

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FARMERS' EMPOWERMENT

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NOTIFICATION

No. 93187 /A&FE      Dated 24-12-18  
AFE-I (a)-010/2018

In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution of India and in supersession of the Odisha Agriculture and Food Production Service (Methods of Recruitment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2012, except as respect things done or omitted to be done before such supersessions, the Governor of Odisha hereby makes the following rules to regulate the method of recruitment and conditions of service of the persons appointed to the Odisha Agriculture and Food Production Service, namely:-

**1. Short title and commencement** – (1) These Rules may be called the Odisha Agriculture and Food Production Service (Methods of Recruitment and Conditions of Service) Rules, 2018.

(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, the Odisha Public Service Commission;

(b) "Committee" means, the Departmental Promotion Committee constituted under rule 12;

(c) "Ex-Servicemen" means, persons as defined as such in clause(b) of rule 2 of the Odisha Ex-Servicemen (Recruitment to State Civil Services and Posts) Rules, 1985;

(d) "Government" means, the Government of Odisha;

- (e) "Department" means the Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment Department;
- (f) "Persons with disabilities" means, persons as referred to in clause(s) of Section 2 of the of the rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016);
- (g) "Schedule" means the Schedule appended to these rules;
- (h) "Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes", shall have reference to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes specified in the Constitution (Scheduled Caste) Order, 1950 and the Constitution (Scheduled Tribe) Order, 1950, as the case may be, made under article 341 and 342 of the Constitution of India;
- (i) "SEBC" means, the Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of citizens as defined in clause (a) of section 2 of the Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1993;
- (j) "Service" means, the Odisha Agriculture and Food Production Service;
- (k) "Sportsperson" refers to persons who hold the identity card as a sportsperson issued by the Director, Sports;
- (l) "Year" means, calendar year; and
- (m) "Select list" means the list of candidates approved by the appointing authority containing the names of officers consider suitable in order of merit for appointment through direct recruitment or promotion as the case may be.
- (2) All other words and expressions used, in these rules but not specifically defined unless the context otherwise requires, have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Odisha Service Code.
- 3. Constitution of Service—**(1) The service shall consist of the following posts, namely:-
- (a) Additional Director of Agriculture and Food Production (Superior Grade);

- (b) Joint Director of Agriculture, Level-I, (Supertime Scale);
- (c) Chief District Agriculture Officer (CDAO) or Joint Director of Agriculture, Level-II, Group A (Senior Branch);
- (d) Agriculture District Officer (ADO) or Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA), Group A (Senior Branch);
- (e) Block Agriculture Officer (BAO) or Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA), Group-A (Junior Branch); and
- (f) Assistant Agriculture Officer(AAO), Group B.

(2) Such other posts as may be created by the government from time to time.

**4. Methods of recruitment:—**(1) Appointment to the posts of Additional Director of Agriculture and Food Production, Joint Director of Agriculture Level-I, Chief District Agriculture Officer (CDAO) or Joint Director of Agriculture, Level-II, Agriculture District Officer (ADO) or Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA), Block Agriculture Officer (BAO) or Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA) of the service shall be made by way of promotion in accordance with the provisions of these rules.

(2) The post of Assistant Agriculture Officer, Group B shall be filled up by the following methods, namely :-

- (a) Ninety percent (90%) of the post shall be filled up by way of direct recruitment through the Commission;
- (b) Five per cent of the posts shall be filled up by way of promotion from among the departmental employees completing successfully B.Sc.(Agriculture) Course on being sponsored by the Government, in accordance with these rules; and
- (c) Remaining five percent of the posts shall be filled up by way of promotion from among the Agriculture Overseers in accordance with these rules.

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

- (a) Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the Odisha Reservation of Vacancies in Posts and Services (for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes) Act, 1975 and the Rules made there under; and
- (b) SEBC, Woman, Sportsperson, Ex-Servicemen and Person with Disabilities shall be made in accordance with the provisions made under such Act, rules, orders or instructions issued in this behalf by Government, from time to time.

**6. Recruitment Procedure**— (1) Recruitment to the post of Assistant Agriculture Officer (Group B) in the service shall be made by way of competitive examination to be conducted by the commission.

(2) The competitive examination shall consist of written examination and interview.

