

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD
(Special Original Jurisdiction)**

**TUESDAY, THE EIGHTH DAY OF SEPTEMBER
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY SIX**

PRESENT

**THE HONOURABLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND
THE HONOURABLE SRI JUSTICE G.M. MOHIUDDIN**

WRIT PETITION NO: 28711 OF 2026

Between:

Bheemanathi Samhitha, D/o V.Vijayalakshmi Aged 17 years, Occ. Student
Being minor Rep by her Guardian/mother V. Vijayalakshmi, Aged about 48
years, Occ. Chief Manger, Canara Bank, R/o Flot No.301, Block A, Raaga
central court, Nizampet Road, Kukatpally, Medchal/Malkajgiri District,
Telangana-500072.

...PETITIONER

AND

1. The state of Telangana, Rep, by its Principal Secretary, Medical and health department, Secretariat Buildings, Hyderabad,
2. Kaloji Narayana Rao, University of health sciences Rep by its Registrar, Nizampura, Warangal, Telangana 506007

...RESPONDENTS

Petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed therewith, the High Court may be pleased to issue an appropriate writ, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of writ of Mandamus declaring the rule 3(a) of Telangana Medical and Dental colleges admission (admission into MBBS and BDS courses) Rules 2017 as amended vide G.O.Ms.No.150 Health, Medical and family welfare (C1) Department dated 8th September 2025 excluding the children of employees of Central Government and the Central Public Sector Undertakings and Central Government Undertakings as being illegal, unconstitutional, manifestly arbitrary, in violation of Article 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents to declare the petitioner as local candidate for all purposes of admission into MBBS/BDS Pursuant

to NEET-(UG) 2026 for MBBS/BDS Admissions under competent Authority Quota-2026-2027.

I.A. NO: 1 OF 2026

Petition under Section 151 CPC praying that in the circumstances stated in the affidavit filed in support of the petition, the High Court may be pleased to direct the respondents to treat the Petitioner as local and to admit her into the admission of MBBS course under BC 'B' quota of Telangana local list for the academic year 2026-27 pending disposal of the main Writ Petition.

Counsel for the Petitioner: SRI V.R.MACHAVARAM

Counsel for the Respondent No.1: GP FOR MEDICAL HEALTH & FW

Counsel for the Respondent No.2: SRI T.SHARATH, SC FOR KNRUHS

The Court made the following: ORDER

**IN THE HIGH COURT FOR THE STATE OF TELANGANA
AT HYDERABAD**

**THE HON'BLE THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
AND**

THE HON'BLE SRI JUSTICE G.M.MOHIUDDIN

WRIT PETITION No.28711 of 2026

[CNR No.HBHC010594622026]

DATE: 08.09.2026

BETWEEN:

Bheemanathi Samhitha

....Petitioner

AND

The State of Telangana,
Rep. by its Principal Secretary,
Medical and Health Department and
another

....Respondents

ORDER

Heard Sri V.R.Machavaram, learned counsel for the petitioner and Sri T.Sharath, learned Standing Counsel for Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences appearing for respondent No.2 and perused the record.

2. The present writ petition is filed with the following prayer:

".....to issue an appropriate writ, order or direction more particularly one in the nature of writ of Mandamus declaring the rule 3(a) of Telangana . Medical and Dental colleges admission (admission into MBBS and BDS courses) Rules 2017 as amended vide GOMs No. 150 Health, Medical and family welfare (C1) Department dated 8t September 2025 excluding the children of employees of Central Government and the Central Public Sector Undertakings and Central Government Undertakings as being

illegal, unconstitutional, manifestly arbitrary, in violation of Article 14, 19, and 21 of the Constitution of India and consequently direct the respondents to declare the petitioner as local candidate for all purposes of admission into MBBS/BDS Pursuant to NEET (UG) 2026 for MBBS/BDS Admissions under competent Authority Quota-2026-2027 and pass such other orders as this Hon'ble Court deem fit and proper in the circumstances of the case."

Factual Matrix

3. The petitioner, Bheemanathi Samhitha is represented by her mother, V.Vijayalakshmi. The petitioner's mother is stated to be an Officer in Canara Bank, which, according to the petitioner, is a Government of India (GOI) undertaking. The petitioner's mother joined in the employment with the Canara Bank in the year 2001. The movement of the family between different places is on account of the transferable nature of her mother's service.

