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IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUDICATURE AT BOMBAY
ORDINARY ORIGINAL CIVIL JURISDICTION
WRIT PETITION (L) NO. 20491 OF 2024

Siddhant Mahesh Rane

....Petitioner.

V/s

Indian Institute of Science

Through its Director

.... Respondent.

Mr. S.R. Nargolkar a/w Mr. Arjun Kadam, Ms. Neeta Patil, Advocates
for the Petitioner.

Mr. Syed Kashif with Ms. Ashlesha Modak i/b Auris Legal, Advocates
for the Respondent.

**CORAM: A.S. CHANDURKAR &
RAJESH S. PATIL, JJ.**

DATE: 10th July, 2024

P.C.:-

1] Heard. By the present writ petition the petitioner who seeks admission to the Bachelor of Science (Research) Programme 2024 at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore has raised a challenge to the communication issued by the Indian Institute of Science (for short, Institute) by which the petitioner was informed that he was ineligible for being considered in the admission process.

2] As per the admission notice for Academic Year 2024-25 dated 27/03/2024, students seeking admission to the four years Bachelor of

Science (Research) Programme were required to submit their applications online from 01/04/2024 to 07/05/2024. This date was thereafter extended till 14/05/2024. The petitioner submitted his application on 09/06/2024.

3] It is the case of the petitioner that in the IISER Aptitude Test (IAT) 2024 his All India Rank was 10 and hence he was eligible to secure admission as per cut off marks prescribed. His application was not being considered for failure to pay the application fees of Rs 500/-. On the basis of his All India Ranking, the petitioner contends that he ought to be permitted to participate in the admission process and he be permitted to upload necessary documents.

4] According to the Institute till the last date of submission of applications which was 14/05/2024 it had received about 11180 applications wherein the applicants had chosen the same route of entry as per the petitioner. The petitioner's candidature was not rejected on the ground that the application fees were not paid. It was for the reason that the petitioner submitted his application form on 09/06/2024 which was much beyond the last date prescribed as

14/05/2024. Accepting the petitioner's application would result in giving go-bye to the last date of submission of applications. The Institute seeks to rely upon an e-mail message sent by the petitioner on 24/06/2024 wherein the petitioner had admitted that he had missed the application submission dead line and hence he was not aware of submitting a separate application. On this basis it is urged that no relief can be granted to the petitioner.

5] In the light of the undisputed fact that the last date of submission of applications which was initially fixed at 07/05/2024 and which was subsequently extended to 14/05/2024, it would be only those applications received till the last date that could be taken into consideration. It is an admitted fact that the petitioner submitted his application on 09/06/2024 which is much beyond the last date prescribed. There are about 11180 applicants who had submitted their application forms prior to the last date. It is true that the petitioner has secured a good All India Rank but only on that basis he cannot be permitted to participate in the admission process as he had submitted his application beyond the dead line prescribed. Merely on the basis of sympathy for the petitioner, directions sought by him in the writ

petition cannot be granted. Granting such relief would cause injustice to other applicants similarly situated who could not submit their applications by 14/05/2024.

6] For the aforesaid reasons, we do not find that any relief can be granted to the petitioner. The writ petition thus dismissed leaving the parties to bear their own costs.

[RAJESH S. PATIL, J.]

[A.S. CHANDURKAR, J.]