

**HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE FOR RAJASTHAN AT
JODHPUR**

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 610/2026

Aryaman Nursing College, Under The Management Of Rajdhani Foundation Trust Through Its President Nitin Talesara S/o Dilip Talesara, Aged About 45 Years, Resident Of Flat No. 602, Coral Tower, Somdatt Landmark, Civil Lines, Jaipur.

----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through Its Principal Secretary, Medical Health Department, Government Of Rajasthan, Government Secretariat, Jaipur.
2. Rajasthan Nursing Council, Through Its Registrar, B-39, Sardar Patel Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
3. The Rajasthan University Of Health Science, Through Its Registrar, Kumbha Marg, Sector 18, Pratap Nagar, Tonkroad, Jaipur.

----Respondents



D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 615/2026

Mld College Of Nursing Education, Kekri, Under The Management Of Shri Mishri Lal Dubey Memorial Sansthan, Kekri, District Ajmer Through Its Secretary Chandra Prakash Dubey S/o Shri Mishri Lal Dubey, Aged About 64 Year Resident Of Plot No. 125, Ward No. 2, Master Colony, Kekri, District Ajmer.

----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through Its Principal Secretary, Medical And Health Department, Government Of Rajasthan, Government Secretariat, Jaipur Rajasthan.
2. Rajasthan Nursing Council, Through Its Registrar, B-39, Sardar Patel Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
3. The Rajasthan University Of Health Science, Through Its Registrar, Kumbha Marg, Sector-18, Pratap Nagar, Tonkroad, Jaipur.

----Respondents

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 618/2026

Maa Jijabai College Of Nursing, Under The Management Of Maa Jijabai Shikshan Sansthan Through Its Chairman Sunil Sharma S/o Girdhari Lal Sharma, Aged About 43 Years Resident Of Ward 8, Railway Station Road, Chomu, District Jaipur.

----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through Its Principal Secretary,

Medical Health Department, Government Of Rajasthan,
Government Secretariat, Jaipur.

2. Rajasthan Nursing Council, Through Its Registrar, B 39,
Sardar Patel Marg, C Scheme, Jaipur.
3. The Rajasthan University Of Health Science, Through Its
Registrar, Kumbha Marg, Sector 18, Pratap Nagar,
Tonkroad, Jaipur.

----Respondents

D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 465/2026



Ayushman Institute Of Medical Science And College Of
Nursing, Through Shri Gopinath Gulab Devi Pradhan Memorial
Charitable Trust, Through Its Secretary Rajendra Prasad
Choudhary S/o Shri Banshidhar Choudhary, Aged About 37
years, R/o Fagodiya Ki Dhani, Pachar, District Jaipur,
Rajasthan.

----Petitioner

Versus

1. State Of Rajasthan, Through Its Secretary, Medical And
Health (Group-Iii) Department, Government Of
Rajasthan, Government Secretariat, Jaipur
(Rajasthan).
2. Rajasthan Nursing Council, Through Its Registrar, B-
39, Sardar Patel Marg, C-Scheme, Jaipur (Rajasthan).
3. Rajasthan University Of Health And Science, Through
Its Registrar, Kumbha Marg, Pratap Nagar, Jaipur,
Rajasthan.
4. Office Of The Secretary, Common Counselling Board,
2025, Rajasthan University Of Health Sciences, Jaipur.
5. Private Physiotherapy, Nursing And Para Medical
Institution Society, Office Jodhpur Through Its
Secretary Plot No. 273, Subhas Nagar, Pal Road,
Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

----Respondents

For Petitioner(s) : Mr. Akhilesh Rajpurohit
Mr. Sourabh Rajpurohit
Mr. Hardik Vyas

For Respondent(s) : Mr. N.S. Rajpurohit, AAG with
Ms. Aditi Sharma
Mr. Vinay Kothari with
Mr. Bhavyadeep Singh

HON'BLE DR. JUSTICE PUSHPENDRA SINGH BHATI
HON'BLE MR. JUSTICE SANDEEP SHAH

Judgment

1. Date of conclusion of arguments	13.01.2026 & 22.01.2026
2. Date on which judgment was reserved	13.01.2026 & 22.01.2026
3. Whether the full judgment or only the operative part is pronounced:	Full Judgment
4. Date of pronouncement	11.02.2026

Reportable

Per Dr. Pushpendra Singh Bhati, J:

1. The instant writ petitions have been filed under Article 226 of the Constitution of India raising common questions of fact and law. Owing to the overlapping issues involved, all four petitions were heard together and are being decided by this common order. The first three writ petitions (CW Nos. 610/2026, 615/2026 & 618/2026) were heard and reserved on 13.01.2026, whereas the fourth writ petition (CW No. 465/2026) was heard subsequently and reserved on 22.01.2026.

