



हरियाणा केंद्रीय विश्वविद्यालय
CENTRAL UNIVERSITY OF HARYANA
NAAC ACCREDITED 'A' GRADE UNIVERSITY

MINUTES

67th Meeting of the Executive Council (Through Circulation)

The Agenda Item was circulated to the following members of the Council vide E-mail dated 29-03-2026, for their consideration and approval through circulation:

- | | | |
|---|---|-----------|
| 1. Prof. (Dr.) Tankeshwar Kumar | - | Chairman |
| 2. Prof. Pawan Kumar Sharma | - | Member |
| 3. Secretary, Higher Education, MoE | - | Member |
| 4. Prof. Narendra Bahadur Singh | - | Member |
| 5. Prof. Ashu Rani | - | Member |
| 6. Prof. (Retd.) Suhas Pednekar | - | Member |
| 7. Prof. B. B. Goel | - | Member |
| 8. Prof. Pardeep Kumar | - | Member |
| 9. Dr. Vinod K. Verma | - | Member |
| 10. Prof. R.K. Gupta | - | Member |
| 11. Prof. Bharat | - | Member |
| 12. Prof. (Mrs.) Viney Kapoor Mehra | - | Member |
| 13. Prof. Mukhtiar Singh | - | Member |
| 14. Prof. Kashmir Singh | - | Member |
| 15. Prof. Payal Kanwar Chandel | - | Member |
| 16. Prof. Rajesh Kumar Gupta | - | Member |
| 17. Prof. Dinesh Kumar Gupta | - | Member |
| 18. Prof. Nandkishor | - | Member |
| 19. Prof. (Dr.) Suneel Kumar, Registrar | - | Secretary |

Item No.	DESCRIPTION
1.	To consider the Interim Order dated 09.03.2026 uploaded on 20.03.2026 issued by the Division Bench Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana regarding appeal of Dr. Monika in CM-1161-LPA-2026 in/and LPA 451-2026 (O&M)(attached). The proposal along with the background note is enclosed. <i>S. Kumar</i>

Note:

On 19th July, 2024, in CWP 29545 of 2023 titled Pardeep Singh Vs. Union of India and Others, Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anmol Jain listened to the Petitioner and gave the Interim Order that appointment of Respondents Dr. Monika Malik and Dr. DPS Punia shall stayed. All the excess amount already paid to them shall be subject to the outcome of this petition. Another Hon'ble High Court Judge (Retired), after going through the records of the University, mentioned that **"if any lenient view is taken on the facts of the present case in favour of the selected candidates then it would amount to putting premium on dishonesty and corrupt practice."**

The University's **Executive Council in its 62nd meeting held on 02.05.2025** categorically said that **"... three candidates: non-eligible - were presented before the selection committee and all three were selected.."**

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Sandeep Moudgil vide order dated 05.12.2025 dismissed the petition filed by Dr. Monika Malik against the decision taken by the University.

Legal Opinion has been obtained from Senior Advocate Sanjay Kaushal and Mr. Puneet Gupta, University's Counsel, who has recommended to file an SLP in the Supreme Court of India. The brief of the case filed by Dr. Pardeep Singh, Department of Law, till the final dismissal of the petition (CWP-15567-2025) filed by Dr. Monika, is enclosed as background note for SLP along with proposal.

Background note with proposal:

It is submitted that in **CWP No. 29545 of 2023**, filed by Dr. Pradeep Singh challenging the selection/appointment of the appellant, **no adverse interim or final order was passed against the petitioner.**

In fact, the petition was **disposed of with directions to the University** to take an appropriate decision in accordance with its stand and by following due procedure.

The University stand:

The Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana had directed the University to **examine the selection process and submit its response.** In compliance, the University scrutinized the entire record and also sought independent legal advice from a former Hon'ble High Court Judge.

The learned Judge (Retd.) opined as follows:

"If any lenient view is taken on the facts of the present case in favour of the selected candidates, it would amount to putting a premium on dishonesty and corrupt practice."

Based on the aforesaid opinion and detailed scrutiny of records, the University adopted the said view.

