20(1/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 in which Zoology subject was not included because one-time age-relaxation for Zoology subject already given vide Notification dated 26.04.2022

As per the Memo of GA (P&T) Department dated 20.08.2018 and the Commission's Notification dated 10.03.2025, you are not entitled to the benefit of age relaxation. This is because, following the cancellation of the recruitment process related to Advertisement No. 19/2017, you had submitted a fresh application in response to Advertisement No. 08/2022. The said notification applies only to those candidates who had crossed the upper age limit at the time of submitting their application in response to Advertisement No. 08/2022, and the one-time relaxation mentioned therein is applicable strictly on a one-time basis. Since you had already participated in the fresh recruitment process of Assistant Professor in Zoology subject vide Advt. No. 08/2022 and was declared unsuccessful in that recruitment process, so you cannot now approach the authority seeking to be granted the one-time age relaxation once again.

This is for your kind information and doing the needful.

Enclo- As stated.

Yours faithfully

(R. Das)
Under Secretary (N.O.)
Tripura Public Service Commission"

25. It was further submitted that the TPSC, by notification dated 10.03.2025, had granted one-time age relaxation in respect of Advertisement No. 05/2025. For the sake of convenience, the

relevant portion of the notification dated 10.03.2025 is reproduced hereinbelow:

**"TRIPURA PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
AGARTALA**

No.F.11(36-54)-Reett./TPSC/2024 Dated, the 10 March, 2005

NOTIFICATION

Ref:- Commission's Advertisement No. 05/2025 dated 30.01.2025 for recruitment to the post of Assistant Professor. Government (General) Degree Colleges, Education (Higher) Department, Govt. of Tripura.

In continuation of the Commission's Notification No. F.11(36-54)-Reett./TPSC/2024 dated 07.01 2025. It is for information of all concerned that candidates intending to avail one time age relaxation will have to submit documentary evidence of their participation in the Advt. No. 19/2017 dated 26.09.2017 for the post of Assistant Professor, Government (General) Degree Colleges.

This is in pursuance of Memo. No. F.20(1)/GA(P&T)/18 dated 20.08.2018 of the G.A (P&T) Department, Government of Tripura.

Other terms and condition will remain unchanged.

**(A. Pal)
Controller of Examinations.
Tripura Public Service Commission"**

26. Both the parties, in the course of hearing, relied upon the memorandum dated 20.08.2018 issued by the GA (P&T) Department. The relevant portion of paragraph 4 of the said memorandum runs as follows:

"4. As regards the candidates who had participated in the cancelled recruitment processes, they are to be given one time relaxation in upper age limit to enable them to participate once in the fresh recruitment process subject to providing documentary evidence of their participation in the earlier recruitment processes for the same post(s)."

27. From the aforesaid notification, it appears that, in the year 2017, the TPSC had issued an advertisement for filling up certain posts, vide Advertisement No. 19/2017 (Annexure-R/1), which also included posts in the subject of Zoology. There were, in total, 8 posts reserved for the ST category and 3 posts reserved for the UR category. However, for reasons not disclosed, the said advertisement was subsequently cancelled. Thereafter, by notification dated 20.08.2018 (supra), the GA (P&T) Department granted one-time relaxation in the upper age limit to the eligible candidates.

28. It appears that, by the said notification, one-time age relaxation was granted to the eligible candidates for participating in the fresh recruitment process. Thereafter, in the year 2022, another advertisement was issued vide Advertisement No. 08/22, inviting applications for, inter alia, four vacancies for the post of Zoology, of which two were reserved for the ST category and two for the UR category. Admittedly, at the relevant point of time, the petitioner was below 40 years of age. Therefore, without seeking any age relaxation, he appeared in the selection examination pursuant to the said advertisement, but was unsuccessful.

29. The petitioner is now seeking to claim the benefit of the age relaxation provided under the GA (P&T) Department notification dated 20.08.2018 (supra) again in respect of Advertisement No. 05/2025. However, this occasion, the TPSC, by notification dated 07.03.2025 (Annexure-12), granted age

relaxation in respect of certain subjects, but no such relaxation was granted in respect of the post of Zoology.