2. These writ petitions arise out of a common controversy concerning the participation of newly established nursing colleges in the counselling process for the Academic Session 2025-26.

3. For the present analogous adjudication, this Court considers it appropriate to treat *D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 618/2026 (Maa Jijabai College of Nursing vs. State of Rajasthan & Ors.)* as the lead case. Accordingly, the factual matrix, prayer clauses, and submissions of the parties are being noticed with reference to the said lead case.

3.1. The prayer clauses in *D.B. Civil Writ Petition No. 618/2026* read as under:

"It is, therefore, respectfully prayed that this writ petition may kindly be allowed and by appropriate writ, order or direction;

i) The Respondent Rajasthan University of Health Sciences may kindly be directed to allot 60 students in Bsc nursing course to the petitioner institution for academic session 2025-26 by conducting another round of counselling or any other mode of admission with all consequential directions

ii) By an appropriate order of directions in the alternate and without prejudice to the aforesaid the petitioner may kindly be permitted to admit the students in B.Sc. nursing Course as per the requisite statutory qualifying criteria at its own level;

iii) If during the pendency of the litigation, the last date for admission is expired then the same may kindly be extended for a reasonable time;

iv) Any other appropriate writ or order or direction which is favourable to the petitioner institute in the facts and circumstances of the case any may kindly be granted to the petitioner."

4. The factual matrix of the present case in brief is that the petitioner is a newly established nursing institutions which sought permission to commence the B.Sc. Nursing Course with a sanctioned intake for the Academic Session 2025–26. Upon inspection by the competent authorities, the institution was found to be compliant with the prescribed infrastructural, academic and statutory requirements.

4.1. Pursuant thereto, the State Government granted No Objection Certificate (NOC) in favour of the petitioner on 05.12.2025, permitting establishment of the college with the

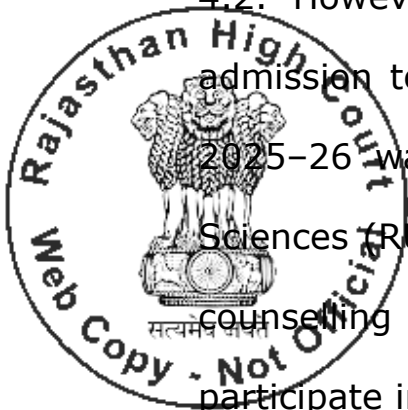


approved intake capacity. Thereafter, the petitioner also obtained the requisite recognition/affiliation on 23.12.2025 from the competent authority, i.e. the Rajasthan Nursing Council, in accordance with the statutory framework governing nursing education.

4.2. However, when the centralized counselling process for admission to the B.Sc. Nursing Course for the Academic Session 2025-26 was conducted by the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS), the petitioner-institution was not included in the counselling seat matrix and was consequently not permitted to participate in the counselling process for allotment of students.

5. The dispute in the present case, thus, concerns the exclusion of the institutions by the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS) from the centralized counselling process for admission and allotment of students for the purpose of B.Sc. Nursing Course for the Academic Session 2025-26, despite the petitioners having obtained NOCs from the State Government and recognition/affiliation from the competent nursing authorities after completion of due inspection and other formalities in regard thereto. The issue for determination is thus whether RUHS was legally justified in denying the participation of the institutions in the counselling process for the aforesaid Session.

6. Learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that the petitioners-institutions were granted No Objection Certificates by the respondent-State and upon inspection, obtained recognition/affiliation from the competent authorities in accordance with the governing statutory framework. Having fulfilled all prescribed requirements for commencement of the



B.Sc. Nursing Course for the Academic Session 2025-26, the petitioners were fully entitled to participate in the centralized counselling process conducted by the respondent-Rajasthan University of Health Sciences (RUHS) for allotment of students.