4. The particulars of the places petitioner's education are as follows:

Class	School	State
Class I	MNR School of Excellence, Faslwadi, Sangareddy.	Telangana
Class II	ODF Kendriya Vidyalaya, Eddumailaram	Telangana
Class III and IV	Kendriya Vidyalaya, AFS Begumpet	Telangana
Class V to Class IX		Andhra Pradesh
Class X, XI and XII		Telangana

5. The petitioner appeared for NEET (UG)-2026 and secured an All India Rank of 1,34,196 and a Telangana State Rank of 2,164, and sought admission to the MBBS/BDS courses for the academic year 2026-27 under the Competent Authority Quota, which is subject to the local candidature requirements prescribed under the Rule 3(a) of the Telangana Medical and Dental Colleges Admission (Admission into MBBS and BDS Courses) Rules, 2017, (for short '2017 Rules').

6. That pursuant to the notification issued by the 2nd respondent-University, petitioner submitted her application and participated in the online counselling process on 06.08.2026.

7. The prospectus issued by the 2nd respondent prescribed, for candidates claiming local status, the requirement of four consecutive academic years of study in the local area immediately preceding the relevant qualifying examination, subject to the following exceptions:

- (i) Children of employees of the Telangana State Government who have served or are serving outside Telangana.
- (ii) Children of service or retired officers belonging to the Telangana cadre of All India Services (IAS/IFS/IPS) who have served or are serving outside Telangana.
- (iii) Children of defence personnel/ex-servicemen/Central Armed Police Force service.

- (iv) Children of employees of a Corporation/Agency/Instrumentality under Government of Telangana, liable to be transferred in India

A provisional merit list was published on 24.08.2026, wherein the petitioner states that her name figured at Serial No.410.

8. However, upon publication of the Final Merit List dated 28.08.2026 by 2nd respondent, the petitioner's name was not included therein apparently on the ground that the petitioner was not a local candidate. Aggrieved thereby, the petitioner filed the present writ petition.

Submissions on behalf of the petitioner

9. The learned counsel for the petitioner advanced the following submissions:

- i) That the classification embodied in the proviso to Rule 3(a)(iii) of 2017 Rules is manifestly arbitrary and bears no rational nexus with the object sought to be achieved by the Rule. According to learned counsel, the very purpose of the exception is to protect children who are compelled to pursue their education outside Telangana, not by choice, but on account of the transferable nature of the employment of their parents.
- ii) That there is no *intelligible differentia* between children of Telangana State Government employees and children of

Central Government employees, including employees of Central Government Corporations or Undertakings, insofar as the educational hardship occasioned by transfer is concerned. In either case, the child is required to relocate outside the State solely by reason of the parent's official posting. Learned counsel would contend that the nature of the employer cannot constitute a rational basis for conferring the benefit upon one class while denying it to another similarly situated class.

- iii) That Canara Bank is a GOI undertaking under the control of the Central Government and the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), and is accordingly a Central Government Undertaking/Central Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) which has been wrongfully excluded while considering the local residential status of the petitioner.
- iv) Placing reliance upon the order of this Court in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 dated 17.08.2026, it is contended that this Court has directed that the proviso to Rule 3(a) of 2017 Rules be read to include children of employees of the Central Government, Central Government Corporations, and Central PSU, and that the petitioner's case is squarely covered by the said direction inasmuch as her mother is employed as an Officer in Canara Bank, which is a public sector undertaking and that the exclusion of the petitioners in the final merit list apparently on

the ground that the petitioner is not covered by the exception, as interpreted by this Court in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 is illegal.

- v) That the certificate dated 05.06.2026 issued by the Deputy General Manager, Human Resources Wing of Canara Bank (for short 'HR Wing'), expressly certifies the Bank to be a PSU, and being an official communication issued by a senior functionary of the Bank's HR Wing, ought to be accepted by this Court as sufficient proof of the Bank's status for the purpose of extending the benefit of the proviso to Rule 3(a) of 2017 Rules.
- vi) That as per the list of central case is PSUs available on Wikipedia, Canara Bank is shown as a nationalized bank with 62.93% GOI shareholding on account of which the petitioner stands entitled for the benefit of the exception from the continuous residence requirement.