S Kumar

It is clarified that there was **no change of stand**, but rather a **reasoned decision taken after critical examination and verification of records**, including verification of certificates not only from issuing agencies but also with respect to their authenticity.

The university examined it critically because the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in its interim order discontinued the services of two respondents in 29545 CWP. Salary paid to them in the past was also subject to the outcome of the petition.

2. Procedural Irregularities in Selection

- (i) As per **UGC Regulations, 2018**, there is no statutory provision mandating a "screening committee" in the manner claimed. Therefore, the issue is not of an "authorized or unauthorized" screening committee, but whether the process adopted ensured that only eligible candidates were presented before the Selection Committee. And also see eligible are not kept out. In fact the screening committees are constituted by using green pen which is only/generally used by Vice-Chancellor in the university.
- (ii) Records reveal that **three candidates who were ineligible** were nevertheless presented before the Selection Committee, and all three were selected. This is in violation of the prescribed norms.
- (iii) None of the experts were recommended by the statutory body of the University as per UGC 2018 regulations.
- (iv) The issue is not limited to eligibility alone, but also involves **alleged misrepresentation**, including submission of incorrect/false certificates by a candidate.
- (v) It is further noted that such certificate was issued by an individual who was himself subsequently selected by another Selection Committee, in circumstances indicating conflict of interest.
- (vi) The presence of the husband of the appellant during such processes, coupled with his position as a **Member of the Executive Council**, and also as member of selection committee of the person who gave wrong certificate to Dr. Monika also raises serious concerns regarding **bias, conflict of interest, and malafide intent**.
- (vii) The irregularities noted above are not confined to a single candidate. Rather, **multiple ineligible candidates were allowed to participate and were selected**, thereby affecting the **entire selection process**, rendering it vitiated in law.

A detailed legal opinion has been obtained (placed at Flag 'A'), which **recommends filing of a Special Leave Petition (SLP)** before the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the impugned interim order.

She has already submitted joining without any approval of EC.

Skumar

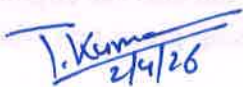
Proposal

In view of the above facts, procedural irregularities, and legal opinion, the matter is placed before the Executive Council for consideration and approval to in the interest of the justice:

1. **File a Special Leave Petition (SLP)** before the Hon'ble Supreme Court; and
2. Authorize the competent authority to engage counsel and take all necessary legal steps in the matter.

Resolution Passed:

Proposal Approved.



T. Kumar
2/4/26

**VICE-CHANCELLOR
(Chairperson)**



S. Kumar

**REGISTRAR
(Secretary)**

122

CM-1161-LPA-2026 in/and
LPA-451-2026 (O&M)

Dr. MONIKA
V/S

CENTRAL UNIVERSITY HARYANA MAHENDERGARH AND
OTHERS

Present: Mr. D.S. Patwalia, Sr. Advocate with
Ms. Priyanka Chaudhary, Advocate for the appellant.

Mr. Sanjay Kaushal, Sr. Advocate with
Mr. Puneet Gupta, Advocate for the respondents – University.

This appeal assails the judgment of the learned Single Judge dated 05.12.2025, whereby the challenge laid to order of the respondents – University dated 07.05.2025, terminating the services of the appellant, had failed with dismissal of the writ petition.

2. Undisputedly, the appellant was selected and appointed as Associate Professor on 23.12.2019 and she also functioned as Head, Department of Law, for a period of three years. She was further promoted to the post of Professor on 07.06.2024.

3. It transpires that a writ petition bearing No.29545-2023, came to be filed by one Pradeep Singh, challenging the selection and appointment of the appellant. In the aforesaid writ petition, an interim order was passed against the petitioner. The aforesaid writ petition was contested by the respondents – University, wherein, an affidavit of the Vice Chancellor of the University was filed, stating that the selection and appointment of the appellant was valid and that the Selection Committee was also constituted by him. It is thereafter that CWP-29545-2023, was withdrawn and the respondents – University changed its stand and the services of the appellant

Skumar

were terminated. The writ petition filed by the appellant challenging such order of the respondents – University, has been dismissed.