6.1. It was contended that despite the existence of these statutory approvals, the petitioners were excluded from the counselling process without any adverse order, communication, or justification. Such exclusion, in the face of valid NOCs, recognition and affiliation, is arbitrary, suffers from non-application of mind, and is contrary to the obligation of the authorities concerned to act in a fair and transparent manner.



6.2. Learned counsel further submitted that once the NOCs, recognition and affiliation were granted, the petitioners had a legitimate expectation that students would be allotted to them through the regulated counselling mechanism. The subsequent refusal to permit participation, or to conduct an additional round of counselling, frustrates this legitimate expectation without any lawful basis.

6.3. It was also submitted that the institutions in question have been established after making substantial infrastructural and administrative investments, including development of laboratories, teaching facilities, hostel accommodation, and appointment of qualified faculty strictly in accordance with statutory norms. Denial of students for the current academic session would render the entire infrastructure idle, cause irreparable institutional loss, and operate against public interest by reducing the intake of trained nursing professionals in the State.

6.4. It was submitted that the Interim order dated 19.09.2025 passed by this Hon'ble Court in D.B. Special Appeal Writ No. 945/2025, specifically directed that institutions possessing valid NOCs shall be permitted to participate in the counseling process and that the petitioners, being fully compliant with all statutory requirements, stand on a stronger footing, and denial of similar treatment amounts to hostile discrimination.

6.5. Reliance was placed on past practice to show that the counselling schedule can be pragmatically adjusted where circumstances so warrant. Reference was made to the notification dated 09.02.2024 issued by respondent-RUHS, whereby a Round-5 counselling was conducted for the Academic Session 2023-24, and to the notification dated 10.01.2026 issued by the State of Haryana extending the stray round of counselling. It was therefore submitted that holding additional rounds of counselling is neither impermissible nor unprecedented when required to accommodate duly approved institutions and to avoid wastage of sanctioned seats.

6.6. On the strength of the above submissions, learned counsel prays that appropriate directions deserve to be issued either for conducting an additional round of counselling for allotment of students to the petitioners' institutions or, in the alternative, for permitting the petitioners to admit students against the sanctioned intake for the Academic Session 2025-26.

7. *Per Contra*, learned counsel for the respondents submitted that the counseling process for admission to the B.Sc. Nursing Course for the Academic Session 2025-26 commenced in July, 2025. In the first round itself, more than 60% of the seats were

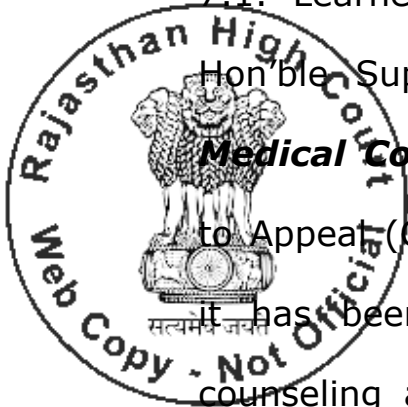


filled. The second and third rounds of counseling stood concluded by 28.10.2025, and the final round was completed on 04.11.2025. It was submitted that more than 90% of the total seats for the said course have already been filled through this counseling process conducted by the respondent-RUHS.

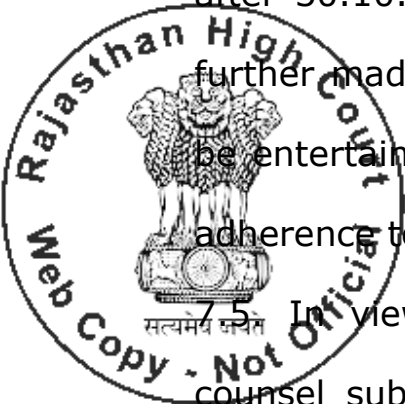
7.1. Learned counsel places reliance on the judgment of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of **Nihila P.P. vs. The Medical Counseling Committee (MCC) & Ors.** (Special Leave to Appeal (C) No. 10487/2021, decided on 16.12.2021), wherein it has been specifically laid down that only four rounds of counseling are permissible. All four rounds in the present case stand concluded.

7.2. It was further submitted that theory and practical classes for the B.Sc. Nursing Course commenced from 18.08.2025, and by now nearly 70% of the first semester curriculum has already been completed. The remaining academic schedule is underway and examinations are scheduled for March/April, 2026. At this stage, inclusion of fresh students would seriously disrupt the academic process and would also compromise educational standards and operate against public interest.

