

Registrar (J) (Budget)

May kindly see the online application of Sushri Akanksha Awasthi, Additional Civil Judge (Junior Division), Unnao regarding grant of permission to do/ pursue LL.M. course from Jindal Global law school (JGLS) of OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Gurugram for the academic session 2024-2025.

In her application Sushri Akanksha Awasthi has stated that she wants to pursue LL.M. course in Dispute Resolution from Jindal Global law school (JGLS) of OP Jindal Global University, Sonipat, Gurugram and this program is offered in blended learning mode where one is not required to go to the university to attend classes. She has also stated that the program is self paced and flexible where in it's a mix of recorded and live sessions provided on UpGrade platform. He has also attached the program brochure and University letter stated to confirming compliance with the relevant UGC Guidelines (i.e, the 1 year LL.M. Guidelines), which can be seen as attachments. She has also added that study leave is not required for pursuing this course and also assured that Court work would not suffer in any way. Thereafter through online objection, the officer has been asked to intimate her admission status, academic session, mode of the courses etc. In reply of the same the officer has stated that this LLM program in Alternate Dispute Resolution is set to begin from 30th June 2024 and it is a twelve months post graduation course set to complete in June/July 2025 and the last date of admission is 20th June, 2024 and presently she is not enrolled in the course.

She has also added that this LLM program of the Jindal Global Law School, Sonipat is designed for working professionals and the mode of course is correspondence where the web based facilitator is UpGrad, it is a blended learning program whereby the lectures and study material are made available in online medium, requiring completion of lecture and study at her own convenience which she would do after the Court hours. She has further added that brochure of the course mentions that there is no requirement of physical attendance in the University and all classes would be available on their web based facilitator UpGrad. Again as stated session has expired, thus she was queried about the updated academic session and also be asked to clarify her statement that the mode of the course is correspondence. In reply, the officer has stated that in anticipation of permission of the Hon'ble High Court, the officer has taken admission in the above mentioned course for the academic session 2024-25 and her statement 'mode of course is correspondence ' means the course is blended learning program offered through the platform 'Upgrade' and one is not required to attend classes physically in the University. She has enclosed prospectus and relating papers, which can be seen as attachments. She has, therefore, requested to Hon'ble Court to kindly grant her permission to do/ pursue the stated LL.M. course from the aforesaid university.

In this connection, it is stated that Sushri Akanksha Awasthi has joined the U.P. Nyayik Sewa on 05.01.2024. There is circular letter dated 04.11.11, which provides that if any Judicial Officer during the course of her service, requests to pursue higher studies, she has to apply for grant of 'study leave' as per rules which will be subject to the discretion of Hon'ble The Chief Justice. In the instant case, the officer has stated that study leave is not required for pursuing this course and also assured that court work would not suffer in any way. She has also stated that it is a blended learning program whereby the lectures and study material are made available in online medium, requiring completion of lecture and study at her own convenience which she would do after the Court hours. Now, It is on the discretion of the Hon'ble High Court either to grant permission to the officer to do/ pursue the aforesaid LL.M. course or to pass any such order which deems to be proper. It is also submitted that a Judicial Officer can be accorded permission to attend academic classes and specialized higher studies in terms of G.O. No.24/1066-Appointment (B) dated 21.08.1967, subject to the following conditions:-

1. Government work should not suffer in any way.
2. The academic classes, if any are held outside office hours.
3. No preferential treatment will be given in the matter of leave postings and transfer.

4. The permission can be withdrawn without notice if; it is found at any time that the government servant neglects her normal work or that public work suffers, in any way.

Recently, vide order dated 01.07.2024 relating to re-constitution of Committees, Hon'ble The Chief Justice has been pleased to change the single Judge Committee appearing at sl. no. 65 of the list of Committees dated 01.07.2024, and Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Mishra is nominated in the said Committee, to deal with the matters relating to grant of permission to Judicial Officers to pursue academic course.

May, therefore, if approved, the file may be laid before single Judge Committee of Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Mishra, as per order dated 01.07.2024 of Hon'ble The Chief Justice relating to re-constitution of Committees, for His Lordship's kind perusal and if His Lordship approves:-

(a) Sushri Akanksha Awasthi, Additional Civil Judge (Junior Division), Unnao may be granted ex-post facto permission for her admission in the stated course and permission to do/ pursue online LL.M. course from Jindal Global law school (JGLS) of O.P. Jindal Global University, Sonapat, Gurugram for the academic session 2024-2025, with exemption of the requirement to take study leave for the same and without entering into the fact whether the University is recognised by University Grants Commission or not and without reserving any future claim of the Officer regarding her qualification if the University is not recognised, subject to the conditions mentioned above.

Or

To pass any other order, which His Lordship deems fit and proper.

Archana Awasthi

Review Officer

Munmun Narang

Section Officer

Meetu Verma

Assistant Registrar

Admin A-IV

Hon'ble Mr. Justice Anjani Kumar Mishra,

Nominated Judge

Submitted for kind perusal & order

Registrar (Judicial) (Budget)