4. In the appeal, we passed following orders on 23.02.2026:

*“We have heard learned senior counsel for the appellant as also learned senior counsel for the respondents-University at substantial length. The judgment of the learned Single Judge has been placed before us especially with reference to the findings returned in paragraphs 14, 15 & 20 thereof. The University has placed reliance upon a show-cause notice which would indicate material lapses in the process of recruitment which ultimately led to the appointment of the appellant as Associate Professor. Before observing any further on the merits of the matter, we deem it appropriate to call upon the University to produce the original records regarding constitution of the Screening Committee; e-mail exchanged between the husband of the appellant and the University; as well as the entire records relating to constitution of the Selection Committee and making of appointment.
Adjourned to 09.03.2026.”*

5. Pursuant to the aforesaid order passed, the respondents – University has produced the original record before us. On the strength of such record, learned Senior Counsel for the University contends that in fact, the appointment of the appellant was on account of nexus operating between the husband of the appellant and one Preet Singh and that the Vice Chancellor had never constituted any Screening Committee nor the Selection of subject expert was approved at the level of competent authority.

6. So far as the constitution of the Screening Committee is concerned, the original records produced by the University show that on 07.10.2019, a Screening Committee was constituted for the post of Associate Professor, consisting of one Mr. Raj Pal Sharma and Dr. Preet Singh. As per

SKumar

the university, a subsequent email was also sent by the establishment branch on 07.11.2019, indicating that the Screening Committee now consisted of Mr. Sharma and Mr. Rajesh Kumar Malik, who happens to be the husband of the appellant. On 11.11.2022, the appellant's husband intimated the University that due to personal reasons, he does not intend to be a part of the Screening Committee. The Screening Committee was then re-constituted with the members being Mr. Sharma and Dr. Preet Singh.

7. Learned Senior Counsel for the University points out that the Screening Committee was in fact never approved by the Vice Chancellor. However, it has not been shown that the Vice Chancellor had in fact appointed any other Screening Committee. The original record which is produced before us clearly shows that the Screening Committee was constituted not only in respect of the Department of Law, but was in respect of large number of other departments extending to nearly '40' in number. This original record is approved by the Registrar who has recommended it and sent the same to the Vice Chancellor but as per the University, the Vice Chancellor never approved it.

8. *Prima facie*, we find that the only Screening Committee borne out from the record is the Committee comprising Mr. Sharma and Dr. Preet Singh, which had actually scrutinized the candidature of the appellant. No other Committee exists on record. The University, *prima-facie*, has not doubted the original record, whereby the Screening Committee was constituted in respect of other selection etc.

9. We are, therefore, *prima-facie*, not impressed by the stand of the University that it was an unauthorized Screening Committee, which had evaluated the credentials of the appellant. What is further apparent from the

Skuman

record is that the then Vice Chancellor himself was a member of the Selection Committee which consisted of four Professors from other universities. This document is at page No.253 of the paperbook. The signatures of the then Vice Chancellor on the recommendation of the Selection Committee is not doubted/disputed. The Vice Chancellor in his affidavit filed in CWP-29545-2023, has categorically admitted that the Selection Committee was constituted under his signatures. The Executive Council has also approved the appointment of the appellant. This is borne out from page No.256 of the record which refers to the 45th meeting of the Executive Council. It is undisputed that the Executive Council had '14' members which included the husband of the present appellant as well. The participation of the appellant's husband in the minutes of Executive Council remains undisputed.

10. Though we find that the husband of the appellant was a member of the Executive Council, but the body consisting of '13' other members and the Vice Chancellor was a member of the Selection Committee apart from two other Vice Chancellors, remains undisputed. The appointment has only been challenged in the year 2023 and the writ petition was thereafter withdrawn. It is thereafter that the impugned proceedings have been initiated resulting in passing of the order terminating the services of the appellant.

12. Prima-facie from the materials on record, we find that the appellant not only has been appointed, but was continuing for the last several years and has also been promoted in the meanwhile. Though the appellant's experience of working as Lecturer in Chhaju Ram Law College is questioned, but we find from the materials on record that such appointment was in the

Skumar

respective grade of pay meant for Assistant Professor and was also approved by the Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

13. Though we may have decided the appeal finally, but learned Senior Counsel for the University states that there are several other facts which would be relevant to be placed on record, before this Court may express a final opinion on the legality of the appellant's claim. For such purposes, we grant six weeks more time to the respondents – University to file better affidavit clarifying such facts.