7.3. It was urged that directing a further round of counseling at this stage would directly interfere with the academic schedule, which has repeatedly been deprecated by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in a catena of judgments. Reliance is placed on **Medical Council of India v. Madhu Singh** [(2002) 7 SCC 258] and **D.Y. Patil Medical College v. Medical Council of India & Ors.** [(2015) 10 SCC 51], wherein strict adherence to the academic calendar and counseling schedule has been emphasized.



7.4. Learned counsel further submitted that the Indian Nursing Council, vide communication dated 22.10.2025, after considering representations from various stakeholders, extended the last date of admission for ANM, GNM and B.Sc. Nursing Courses only up to 30.11.2025, while categorically declaring that students admitted after 30.10.2025 would be treated as an irregular batch. It was further made explicit that no request for further extension would be entertained and that strict action would follow in case of non-adherence to the cut-off date.



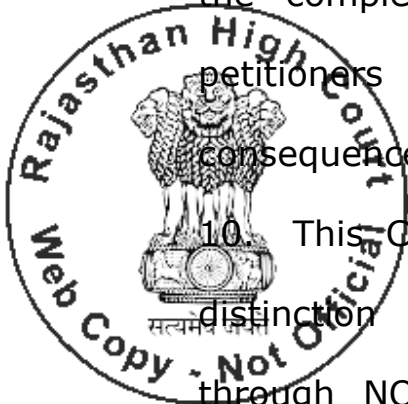
7.5. In view of the above factual and legal position, learned counsel submitted that neither a fresh round of counseling nor permission for institutional-level admissions can be granted at this stage to the petitioners, as the same would be contrary to the binding academic schedule, regulatory directives, and the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.

8. Having heard learned counsel for the parties and perused the material available on record, this Court proceeds to examine the matter. At the outset, from the record, the following undisputed chronology emerges :

EVENT	DATE
Counseling commenced by RUHS	July, 2025
Classes commenced	18.08.2025
Counseling rounds concluded	04.11.2025
NOC granted to Petitioner	05.12.2025
Recognition granted	23.12.2025

9.1. From the aforesaid chronology, it becomes evident that by the time the petitioners attained full eligibility for inclusion in the seat matrix, the counselling process, conducted in accordance with

the notified schedule, had already concluded, the seat matrix stood exhausted, and the academic session had substantially progressed. The grievance of the petitioners, therefore, does not stem from any exclusion during the subsistence of counselling, but from the timing of the grant of statutory approvals in relation to the completion of the counselling process. In essence, the petitioners are confronted not with exclusion, but with the consequence of chronology.



10. This Court finds that the statutory scheme draws a clear distinction between (i) permission to establish an institution through NOC and recognition, and (ii) allotment of students through centralized counseling. While the former enables an institution to lawfully conduct the course, the latter is regulated exclusively through a time-bound counseling mechanism based on a seat matrix finalized before commencement of counseling.

11. The scheme operates under the framework of the Rajasthan University of Health Sciences Act and the Statutes framed thereunder, read with the regulatory control exercised by the Rajasthan Nursing Council and the Indian Nursing Council. The counseling guidelines issued by RUHS, traceable to this statutory framework, uniformly stipulate that only those institutions which possess valid NOC and recognition at the time of preparation of the seat matrix are eligible for inclusion in counseling for that academic session.

11.1. No provision under the governing statute, rules, statutes, or counseling guidelines permits RUHS to alter, expand, or modify this seat matrix once counseling rounds have commenced. Consequently, once counseling rounds stood concluded on

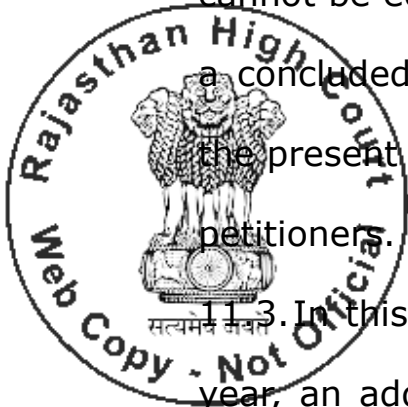
04.11.2025, RUHS became *functus officio* qua the seat matrix for Academic Session 2025–26. The petitioners, therefore, seek a direction which the statutory scheme itself does not empower RUHS to implement.