Submissions on behalf of the respondents

10. The learned Standing Counsel appearing for 2nd respondent has advanced the following submissions:

- i) That the petitioner cannot claim, as a matter of right, extension of the benefit of the proviso to Rule 3(a)(iii) of 2017 Rules merely on the ground that her mother is employed in Canara Bank. It is contended that the exception carved out under the said Rule is a specific and limited statutory

exception, intended to operate only in respect of the categories expressly identified therein, and cannot be enlarged by judicial interpretation so as to cover every employee of an entity which may, in some manner, be described as a Central Government undertaking or PSU.

- ii) That Canara Bank is a banking institution carrying on commercial banking activities and its employees cannot be equated with employees of the Central Government or with employees of Central Government Corporation/Central PSU. The petitioner, therefore, cannot seek parity with the categories specifically enumerated in the proviso without first establishing that the institution in which her parent is employed, falls squarely within the statutory expression employed in the Rule.
- iii) That the proviso to Rule 3(a)(iii) of 2017 Rules is not a general exemption available to the children of all persons employed by entities having an association with the Central Government. The benefit is confined to the classes expressly recognized by the rule-making authority. If the intention of the State were to extend the exception to employees of public sector banks or banking institutions, the same could have been expressly incorporated in the Rule. In the absence of such an express inclusion, the Court, while exercising jurisdiction under Article

226 of the Constitution of India, cannot rewrite or enlarge the scope of the statutory exception.

- iv) That the reliance placed by the petitioner on material sourced from Wikipedia to establish the constitutional/administrative status of Canara Bank is impermissible, on account of the fact that Wikipedia, being an online, crowd-sourced encyclopedia that is open to editing by any member of the public, is not an authentic or reliable source for adjudication of legal disputes.
- v) That the petitioner cannot rely upon the principle of parity with employees of the State Government merely because both categories may be liable to transfers outside the State. According to the 2nd respondent, transferability by itself cannot constitute the sole basis for claiming an exception to the local-candidate requirement, since the eligibility conditions under Rule 3(a)(iii) of 2017 Rules are framed by the competent rule-making authority having regard to the State's policy concerning admissions under the Competent Authority Quota.
- vi) That the certificate dated 05.06.2026 issued by the Deputy General Manager, Human Resources Wing of Canara Bank, is an internal communication of the Bank concerning its own general description, issued by an official who has no authority, competence or occasion to pronounce upon the Bank's

classification for the purposes of an executive/statutory scheme framed by the State Government of Telangana.

11. We have taken note of the respective submissions urged and perused the material on record.

Consideration by this Court

12. The challenge in the instant writ petition is to Rule 3 of 2017 Rules, as amended *vide* G.O.Ms.No.150 Health, Medical & Family Welfare (C1) Department dated 08.09.2025, as being illegal on account of excluding the children of Central Government employees or Central PSUs. Perusal of the Rules would show that the Government, has carved out exceptions for certain category of candidates. Rule 3, as far as it is relevant, is extracted hereunder for ready reference:

(a) A candidate for admission into undergraduate courses under Competent Authority Quota' in Telangana should be Indian National/Person of Indian Origin (PIO)/Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) card holder and shall fulfil the following provisions:

i) If the candidate has studied in educational Institutions in such local area for a period of not less than four consecutive academic years ending with the academic year in which he appeared or as the case may be first appeared in the relevant qualifying examination.

(or)

ii) Where during the whole or any part of the four consecutive academic years ending with the academic year in which he appeared, or as the case may be, first appeared for the relevant qualifying examination, he has not studied in any educational institutions, if he has resided in that local area for a period of not less than four years immediately preceding the date of commencement of the relevant qualifying examination which he appeared or as the case may be first appeared.

iii) Local area herein means the State of Telangana. Further, in case the candidate has not studied in any educational institution and has resided in the local area as stated at (ii) above, to be eligible for admission into undergraduate courses under 'Competent Authority Quota', the candidate should have appeared for the relevant qualifying examination in the State of Telangana:

1. Provided that a candidate who studies outside Telangana for any period during the requisite four consecutive academic years ending with the academic year in which he appeared, or as the case may be, first appeared in the relevant qualifying examination will be eligible to be considered if they fall under any of the below categories:

1. Children of employees of the Telangana State Government who have served or are serving outside Telangana corresponding to the candidate's year/s of study outside Telangana.
2. Children of serving or retired officers belonging to the Telangana cadre of All India Services (IAS/IFS/IPS) who have served or are serving outside Telangana corresponding to the candidate's year/s of study outside Telangana.
3. Children of defence personnel/ex-servicemen/Central Armed Police Force service who, at the time of joining service, have declared their hometown to be in the State of Telangana and who have secured or are serving outside Telangana corresponding to the candidate's year/s of study outside Telangana.
4. Children of employees of a Corporation/ Agency/ Instrumentality under Government of Telangana, liable to be transferred anywhere in India as per the terms and conditions of his/her employment, who have served or are serving outside Telangana corresponding to the candidate's year/s of study outside Telangana."