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

(4) The Department will forward draft syllabus and distribution of subject for written test for approval by the Commission. The Syllabus will be restricted to the level of Bachelor's degree.

**7. Eligibility Criteria for Direct Recruitment:**—In order to be eligible for direct recruitment to the posts of Assistant Agriculture Officer (Group B) in the service, a candidate must, -

- (a) be a citizen of India;
- (b) have attained the age of twenty one years and must not be above the age of thirty two years on the 1<sup>st</sup> 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,—

- (i) passed Middle School Examination with Odia as a Language subject; or
- (ii) passed matriculation or equivalent Examination with Odia as medium of examination in non Language subject; or
- (iii) passed in Odia as language subject in the final examination in Class VII from a School or Educational Institution recognized by the Government of Odisha or the Central Government ; or
- (iv) passed a test in Odia in Middle English School Standard conducted by the School and Mass Education Department of the Government of Odisha.

(d) not have more than one spouse living:

Provided that, the State 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 possessed a Degree in Agriculture or equivalent qualification from any University or Institution recognized by any State Government or the Government of India.

(f) be of good mental condition and bodily health and free from any physical and mental defect, likely to interfere with the discharge of his or her duties in the service and 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.

**8. Selection by the Commission:—**(1) Ordinarily in the month of January of the year the Government shall intimate to the commission, the number of vacancies in the post of Assistant Agriculture Officer already existing and likely to occur in that year indicating there in the number of vacancies required to be filled up by the persons belonging to reserve categories.

(2) The Commission, on receipt of the requisition, shall in such manner as it thinks fit, invite applications from eligible candidates.

(3) The Commission after receiving all applications shall take steps for selection of candidates in the manner given below, namely :-

(a) Selection shall be based on written test and interview in the following manner,-

(i) Written test (MCQ):- 200 (two hundred) marks consisting of two papers 100 marks each; and

(ii) interview shall consist of 25 (twenty five) marks.

**9. Select list in case of Direct Recruitment:—**(1) On the basis of marks secured by the candidates in the written test and interview, the Commission shall prepare a composite merit list and category wise merit list of selected candidates equal to the number of vacancies advertised.

(2) If two or more Candidates obtain equal marks, the order of merit shall be determined in accordance with the highest marks secured by such Candidates in Written Examination and in case the marks secured by them in Written Examination is equal, the order of merit shall be determined in accordance with age.

(3) The list of successful candidates drawn in order of merit shall be published in the notice board of the Commission as well as in its website and the commission shall forward such list to the Department.

(4) The list of successful candidates, received from the Commission, after being approved by the Government shall form the select list.

(5) Appointment to the grade of Assistant Agriculture Officers shall be made in the order in which the names appear in the select list.

(6) Every candidate included in the select list shall be examined by the Medical Board and any candidate who fails to qualify the Medical Board shall not be eligible for appointment.

(7) The select list shall ordinarily remain in force for a period of one year from the date of its approval by the Government or until another select list is prepared afresh by the Commission, whichever is earlier:

Provided that the Government may, by specific order, extend the validity of the list beyond one year but in no case such extension shall be beyond the date of receipt of the subsequent recommendation of the Commission.

**10. Criteria for promotion to Group-B post:—**(1) No Village Agriculture Worker/ Agriculture Overseer shall be eligible for promotion to the post of Assistant Agriculture Officer(AAO) of the service under Clause (b) of sub-rule-(2) of rule-4 unless he has completed at least ten years of continuous service in the post of Village Agriculture Worker and Agriculture Overseer taken together as on the 1st day of January of the year in which the Committee meets and has passed the Departmental examination, if any.

(2) No Agriculture Overseer shall be eligible for promotion to the posts of Assistant Agriculture Officer(AAO) of the service under clause(c) of sub-rule(2) of rule-4, unless he has completed at least six years of continuous service as such on the 1st day of January of the year in which the Committee meets and has passed the Departmental examination.

**11. Criteria for Promotion to the post of Group A post:—**(1) A person holding the post of Assistant Agriculture Officer of the service shall be eligible for consideration for promotion to the post of Block Agriculture Officer or Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA) in the service on completion of seven years of continuous service in the post of Assistant Agriculture Officer as on the 1st day of January of the year in which the Committee meets.