11.2. It can thus be stated that the right to establish an institution cannot be equated with a right to insist upon student allotment for a concluded academic session. This distinction is foundational to the present controversy and answers the principal grievance of the petitioners.

11.3. In this backdrop, also the plea that, in a previous academic year, an additional round of counseling was undertaken does not advance the petitioners' case.

11.4. As held by the Hon'ble Supreme Court in ***Nihila P.P. (supra)***, the sanctity of the notified admission schedule and the *time-bound counseling* framework in professional courses must be scrupulously adhered to in order to preserve certainty, fairness, and academic discipline. The number and nature of counseling rounds depend upon the seat matrix, vacancies, and academic exigencies of the concerned year, and cannot be relied upon as a precedent to claim, as of right, midstream inclusion.

11.5. Once the prescribed rounds of counseling stand concluded in accordance with the approved scheme, the process cannot be reopened *dehors* the schedule merely to accommodate institutions seeking belated participation. The petitioners' contention, therefore, runs contrary to the settled legal position that the counseling mechanism is structured, time-bound, and incapable of alteration beyond the statutory framework governing the admission process.



12. This Court further acknowledges the fact as borne out from the record, that theory and practical classes for the B.Sc. Nursing Course commenced from 18.08.2025. By the time the present petitions were considered, nearly 70% of the first semester curriculum had already been completed and that the academic schedule was in full operation, with examinations scheduled in March/April, 2026.

12.1. The prayer of the petitioners for directing an additional counselling or institutional admissions at this stage would necessarily result in admission of students after substantial completion of the curriculum, thereby disturbing the academic schedule and compromising educational standards.

13. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has repeatedly emphasized the sanctity of academic schedules and counselling timelines in professional courses.

13.1. In **Madhu Singh (supra)**, the Hon'ble Apex Court observed as under:

"18. In State of U.P. v. Dr Anupam Gupta [1993 Supp (1) SCC 594] the view in Dr Subodh case [1993 Supp (1) SCC 593] was reiterated. It was observed as under : (SCC p. 603, para 12)

*"12. It is next contended by Shri Yogeshwar Prasad that the courses were started from 30-10-1990 and in terms of the orders of this Court it shall be deemed to have been commenced from 2-5-1990, the direction as given in the impugned judgments for admission after more than a year, is illegal. To maintain excellence in the academic courses, the delay defeats the claim for admission, though posts are vacant. **In Pramod Kumar Joshi (Dr) v. Medical Council of India [(1991) 2 SCC 179] this Court held that the***

course for the year 1991 is almost completed and it would not be proper to allow admission belatedly. In *Subodh Nautiyal (Dr) v. State of U.P.* [1993 Supp (1) SCC 593] there was a delay of four months in giving admission, and this Court held that, **'even according to Mr Pandey the course has started in September for the session. This is technical course and to admit a student four months after the commencement would not at all be correct'.**

(italicized for emphasis)



In para 14, **the desirability of commencing the course on schedule and completing the same within the schedule was stressed in the following words :** (SCC p. 604)

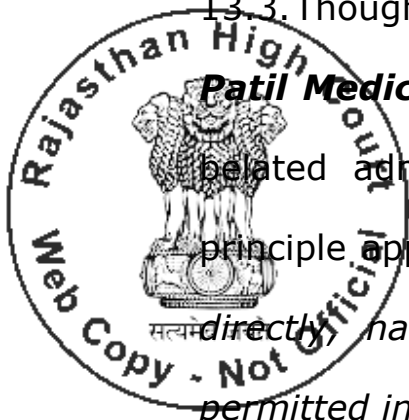
"14. Considering from this point of view, to maintain excellence the courses have to be commenced on schedule and be completed within the schedule, so that the students would have full opportunity to study full course to reach their excellence and come at par excellence. **Admission in the midstream would disturb the courses and also work as a handicap to the candidates themselves to achieve excellence.** Considering from this pragmatic point of view we are of the considered opinion that vacancies of the seats would not be taken as a ground to give admission and direction by the High Court to admit the candidates into those vacant seats cannot be sustained."