(Emphasis supplied)

A plain reading of the aforesaid Exception (4) to the proviso to Rule 3(a) of 2017 Rules, demonstrates that the aforesaid provision makes it clear that two cumulative conditions must be satisfied. First, the employee must be employed by a

"Corporation/Agency/Instrumentality under Government of Telangana"; and, secondly, such employee must, under the terms and conditions of his or her employment, be liable to be transferred anywhere in India. These conditions are conjunctive and not disjunctive. Consequently, the mere fact that an employee is liable to be transferred anywhere in India, without satisfying the first condition, would not bring the case within the ambit of Exception (4). Any other interpretation would have the effect of extending the exception to employees of every organisation having an all-India transfer liability, irrespective of whether the employer is a Corporation, Agency or Instrumentality under the Government of Telangana or not. Such an interpretation would render the qualifying words employed by the Rule-making authority otiose and would be contrary to the plain scheme and language of the provision.

13. It is pertinent to note that the language of the proviso makes it clear that liability to be transferred anywhere in India does not confer the benefit of the exception. In the case of Exception (4), such transfer liability is only one of the requirements. The other and essential requirement is that the employee must be employed by a Corporation, Agency or Instrumentality under the Government of Telangana. However, in the present case, the petitioner's mother is admittedly an employee of Canara Bank. Merely because her service is transferable and she may be liable to be posted at different places

in India, her employment cannot be brought within the expression "Corporation/Agency/Instrumentality under Government of Telangana" occurring in Exception (4). Therefore, the petitioner's mother's employment does not fall within the specific class of employment contemplated under Exception (4) to the proviso to Rule 3(a) of 2017 Rules.

14. It is a well settled principle of statutory construction that where a provision creates specific and enumerated exceptions subject to express qualifying conditions, those conditions must be given their due meaning and effect. The deliberate inclusion of particular qualifying words in one exception, when contrasted with their absence in another, is a relevant indication of the legislative intent and cannot be disregarded. The principle embodied in the maxim *expressio unius est exclusio alterius* (the express mention of one thing implies the exclusion of others) therefore assumes significance in construing the scope of the exceptions contained in the proviso.

15. It is also pertinent to note that the petitioner's mother is an Officer/Chief Manager of Canara Bank, which is a body corporate constituted under the Banking Companies (Acquisition and Transfer of Undertakings) Act, 1970 (for short '1970 Act'). It is no doubt true that a Public Sector Bank, being an entity established under a Central enactment and substantially owned or controlled by the

Central Government, may falls within the expression "State" or "other authority" under Article 12 of the Constitution of India. However, such characterisation made for the specific constitutional purpose of determining the amenability of such bodies to the applicability of Part III of the Constitution or the maintainability of a writ petition under Article 226 of the Constitution of India does not, by itself, mean that the employees of such a bank become employees of the Central Government. Nor does it follow that the bank must be treated as a "Central Government Corporation" or "Central PSU" for every statutory or administrative purpose, more particularly in extending a State Government concession to the wards of the employees.

16. Further, the distinction assumes significance in the present case, as the Canara Bank is a separate corporate entity, and the service relationship of its officers and employees is with the Bank (as a corporate body), and not with the GOI as such. The fact that the Bank is a Public Sector Bank and that its employees may be liable to transfer or posting at different places in India cannot, by itself, satisfy the specific requirement contained in Exception (4), namely, that the employer must be a "Corporation/Agency/Instrumentality under Government of Telangana."

17. At this juncture, it is apposite to reproduce Article 311 of the Constitution of India, which reads as under:

311. Dismissal, removal or reduction in rank of persons employed in civil capacities under the Union or a State.

(1) No person who is a member of a civil service of the Union or an all-India service or a civil service of a State or holds a civil post under the Union or a State shall be dismissed or removed by an authority subordinate to that by which he was appointed.