(2) A person holding the post of Block Agriculture Officer or Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA) in the service shall be eligible for consideration for promotion to the post of Agriculture District Officer (ADO) or Deputy Director of Agriculture(DDA) on completion of ten years of continuous service in the grade Block Agriculture Officer or Assistant Director of Agriculture(ADA) and Assistant Agriculture Officer taken

together, as on the 1st day of January of the year in which the Committee meets.

(3) A person holding the post of Agriculture District Officer (ADO) or Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA) in the Service shall be eligible for consideration for promotion to the post of Chief District Agriculture Officer (CDAO) or Joint Director of Agriculture, L-II on completion of twelve years of continuous service in the grade of Agriculture District Officer (ADO) or Deputy Director of Agriculture (DDA) and Block Agriculture Officer or Assistant Director of Agriculture (ADA) and Assistant Agriculture Officer taken together, as on the 1st day of January of the year in which the Committee meets.

(4) The post of Joint Director of Agriculture- Level-I in the service shall be filled up by promotion from amongst the Chief District Agriculture Officer (CDAO) or Joint Director of Agriculture, Level-II on the basis of merit and suitability in all respect with due regard to seniority.

(5) The post of Additional Director of Agriculture shall be filled up by promotion from amongst the Joint Director of Agriculture, (L-I) on the basis of merit and suitability in all respect with due regard to seniority.

**12. Constitution of Departmental Promotion Committee—**(1) (a) There shall be constituted a Committee consisting of the following members, to consider the cases of promotion of the Joint Director of Agriculture-Level-I to the post of Additional Director of Agriculture and Food Production in the service as provided under clause(a) of sub rule-(1) of rule-3, namely:-

(i) APC-cum-ACS, Agriculture &

Farmers' Empowerment ----- Chairperson

(ii) Secretary of the Department of

Agriculture & Farmers' Empowerment ----- Member

(iii) Director of Agriculture & Food production----- Member

(iv) Addl. Secretary or Joint Secretary or



Deputy Secretary of the Administrative

Department dealing with the subject ----- Convener

(b) There shall be constituted, a Departmental Promotion Committee consisting of the following members to consider the cases of promotion for selection of persons for promotion to various posts in the service as provided under clause (b), (c), (d) (e) and (f) of sub rule(1) of rule 3, namely:-

- (i) Secretary of the Department of  
Agriculture and Farmers' Empowerment:- Chairperson
- (ii) Director of Agriculture and Food Production:- Member
- (iii) Senior most Additional Director of  
Agriculture cadre:- Member
- (iv) Addl. Secretary or Joint Secretary or

Deputy Secretary of the Administrative

Department dealing with the subject:- Convener

(2) The recommendation of Committee shall be valid and can be operated upon notwithstanding the absence of any one of its member other than the Chairman.

Provided that the member so absenting was duly invited to attend the meeting of the Committee and the majority members of the Committee attended the meeting.

**13. Procedure for selection by the Committee—**(1) The Committee shall meet at least once in a year preferably in the month of January to prepare a list of officers or employees, as are held by them, suitable for promotion the next higher grade taking into account the existing vacancies of the year.

(2) The Committee while considering the cases of suitable officers and preparation of the list shall follow the provisions of-

- (a) The Odisha Civil Services (Zone of consideration for promotion) Rules, 1988.
- (b) The Odisha Civil Services (Criteria for promotion) Rules, 1992.
- (c) The Odisha Civil Services (Criteria for selection for Appointment including promotion) Rules, 2003.
- (d) The Odisha Reservation of vacancies in posts and services (for Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes) Act, 1975 and the Rules made there under. and
- (e) Any other Act, rules or instructions in the matter in force at the relevant time shall also be followed.

**14. Consultation with the Commission—**(1) The recommendations of Committee for promotion to the respective group of the service shall be referred to the Odisha Public Service Commission by the Government along with relevant service particulars in respect of all persons included in the zone of consideration.

(2) The Commission shall consider the List along with service particulars received under sub-rule (1) and shall furnish its recommendations to the Government.