30. In this regard, Learned Counsel, Mr. Pandey, at the time of hearing, submitted that, in the first place, the petitioner is not entitled to avail the benefit of the notification dated 20.08.2018 issued by the GA (P&T) Department. He further submitted that, during the year 2022, age relaxation was granted in respect of certain posts, including the posts of Sanskrit, Commerce and Zoology, amongst others. For the sake of convenience, the relevant portions of age relaxation in 2022 relating to Sanskrit, Commerce and Zoology are reproduced hereinbelow:

1	2	3	4	5	6
SL No.	Subject/ Discipline	Advt. 19/2017	Advt. 01/ 2021	Advt. 08/2022	Remarks
1	Sanskrit	SC- 01	SC- Nil	SC- Nil	Age relaxation only for SC & UR category are to be allowed as Advt. 1/2021 contains no SC & UR post
		ST- 07	ST- 03	ST- Nil	
		UR- 04	UR- Nil	UR- 01	
		PH- Nil	PH- 01	PH- Nil	
2	Zoology	SC- Nil	SC- Nil	SC- Nil	Age relaxation only for UR category to be allowed as advt. 01/2021 contains no UR post
		ST- 08	ST- 01	ST- 02	
		UR- 03	UR- Nil	UR- 02	
		PH- Nil	PH- 01	PH- Nil	
3	Commerce	SC- 01	No Advertisement	SC- Nil	Age relaxation only for SC category to be allowed as advt. 01/2021 contains no SC post
		ST- Nil		ST- 02	
		UR- Nil		UR- 02	
		PH- Nil		PH- Nil	

31. In respect of Advertisement No. 05/2025, the TPSC again granted age relaxation in respect of various posts, including Sanskrit and Commerce, but excluded the post of Zoology. The reasons for granting such relaxation, the figures are mentioned hereinbelow:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
SL No.	Subject/ Discipline	Advt. 19/2017	Advt. 01/ 2021	Advt. 08/2022	Advt. 05/2025	Remarks
2	Sanskrit	SC-01	SC- Nil	SC- Nil	SC-02	Age relaxation only for SC candidates to be allowed as Advt. No.01/2021 & Advt. No. 08/2022 contains no SC posts.
		ST- 07	ST- 03	ST- Nil	ST-04	
		UR- 04	UR- Nil	UR- 01	UR-07	
		PH- Nil	PH- 01	PH- Nil	PH-01	
8	Commerce	SC- 01	No Advertise ment	No Advertise ment	SC- Nil	Age relaxation only for SC category to be allowed as advt. 01/2021 contains no SC posts.
		ST- Nil			ST- 02	
		UR- Nil			UR- 02	
		PH- Nil			PH- Nil	

32. From the aforesaid notification dated 07.03.2025, as referred to hereinabove, it appears that, in respect of the post of Sanskrit, age relaxation was granted on the ground that Advertisement No. 01/2021 and Advertisement No. 08/2022 did not contain any post under the SC category. Similarly, in respect of the post of Commerce, age relaxation was granted to candidates belonging to the SC category, as Advertisement No. 01/2021 and Advertisement No. 08/2022 did not contain any post under the SC category.

33. Furthermore, Learned Counsel submitted that, during the year 2022, age relaxation was granted in respect of Advertisement No. 08/2022 to those candidates who had crossed the prescribed upper age limit at the time of submission of their applications. The said relaxation was intended to operate on a one-time basis. The petitioner, although he participated in the said selection process, was, admittedly, below 40 years of age at the relevant time and, therefore, did not require any age relaxation. As such, according to Learned Counsel for TPSC the petitioner cannot claim a similar benefit in the subsequent recruitment process initiated in the year 2025.

Learned Counsel further submitted that the memorandum dated 20.08.2018 issued by the GA (P&T) Department is clear and inasmuch as the benefit of relaxation in the upper age limit was extended to enable eligible candidates to participate "once in the fresh recruitment process", subject to furnishing documentary evidence.

34. Now, taking aid of the said memorandum dated 20.08.2018, the present petitioner cannot claim the benefit of age relaxation for an indefinite period. Upon hearing the Learned Counsel appearing for the parties and considering the materials on record, this Court is of the view that the petitioner has failed to make out any case for issuance of a writ of mandamus directing the respondents to consider his candidature. Accordingly, in the

considered opinion of this Court, the petitioner is not entitled to any relief in the present writ petition.

35. In the result, the writ petition filed, being devoid of merit, deserves no consideration and is, accordingly, stands dismissed.

36. The interim order, if any, stands vacated.

With the aforesaid observations, the present writ petition stands disposed of.

Pending application(s), if any, also stand disposed of.