(2) No such person as aforesaid shall be dismissed or removed or reduced in rank except after an inquiry in which he has been informed of the charges against him and given a reasonable opportunity of being heard in respect of those charges [* * *]:

[Provided that where it is proposed after such inquiry, to impose upon him any such penalty, such penalty may be imposed on the basis of the evidence adduced during such inquiry and it shall not be necessary to give such person any opportunity of making representation on the penalty proposed:

Provided further that this clause shall not apply—]

(a) where a person is dismissed or removed or reduced in rank on the ground of conduct which has led to his conviction on a criminal charge; or

(b) where the authority empowered to dismiss or remove a person or to reduce him in rank is satisfied that for some reason, to be recorded by that authority in writing, it is not reasonably practicable to hold such inquiry; or

(c) where the President or the Governor, as the case may be, is satisfied that in the interest of the security of the State it is not expedient to hold such inquiry.

(3) If, in respect of any such person as aforesaid, a question arises whether it is reasonably practicable to hold such inquiry as is referred to in clause (2), the decision thereon of the authority empowered to dismiss or remove such person or to reduce him in rank shall be final.]

18. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in **State Bank of India v. S. Vijaya Kumar**¹, while considering the status of employees of the State Bank of India (SBI) in the context of Article 311 of the Constitution, held that employees of the Bank do not fall within any

¹ (1990) 4 SCC 481

of the categories specified in Article 311(1). Thus, the fact that an institution is established or regulated under a Central statute, or that its employees are governed by statutory service regulations, does not confer upon such employees the status of holders of civil posts under the Union or make them Government servants. The relevant portion of the said decision is extracted hereunder:

24. ...The right that an officer or employee of the State Bank of India cannot be dismissed from service by an authority lower than the appointing authority is a creation of statutory rules and regulations. So far as the right or protection guaranteed under Article 311 of the Constitution is concerned, it applies to members of the Civil Service of the Union or an All India service or a Civil Service of a State or who holds a civil post under the Union or a State. Admittedly the employees of the State Bank do not fall under any one of these categories and they cannot seek any protection under Article 311(1) of the Constitution....

(Emphasis supplied)

19. It is apposite to note that the Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) which is the nodal department in relation to Central Public Sector Enterprises, maintains a separate administrative framework for Central Public Sector Enterprises. Public Sector Banks, on the other hand, are dealt with separately by the Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance, under the statutory framework governing banking institutions. Thus, the administrative treatment of Public Sector Banks is distinct from that applicable to Central Public Sector Enterprises falling within the purview of the DPE. This distinction assumes significance while construing the expression "Central Government, Central Government Corporations, and

Central PSUs” referred to in the order of this Court in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 dated 17.08.2026. The said expression cannot, in our view, be enlarged merely on the ground that a Public Sector Bank is substantially owned or controlled by the Union Government.

20. The Hon’ble Supreme Court in **Bank of India v. O.P. Swarnakar**² highlighting the difference in service conditions between a government employee and the employees of banks, whose service conditions are governed by standing orders, has held as under:

48. The employees of the nationalized bank may not enjoy a “status” as is the case of government employees or the statutory authorities whose terms and conditions of service are governed by the constitutional provisions and/or the statutes and the statutory rules; but there is no gainsaying that the employees of the nationalized banks enjoy security of their employment. So far as the employees of the State Bank of India are concerned, their terms and conditions of service, as noticed hereinbefore, are governed by statutory rules. However, so far as the employees of the nationalized banks are concerned, except for the matter of grant of pension which is covered by the regulations framed in terms of Section 19 of the 1970 Act, other terms and conditions of their service are not statutory in nature. But the State Bank of India as also the nationalized banks are “States” within the meaning of Article 12 of the Constitution of India. The services of the workman are also governed by several standing orders and bipartite settlements which have the force of law. The banks, therefore, cannot take recourse to “hire and fire” for the purpose of terminating the services of the employees. The banks are required to act fairly and strictly in terms of the norms laid down therefor. Their actions in this behalf must satisfy the test of Articles 14 and 21 of the Constitution of India. Having regard to the intendment of the Scheme, each and every employee would not be entitled

² (2003) 2 SCC 721

to the benefit of the said Scheme. Those who are facing disciplinary proceedings or working in a particular class of employment are not eligible therefor.

21. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Federal Bank Ltd. v. Sagar Thomas***³, held that the merely because RBI lays the banking policy in the interest of the banking system or in the interest of monetary stability or sound economic growth having due regard to the interests of the depositors etc. as provided under Section 5(c)(a) of the Banking Regulation Act does not mean that the commercial activity of banking, discharge any public function or public duty.
22. The reliance placed by the petitioner on the decision of this Court in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 dated 17.08.2026 is misplaced, as the petitioner therein was the daughter of an employee of the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC), a statutory Corporation established under the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 and functioning under the administrative control of the Ministry of Labour and Employment, GOI, whereas the present petitioner is the daughter of an officer employed by Canara Bank, a nationalised banking institution with a distinct statutory and administrative framework. Therefore, the direction issued in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 which extended the benefit to children of employees of the Central Government, Central Government Corporations and Central PSUs cannot be mechanically extended to

³ (2003) 10 SCC 733

employees of every Central Government-controlled entity, including a nationalised bank. Thus, the said reliance placed on W.P.No.23998 of 2026 does not advance the case of the petitioner.

23. Further, the decision of this Court in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 dated 17.08.2026 was based upon the concession of the learned Advocate General. The said judgment neither interprets nor expands the scope of the exception which is a policy driven concession. The State would be well within its right to reserve benefits in the admission to the Under Graduate-Medical or BDS courses to the local candidates. The extension of the concession by judicial interpretation to the wards of the persons working in the commercial banking companies may dilute the very purpose of the domicile rule which is intended to safeguard the admission avenues of the candidates of the specific state.

24. The State has a legitimate interest in providing that its own domiciled candidates are given priority. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has endorsed the residency based reservation in ***State of Telangana v. Kalluri Naga Narasimha Abhiram***⁴. Every time an exception to the domicile is expanded to a new class of candidates, the quota available to the local candidates gets shrunk. In the present case, the fundamental legal distinction between the Government Administrative Services and Commercial Banking

⁴ SLP(C) Nos.21536-21588 of 2024 dated 01.09.2025

Employment cannot be lost sight of. The Central Government employees execute sovereign functions of the State. Public Sector Banks, even where the centre has major shareholding, operate as corporate commercial entities, focused on financial services. The employees of the banking companies are distinct from the Civil Services of the state and the centre.

25. It is well settled that Courts must exercise judicial restraint and refrain from rewriting the State policy. If the benefit of the exception in the rule is extended to the persons employed with Nationalized Banks, there would be no logical reason to deny it to the employees of private banks, Multi-National Corporations or the private sector employees, who also hold transferable jobs, which would ultimately defeat the very object and purpose of the rule.

26. The formulation of the residency criteria, is a pure policy decision belonging to the executive or legislature. The Court's role is to see if the rule is constitutional, not to expand its scope for perceived individual hardships. The classification between the Government employees and the Banking Corporation Employees is neither arbitrary nor unconstitutional. The Government employees represent the administrative apparatus of the nation. Banking institutions, on the other hand are independent corporate bodies governed by the distinctive statutory bodies and have independent recruitment and service rules.

27. Hardship alone cannot be a ground for the Courts to strike down or expand a valid State policy. The residency exception was carved out as a restrictive measure for civil servants. Expanding this benefit to the commercial banking personnel, would set a dangerous precedent effectively frustrating the original intent of the provision.

28. Insofar as the certificate dated 05.06.2026 issued by the Deputy General Manager, HR Wing, Canara Bank is concerned, it is an internal communication issued by an officer of the Bank, describing Canara Bank as a “public sector undertaking”. Such a description, contained in a certificate issued for the petitioner's service-related purposes, cannot determine the legal or administrative classification of the Bank for the purposes of the Rules framed by the State Government of Telangana. The officer issuing the certificate has neither the authority nor the mandate to determine whether Canara Bank falls within the expression “Central PSU” or “Corporation/Agency/Instrumentality under Government of Telangana” occurring in the Rule. Therefore, the certificate cannot override the statutory language or the relevant administrative classification of the Bank and does not advance the case of the petitioner in establishing her entitlement to the benefit of the proviso.

29. Further the reliance placed by the petitioner on material sourced from Wikipedia to establish the constitutional and administrative status of Canara Bank, cannot be countenanced.