(italicized for emphasis)

13.2. Similarly, in ***D.Y. Patil Medical College (supra)***, the Hon'ble Supreme Court reiterated:

"17... **Sanctity to the time schedule has to be attached. It is too late in the day, insofar as the present academic session is concerned, to give any direction. This Court has highlighted the importance of cut-off date for starting the professional courses,**

particularly medical courses, and repeatedly impressed upon that such deadline should be tinkered with. (See *Priya Gupta v. State of Chhattisgarh* [*Priya Gupta v. State of Chhattisgarh*, (2012) 7 SCC 433 : (2012) 2 SCC (L&S) 367 : 4 SCEC 555] and *Maa Vaishno Devi Mahila Mahavidyalaya v. State of U.P.* [(2013) 2 SCC 617 : 4 SCEC 775])”



13.3. Though the judgments in ***Madhu Singh (supra)*** and ***D.Y. Patil Medical College (supra)***, were rendered in the context of belated admissions of the students concerned, the underlying principle applies with equal force here. *What cannot be permitted directly, namely midstream admission of students, cannot be permitted indirectly by allowing midstream inclusion of institutions resulting in the same consequence.* The present case, though concerning participation of institutions, ultimately results in the same consequence of midstream admissions, which the Hon’ble Supreme Court has consistently deprecated.

14. This Court further finds that the interim orders dated 19.09.2025 and 10.11.2025 passed by this Court in D.B. Special Appeal (Writ) No. 945/2025, relied upon by the petitioners were conditional upon institutions possessing valid NOCs during the currency of counseling.

14.1. A careful reading of the orders dated 19.09.2025 and 10.11.2025 shows that the directions were intended to ensure participation of those institutions which possessed valid NOCs at the time when counseling was in progress. The expression used in the order dated 10.11.2025, namely, that “*counseling shall proceed after NOCs have been duly dealt with*”, cannot be interpreted to mean that the counseling process must remain

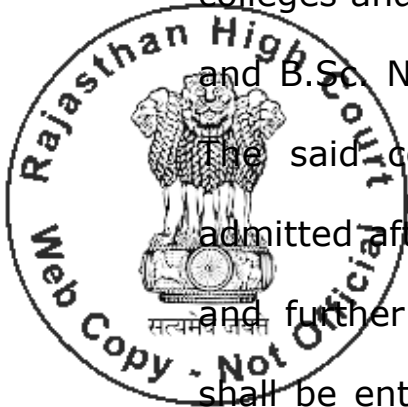
open or be reopened to accommodate institutions whose approvals fructified after the conclusion of counseling.

15. This Court further takes note of the significance of the communication dated 22.10.2025 issued by the Indian Nursing Council, whereby, after considering representations from States, colleges and universities, the last date of admission for ANM, GNM and B.Sc. Nursing Courses was extended only up to 30.11.2025.

The said communication categorically stipulates that students admitted after 30.10.2025 would be treated as an irregular batch and further declares that no request for any further extension shall be entertained and strict action shall follow in case of non-adherence to the cut-off date.

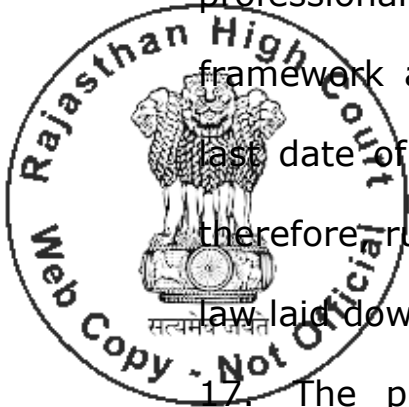
15.1. In view of the above regulatory mandate, issued by the Indian Nursing Council fixing the outer limit for admissions reinforces that regulatory discipline itself contemplates strict adherence to cut-off dates. Any direction by this Court to conduct a fresh round of counselling or to permit institutional admissions beyond the prescribed timeline would run contrary to the explicit directives of the statutory regulator.

16. The third relief sought by the petitioners is for extension of the last date of admission in the event the cut-off has expired. This prayer also cannot be entertained. The last date for admission to the B.Sc. Nursing Course is not an administrative timeline fixed by RUHS, but a regulatory cut-off prescribed by the Indian Nursing Council in exercise of its statutory powers governing nursing education across the country. Once such cut-off date is notified by the statutory regulator, neither the University



nor this Court, in exercise of writ jurisdiction, can extend the same on equitable considerations.

