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## AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' EMPOWERMENT DEPARTMENT

### NOTIFICATION

The 4th April, 2016

No. 6187-AFE-II-VAW-01/2016/Ag.—In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to Article 309 of the Constitution of India and in supersession of the Recruitment and Training of Village Agricultural Workers Rules, 1981, except as respects of things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the Governor of Odisha hereby makes the following rules regulating the recruitment, training and other conditions of service of the persons appointed to the District Cadre post of Village Agricultural Worker.

**1. Short Title and Commencement :** (1) These rules may be called the Odisha Village Agricultural Workers (Recruitment, and Training) Rules, 2016.

(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Odisha Gazette*.

**2. Definitions:** (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—

- (a) "Commission" means Odisha Subordinate Staff Selection Commission;
- (b) "Director" means Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Odisha;
- (c) "Ex-servicemen" means a person as defined, in the Odisha Ex-Servicemen (Recruitment to State Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1985;
- (d) "Government" means the Government of Odisha;
- (e) "Persons with Disabilities" means persons who have been granted with disability certificates by the competent authority as per the provisions of the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Right and Full Participation) Odisha Rules, 2003;
- (f) "Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes" means such Castes and Tribes as notified by the President of India under Articles 341 and 342 of the Constitution of India;
- (g) "SEBC" means the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of citizens other than the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as specified by the Government from time to time;

- (h) "Select List" means the list of the candidates approved by the appointing authority containing the names of persons considered suitable in the order of merit for appointment;
- (i) "Sportsman" refers to a person who holds the identity card as sportsmen issued by the Director, Sports; and
- (j) "Year" means the Calendar Year.
- (2) All other words and expressions used in these rules but not specifically defined shall, unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning as respectively assigned to them in the Odisha Service Code.

**3. Constitution of Service :** The service shall consist of the posts of Village Agricultural Workers (Group-C) and shall form a District Cadre.

**4. Method of Recruitment :** Subject to other provisions made in these rules, the recruitment to the Posts in the cadre of Village Agricultural Worker shall be made by way of competitive examination in accordance with rule 6.

**5. Reservations :** Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules reservation of vacancies or posts, as the case may be, for, :—

- (a) Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Odisha Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes) Act, 1975 and the rules made thereunder; and
- (b) SEBC, women, sportsmen, Ex-servicemen and persons with disabilities shall be made in accordance with the provisions made under such Act, rules, orders or instructions issued in this behalf by the Government from time to time.

**6. Recruitment Procedure:** (1) Recruitment to the posts in the service shall be made by way of competitive examination by the Commission to be held once in a year.

(2) The Director shall determine the number of vacancies preferably in the month of January every year and submit the requisition to the Commission for direct recruitment after obtaining approval of the Government.

(3) On receipt of the requisition under sub-rule (2), the Commission shall invite applications from the eligible candidates through open advertisement made in two widely circulated Odia daily for filling up of the vacant post by direct recruitment.

(4) The date on which and the places at which the written examination is to be held shall be fixed by the Commission.

(5) The standard, syllabus and subjects of the examination shall be as set forth by the Commission.

**7. Eligibility Criteria for Direct Recruitment :** In order to be eligible for direct recruitment a candidate, must,—

- (a) be a citizen of India;
- (b) have attained the age of 21 years and must not be above the age of 32 years as on 1st day of January of the year of recruitment:

Provided that the upper age limit in respect of reserved categories of candidates referred to in rule 5 shall be relaxed in accordance with the provisions of the Act, rules, orders or instructions, for the time being in force, for their respective categories;

- (c) be able to read, write and speak Odia and have :—
  - (a) Passed Middle School examination with Odia as a language subject; or
  - (b) Passed Matriculation or equivalent examination with Odia as medium of examination in non-language subject; or
  - (c) Passed in Odia as language subject in the final examination of Class VII from a school or educational institution recognized by the Government of Odisha or the Central Government; or
  - (d) Passed a test in Odia in Middle English School Standard conducted by the School & Mass Education Department of the Government of Odisha/Board of Secondary Education, Odisha;
- (d) must not have more than one spouse living, if married:

Provided that the Government, may, if satisfied that such marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person or there are other grounds for doing so, exempt any person from the operation of this rule;

- (e) have passed +2 Science or +2 Vocational Course in Agriculture related subject in Crop Production (CP) or Horticulture (HORT) or Repair and Maintenance of Power Driven Farm Machinery (PDFM) from any recognized Board or Council or Institution as the case may be:

Provided that Diploma in Agriculture Polytechnic under the Odisha University of Agriculture and Technology shall be desirable and the candidates possessing such qualification shall be awarded 05 % of extra marks of the marks secured in the written examination;

- (f) be of good mental condition and bodily health and free from any physical defect likely to interfere with the discharge of his duties in the service but a candidate, who after such medical examination as the Government may prescribe, is not found to satisfy these requirements shall not be appointed to the service:

Provided that this provision except good mental condition shall not be applicable in case of persons with disability.

**8. Preparation of Merit List :** The Commission shall prepare a list of Village Agricultural Workers equal to the number of vacancies advertised in order of merit on the basis of the marks secured in the written test and award of extra marks under Clause (e) of Rule 7, if any.

**9. Select List :** (1) The list prepared by the Commission under rule 8 shall form the select list after being approved by the Director and appointment to the Service shall be made in the order in which the names of the persons appearing in the Select list.

(2) Such list shall be in force for a period of one year from the date of approval by the Director, or until another merit list is prepared afresh by the Commission, whichever is earlier.

**10. Terms of Appointment :** The appointment orders of the selected candidates for the post of Village Agricultural Worker covered under this rule shall be issued in accordance with the provisions made in the Odisha Group-C & Group-D posts (Contractual Appointment) Rules, 2013.

**11. Probation Period:** (1) Every person appointed to any post in the service by direct recruitment shall be on probation for a period of two years from the date of joining the post:

Provided that the appointing authority may, if think fit in any case or class of cases, extend the period of probation:

Provided further that such period of probation shall not include—

- (a) extraordinary leave;
- (b) period of unauthorized absence; or
- (c) any other period held to be not being on actual duty,

(2) The appointment of a probationer may for good and sufficient reasons to be recorded in writing, be terminated by the Director, at any time without previous notice during the period of probation including extension of such period, if any.

**12. Training:** One year in-service training in Agriculture Science and Extension shall be imparted to the Village Agricultural Workers recruited under these rules in the Regional Institute of Training and Extension (RITE) or at such other places as Government may decide from time to time.

**13. Inter-se-Seniority:** The *inter se*-seniority of the persons appointed to any post in the service in a particular year shall be in the order in which their names appear in the merit list.

**14. Other Conditions of Service :** The conditions of service in regard to matters not covered by these rules shall be the same as are or as may from time to time be prescribed by the State Government.

**15. Relaxation:** When it is considered by the Government that it is necessary or expedient so to do in the public interest, it may, by order, for reasons to be recorded in writing, relax any provision of these rules in respect of any class or category of the employees.

**16. Interpretation:** If any question arises relating to the interpretation of . these rules; it shall be referred to the State Government whose decision thereon shall be final.

By Order of the Governor

MANOJ AHUJA

Principal Secretary to Government