

GOVERNMENT OF JAMMU AND KASHMIR
JAMMU AND KASHMIR SERVICES SELECTION BOARD (JKSSB)
CPO Chowk, Panjtirthi, Jammu/ Zamzam Complex, Rambagh, Srinagar.
www.jkssb.nic.in

Subject: O.A. No. 14/2024 titled Sachin Manhas V/s UT of J&K and Ors. - Consideration order thereof.

Order No. 136-SSB of 2024
Dated: 26-03-2024

Whereas, the J&K Services Selection Board (JKSSB) advertised the posts of Panchayat Secretary, Rural Development Department vide advertisement Notification No. 03 of 2022 and conducted the OMR based written examinations on 10th December, 2023; and

Whereas, the JKSSB vide Notification No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/86/2023-03 (7312349) dated: 10-12-2023, notified the Provisional Answer Key and in response to which 89 objections pertaining to 14 Unique questions were received and the objections were forwarded to the Subject Matter Experts (SMEs); and


Whereas, after the consideration of the objections by the Subject Matter Experts and disposal of objections received from Subject Matter Experts, the JKSSB vide Notification No. JKSSB-COE0EXAM(UT)/86/2023-03 (7312349) dated: 24-12-2023, issued the Final Answer Key for the post of Panchayat Secretary showing the details of questions for which options were either changed or the questions were discarded as per the report of SMEs; and

Whereas, the Final Answer Key was issued according to the J&K Services Selection Board (Conduct of Examination) Regulations, 2022, Chapter XXIV Rule 57, which is reproduced as under:-

"On receipt of such objection(s), if it is prima facia found that:

- i. The formulation/text of the question(s) is/are admissible to different interpretation because of vagueness, or***
- ii. The question(s) recorded in the paper is/are incomplete, or***
- iii. That all options recorded viz-a-viz a question are wrong, or***
- iv. That more than two options recorded viz-a-viz a question are correct, or***
- v. That the option notified in the provisional answer key vis- à-vis; a question is incorrect;***

The Controller of Examinations shall in that eventuality refer all these objections to the Subject Matter Experts appointed with the approval of the Chairman for the purpose, and based on the opinion/decision of the concerned Subject Matter Expert to the objection(s) raised and in case the Subject Matter Expert confirms that the formulation/text of the question(s) is/are admissible to different interpretations because of vagueness or that the question(s) recorded in the paper is/are incomplete or that all the options recorded viz- a-viz a question are wrong or that more than two options recorded viz-a-viz a question is correct, the concerned question(s) shall be deleted from the paper and mark(s) allocated thereof shall be individually added to the marks secured by the individual candidates to ensure that the marks allocated for the question paper as a whole remain unchanged. In case, the Expert confirms that the option notified in the provisional answer key viz- a-viz a question is incorrect, the same shall be corrected and the correct


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option shall be incorporated in the final /revised answer key. Based on the decisions/recommendations of the Expert, the Controller of Examination shall, with the approval of Chairman, notify the Final/Revised Answer Key before the declaration of results and the same key shall be used for assessing the answer scripts. No objection(s)/representation shall be entertained against Revised/Final Answer Key.

Whereas, it was also reiterated in the Final/Revised Answer key that no further claim in respect of final answer key shall be entertained; and

Whereas, a candidate namely Sachin Manhas filed an O.A. No. 14/2024 before the Hon'ble Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Jammu titled "Sachin Manhas V/s UT of J&K and Ors"; and

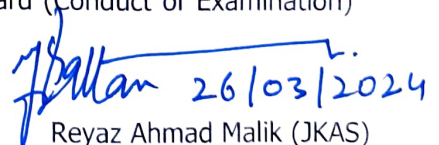
Whereas, the Hon'ble CAT Jammu in the said OA passed an interim Order dated: 05-01-2024 whose operative part reads as follows:

"The respondents are directed to file reply by the next date of hearing. List on 19.03.2024. In the meantime, the respondents are directed to decide the pending representation of the applicant within two weeks."

Whereas, in compliance to the directions of the Hon'ble CAT, the representation of the applicant has been considered and it has come to fore that:

1. The applicant namely Sachin Manhas is a candidate for the said examination and has submitted a representation against the final answer key on 29-12-2023.
2. The stipulated time period for filing objections/representations against the provisional answer key was from 11-12-2023 to 13-12-2023.
3. As per available records, the applicant/candidate namely Sachin Manhas has not submitted any objection against the Provisional Answer Key for the post of Panchayat Secretary within the stipulated time period w.e.f. 11-12-2023 to 13-12-2023.
4. As per J&K Services Selection Board (Conduct of Examination) Regulations, 2022, Chapter XXIV Rule 57, no objection/representation shall be entertained against the final/revised answer key.

Now, therefore, the representation of the applicant after consideration as per the directions of the Hon'ble CAT has been found devoid of merit as per the above stated rule position viz. Rule 57 of Jammu and Kashmir Services Selection Board (Conduct of Examination) Regulations, 2022 and hence rejected.

 26/03/2024

Reyaz Ahmad Malik (JKAS)
Controller of Examinations
J&K Services Selection Board

Dated: 26-03-2024

No.: JKSSB-LEG/6/2024-03 (7379916)

Copy to the:

1. Secretary, J&K Services Selection Board.
2. Additional Secretary (Law), J&K Services Selection Board.
3. P.S. to the Chairman, J&K Services Selection Board.