16.1. The Hon'ble Supreme Court has [in **Madhu Singh (supra)** and **D.Y. Patil Medical College (supra)**] held that Courts ought not to tinker with cut-off dates and academic schedules in professional courses, as doing so disturbs the entire admission framework and academic discipline. Any direction to extend the last date of admission for accommodating the petitioners would, therefore, run directly contrary to the regulatory mandate and the law laid down by the Hon'ble Supreme Court.



17. The plea of legitimate expectation and reliance on the interim orders passed by this Court do not assist the petitioners in the present factual matrix, as the petitioners did not possess the NOC during the period when the counseling rounds were underway. The interim protection was available only to the institutions holding valid NOCs at the relevant time.

18. The plea of discrimination is equally misconceived. Even assuming that some other institution was permitted participation, Article 14 of the Constitution of India does not contemplate negative equality. No material is placed to show that any institution lacking NOC during counselling was included by RUHS. Therefore, the participation of institutions in earlier orders of this Court was strictly contingent upon possession of valid NOCs at the relevant time.

19. Considerations such as infrastructural investment by the petitioners or alleged hardship, is a consequence of the timing of grant of approvals by the competent authorities and not of any illegality or arbitrariness on the part of RUHS, which acted strictly

in accordance with the counselling framework. Though sympathetic, it cannot form the basis for issuing directions which would *unsettle the settled admission process* and affect the larger body of students and institutions who have already acted upon the notified schedule.

20. This Court, therefore, records the following conclusions:



(i) The dispute is confined to the non-inclusion of petitioner- institutions in centralized counselling for the Academic Session 2025-26.

(ii) The petitioners obtained NOCs (05.12.2025) and recognition (23.12.2025) after counselling had concluded (04.11.2025) and after commencement of classes (18.08.2025). Their grievance arises from the timing of approvals.

(iii) The statutory scheme separates establishment permission from student allotment; the seat matrix finalized before counselling cannot be altered midstream, and after its conclusion RUHS is functus officio, precluding any claim for inclusion in a concluded session.

(iv) The interim orders relied upon were conditional upon possession of valid NOCs during counselling and do not mandate reopening of the process.

(v) With the academic session substantially progressed, any direction for additional counselling or institutional admissions would disturb academic discipline and educational standards.

(vi) The cut-off date for admissions is fixed by the Indian Nursing Council and cannot be extended by this Court.

(vii) The pleas of legitimate expectation and discrimination are untenable, and the hardship alleged is not attributable to any illegality on the part of RUHS. When the present position is weighed against the imperative of imparting knowledge, particularly where nearly 70% of a professional course already stands completed, the balance necessarily tilts in favour of feasibility and the preservation of academic quality, considerations which this Court cannot lightly overlook.



21. Thus, in view of the above, this Court does not find it a fit case so as to warrant any interference in the writ jurisdiction.

22. Consequently, the present writ petitions stand **dismissed**. All pending applications, if any, stand disposed of.

23. After pronouncement of the judgment, learned counsel appearing for the petitioners submitted that although, for the present academic session, the petitioners could not be permitted to participate in the counselling process on account of the chronology of grant of approvals, a suitable timeline may be indicated by this Court for the ensuing academic sessions so that bona fide institutions are not rendered ineligible to participate in the counselling process merely due to delay in grant of No Objection Certificates and statutory recognitions.

23.1. Learned Additional Advocate General, appearing for the respondents, submitted that in the event such a direction is issued, the authorities concerned shall duly adhere to the same.

24. In light of the aforesaid submissions, and in addition to the judgment already pronounced, whereby the writ petitions stand dismissed, this Court deems it appropriate to issue the following **prospective direction** in the interest of orderly administration of the admission process, so that genuine institutions are not prejudiced on account of procedural delay in future academic sessions.

25. Accordingly, this Court directs that, for the next academic session, applications submitted by bona fide institutions seeking No Objection Certificates from the respondents for the purpose of participation in the centralized counselling process for admission and allotment of students to the B.Sc. Nursing Course shall be considered and decided at least **45 days prior to the commencement of the first round of counselling**. In the event of any deviation from the aforesaid timeline, the State shall be liable to compensate the affected institutions by way of costs proportionate to the delay so occasioned.

25.1. It is clarified that the stipulation of 45 days shall not be construed as a mandate for grant of NOC. The decision to grant or refuse NOC shall be taken strictly in accordance with law.

(SANDEEP SHAH),J

(DR.PUSHPENDRA SINGH BHATI),J

SKant/-