14. Prima-facie we find that the appellant possesses the requisite qualification for appointment to the post of Associate Professor and has already been promoted as Professor and is now working as such for the last seven years, in that view of the matter, we stay the effect and operation of the order dated 05.12.2026, passed by the learned Single as also the order of termination passed against the appellant dated 07.05.2025 and allow the appellant to continue on the post held by her. She will also be entitled to salary. The continuance of the appellant, however, shall be subject to the final outcome of the instant appeal.

15. Photocopy of complete set of the original record would be supplied by the University counsel to the Registry, and the same shall be kept in a sealed cover. Original record be returned to the University Counsel.

16. List again on 12.05.2026.

(ASHWANI KUMAR MISHRA)
JUDGE

(ROHIT KAPOOR)
JUDGE

09.03.2026
rajesh

Digitized by
Sri Sri Sri
Sri Sri Sri
Sri Sri Sri

Skumar

Background Note and Proposal

It is submitted that in **CWP No. 29545 of 2023**, filed by Dr. Pradeep Singh challenging the selection/appointment of the appellant, **no adverse interim or final order was passed against the petitioner.**

In fact, the petition was **disposed of with directions to the University** to take an appropriate decision in accordance with its stand and by following due procedure.

The University stand:

The Hon'ble High Court of Punjab & Haryana had directed the University to **examine the selection process and submit its response.** In compliance, the University scrutinized the entire record and also sought independent legal advice from a former Hon'ble High Court Judge.

The learned Judge (Retd.) opined as follows:

“If any lenient view is taken on the facts of the present case in favour of the selected candidates, it would amount to putting a premium on dishonesty and corrupt practice.”

Based on the aforesaid opinion and detailed scrutiny of records, the University adopted the said view.

It is clarified that there was **no change of stand**, but rather a **reasoned decision taken after critical examination and verification of records**, including verification of certificates not only from issuing agencies but also with respect to their authenticity.

The university examined it critically because the Hon'ble Punjab and Haryana High Court in its interim order discontinued the services of two respondents in 29545 CWP. Salary paid to them in the past was also subject to the outcome of the petition.

2. Procedural Irregularities in Selection

(i) As per **UGC Regulations, 2018**, there is no statutory provision mandating a “screening committee” in the manner claimed. Therefore, the issue is not of an “authorized or unauthorized” screening committee, but whether the process adopted ensured that only eligible candidates were presented before the Selection Committee. And also see eligible are not kept out. In fact the screening committees are constituted by using green pen which is only/generally used by Vice-Chancellor in the university.

(ii) Records reveal that **three candidates who were ineligible** were nevertheless presented before the Selection Committee, and all three were selected. This is in violation of the prescribed norms.

(iii) None of the experts were recommended by the statutory body of the University as per UGC 2018 regulations.

S. Kumar

(iv) The issue is not limited to eligibility alone, but also involves **alleged misrepresentation**, including submission of incorrect/false certificates by a candidate.

(v) It is further noted that such certificate was issued by an individual who was himself subsequently selected by another Selection Committee, in circumstances indicating conflict of interest.

(vi) The presence of the husband of the appellant during such processes, coupled with his position as a **Member of the Executive Council**, and also as member of selection committee of the person who gave wrong certificate to Dr. Monika also raises serious concerns regarding **bias, conflict of interest, and malafide intent**.

vii) The irregularities noted above are not confined to a single candidate. Rather, **multiple ineligible candidates were allowed to participate and were selected**, thereby affecting the **entire selection process**, rendering it vitiated in law.

A detailed legal opinion has been obtained (placed at Flag 'A'), which **recommends filing of a Special Leave Petition (SLP)** before the Hon'ble Supreme Court against the impugned interim order.

She has already submitted joining without any approval of EC.