Wikipedia is a crowd-sourced and user-editable online encyclopedia and cannot be treated as an authoritative source for determining the legal or administrative status of an entity. The Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Hewlett Packard India Sales (P) Ltd. v. Commr. of Customs***⁵, has cautioned against placing reliance upon such material for adjudicating legal questions, observing that, though such sources may provide useful information, they cannot be regarded as completely dependable in matters requiring academic or legal veracity. The relevant portion of the said judgement is extracted hereunder:

14. At the outset, we must note that the adjudicating authorities while coming to their respective conclusions, especially the Commissioner of Customs (Appeal) have extensively referred to online sources such as Wikipedia to support their conclusion. While we expressly acknowledge the utility of these platforms which provide free access to knowledge across the globe, but we must also sound a note of caution against using such sources for legal dispute resolution. We say so for the reason that these sources, despite being a treasure trove of knowledge, are based on a crowd-sourced and user-generated editing model that is not completely dependable in terms of academic veracity and can promote misleading information as has been noted by this court on previous occasions also. [Commr. of Customs v. Acer India (P) Ltd., (2008) 1 SCC 382, para 17] The courts and adjudicating authorities should rather make an endeavour to persuade the counsel to place reliance on more reliable and authentic sources.

(Emphasis supplied)

⁵ (2023) 7 SCC 799

Conclusion

30. For the foregoing reasons, this Court is of the considered view that the petitioner is not entitled to claim local-candidate status under the proviso to Rule 3(a). The petitioner's mother's employment with Canara Bank does not satisfy any of the Exceptions to Rule 3. The petitioner cannot derive any benefit from the direction issued in W.P.No.23998 of 2026 which was rendered in the factual background of that case and particularly on the basis of the fair concession by the learned Advocate General. This Court finds no arbitrariness or violation of Article 14 of the Constitution in the classification made under the said Rule. Consequently, the petitioner cannot seek consideration for admission to the MBBS/BDS Courses pursuant to NEET (UG)-2026 as a local candidate under the Competent Authority Quota.

31. Accordingly, the Writ Petition is dismissed.

As a sequel, miscellaneous petitions, pending if any, stand closed. No costs.

**SD/- M. OSMAN ALI BAIG
ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

//TRUE COPY//



SECTION OFFICER

**One Fair Copy to the Hon'ble THE CHIEF JUSTICE SRI APARESH KUMAR SINGH
(For His Lordships Kind Perusal)**

AND

**One Fair Copy to the Hon'ble Sri Justice G.M. MOHIUDDIN
(For His Lordships Kind Perusal)**

To

1. 11 LR Copies.
2. The Under Secretary, Union of India Ministry of Law, Justice and Company Affairs, New Delhi.
3. The Secretary, Telangana Advocates Association Library, High Court Buildings, Hyderabad.

4. Ms. Bheemanathi Samhitha, D/o V.Vijayalakshmi Aged 17 years, Occ. Student Being minor Rep by her Guardian/mother V. Vijayalakshmi, Aged about 48 years, Occ. Chief Manger, Canara Bank, R/o Flot No.301, Block A, Raaga central court, Nizampet Road, Kukatpally, Medchal/Malkajgiri District, Telangana-500072.
5. One CC to SRI V.R.MACHAVARAM, Advocate [OPUC]
6. Two CCs to GP FOR MEDICAL HEALTH & FW, High Court for the State of Telangana, at Hyderabad. [OUT]
7. One CC to SRI T.SHARATH, SC FOR KNRUHS [OPUC]
8. Two CD Copies

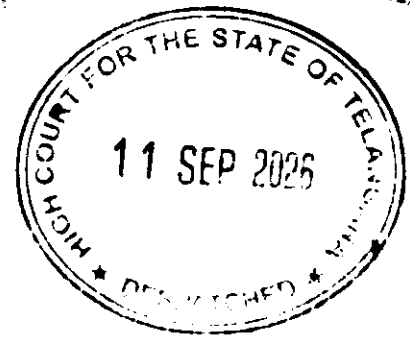
PSK.
GJP



HIGH COURT

DATED: 08/09/2026

ORDER
WP.No.28711 of 2026



DISMISSING THE WRIT PETITION
WITHOUT COSTS

(23)

Kpru
11/9/26