Proposal

In view of the above facts, procedural irregularities, and legal opinion, the matter is placed before the Executive Council for consideration and approval to in the interest of the justice:

1. **File a Special Leave Petition (SLP)** before the Hon'ble Supreme Court; and
2. Authorize the competent authority to engage counsel and take all necessary legal steps in the matter.

Skuman

3 of many

**Legal Opinion by Sh.Sanjay Kaushal, Senior
Advocate and Puneet Gupta, Advocate (KINDLY
IGNORE THE EARLIER EMAIL)**

External

Inbox

**Puneet Gupta**Mar 25, 2026,
6:36 PM (4 days ago)

to me, Registrar, Legal

To

Dated: 25.03.2026

The Registrar

Central University of Haryana

Mahendergarh.

SUBJECT: LEGAL OPINION.

Sir,

The undersigned has gone through the interim order dated 09.03.2026 passed in LPA No.451 of 2026 "Dr.Monika versus Central University of Haryana and others" by the Hon`ble Division Bench of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh.

Vide interim order dated 09.03.2026, the effect and operation of the order dated 05.12.2026 passed by the Ld.Single Judge as also the order of termination order dated 07.05.2025 has been stayed and Dr.Monika has been allowed to continue on the post held by her and it has also been held that Dr.Monika will also be entitled to salary.

The following findings in the interim order dated 09.03.2026 are totally against the interest of the University, being factually incorrect and will definitely affect the merits of the appeal at the time of final decision of the LPA:

- i. The University, prima-facie, has not doubted the original record, whereby the Screening Committee was constituted in respect of other selection etc.
- ii. We are, therefore, prima-facie, not impressed by the stand of the University that it was an unauthorized Screening Committee, which had evaluated the credentials of the appellant.

Skumar

iii. The signatures of the then Vice-Chancellor on the recommendations of the Selection Committee is not doubted/disputed.

iv. The Executive Council has also approved the appointment of the appellant. This is borne out from page No.256 of the record which refers to the 45th meeting of the Executive Council. It is undisputed that the Executive Council had '14' members which included the husband of the present appellant as well. The participation of the appellant's husband in the minutes of Executive Council remains undisputed.

v. We find that the husband of the appellant was a member of the Executive Council, but the body consisting of '13' other members and the Vice Chancellor was a member of the Selection Committee apart from two other Vice Chancellors, remains undisputed.

vi. Though the appellant's experience of working as Lecturer in Chhaju Ram Law College is questioned, but we find from the materials on record that such appointment was in the respective grade of pay meant for Assistant Professor and

SKumar

was also approved by the Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra.

vii. We find that the appellant possesses the requisite qualification for appointment to the post of Associate Professor.

The Hon'ble Bench has gone into the merits of the selection whereas in the writ petition the petitioner-appellant has not disputed the facts narrated in the show cause notice and findings of the Executive Council of the University. Even the decision of the Executive Council is not under challenge.

The mere sitting of the Vice-Chancellor in the Selection Committee and signing the proceedings does not validate the selection of the members of the Screening Committee and also of the selection of the experts of the Selection Committee. The University is seriously disputing the selection of the members of the Screening Committee and also of the selection of the experts of the Selection Committee.

SKumar

The subject experts were never empanelled by the Academic Council of the University in violation of the following binding provisions for the selection of Associate Professors:

“STATUTE 18 of the ORDINANCES:

“Three experts in the subject concerned nominated by the Vice-Chancellor out of the panel of names approved by the Academic Council”.

The husband of the appellant was sitting as a member of the Executive Council i.e. the appointing authority of the University, when the selection of the appellant was approved by the Executive Council. This fact has been noticed by the Hon'ble Bench but taken in favour of the appellant in contravention of the well settled law as laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in A.K. Kraipak's case etc.

Skumar

Further the Hon'ble Bench has wrongly dealt with the eligibility of the appellant who at the time of her selection had shown herself to be a regular employee of the Law College as is apparent from a perusal of the show cause notice and the decision of the Executive Council.

In view of the above findings, the undersigned is of the considered opinion that the interim order dated 09.03.2026 is required to be assailed by filing the SLP before the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

(Sanjay Kaushal)

Senior Advocate

Stamer