**15. Select List in case of Promotion—**(1) The recommendation of the Commission in respect of reference made to it under sub-rule (1) of rule 14 shall after being approved by Government form the select list.

(2) The list referred to under sub-rule (1) shall ordinarily be in force for a period of one year from the date of its approval by Government or until another list is prepared afresh, whichever is earlier.

Provided that the Government may, by specific order extend the validity of the list beyond one year but in no case such extension shall be beyond the date of receipt of the subsequent recommendation of the Commission.

(3) Appointment to any post in the service shall be made in the order in which the names of officers appear in the select list.

**16. Inter-se-Seniority**— (1) The inter-se seniority of officers appointed to the posts of Assistant Agriculture Officer(AAO) of the service in a particular year shall be in the following order:—

(a) Officers appointed to the service by way of promotion shall rank inter se in the order in which their names appear in the Select list.

(b) Officers appointed to the service by direct recruitment shall rank inter se in the order in which their names appear in the merit list prepared by the Commission.

(c) The promotes under clause (c) of sub-rule (2) of rule 4 shall, in a year of recruitment, be enblock senior to the promotes of clause(b) thereof.

(d) The promotes under clause(c) of this sub rule shall, enblock, be senior to the direct recruits of that year under clause (b).

(2) Inter se seniority of officers in other grades in the service shall be in the order in which their names appear in the select list.

**17. Probation and Confirmation**:—(1) Every person appointed to any post in the service by direct recruitment shall be on probation for a period of two years and when appointed on promotion shall be on probation for a period of one year 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 namely:-

(a) extraordinary leave;

(b) period of unauthorized absence; and

(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 Government at any time without prior notice during the period of probation including extension of such period, if any and after such termination, the employee shall be deemed to be reverted to his former cadre or post, if he is a promote.

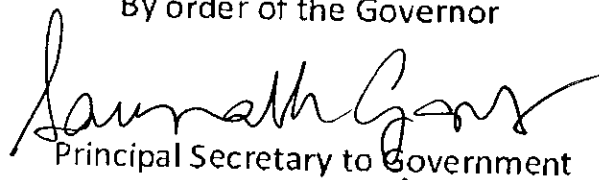
(3) A probationer after completing the period of probation to the satisfaction of Government shall be eligible for confirmation subject to availability of substantive vacancy in the service.

**18. 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 Government.

**19. Relaxation**— Where Government are of the opinion that it is considered necessary or expedient so to do, in public interest, it may, by order for reasons to be recorded in writing, relax any of the provisions of these rules in respect of any class or category of employees in consultation with the Commission.

**20. Interpretation**— If any question arises relating to the interpretation of these rules, it shall be referred to Government whose decision thereon shall be final.

By order of the Governor

  
Principal Secretary to Government

21/12/18

Memo No.

23189

Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to the P.S to the Chief Minister, Odisha, Bhubaneswar/PS to the Minister, Agril & Farmer's Empowerment Odisha, Bhubaneswar/PS to the Chief Secretary Odisha, Bhubaneswar/PS to the Agriculture Production Commissioner, Odisha, Bhubaneswar for kind information of Hon'ble Chief Minister/Hon'ble Minister, Agril & Farmer's Empowerment / Chief Secretary / Agriculture Production Commissioner.

*A. Dalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

Memo No.

23189

Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to all Departments/All Heads of the Departments/A.G. Odisha, Bhubaneswar/Secretary, OPSC Cuttack/Secretary to Governor for information and necessary action.

*A. Dalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

Memo No.

23190

Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to the Director of Agriculture and Food Production Odisha, Bhubaneswar/ Director of Horticulture Odisha, Bhubaneswar/ Director, Watershed Development Mission Odisha, Bhubaneswar/Managing Director OSSC Ltd/Managing Director APICOL/Managing Director OAIC/Managing Director OSCDC for information and necessary action.

*A. Dalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

Memo No.

23191

Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to the Director, Printing Stationery and Publication Odisha, Cuttack with a request to publish this resolution in an extra ordinary issue of Odisha Gazette. He is requested to send 50 copies of the resolution to the Deptt. of Agril. and Farmers' Empowerment for needful.

*A. Dalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

(PTO)

Memo No. 23192 Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to all RDCs/ Collectors for information.

*Adalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

Memo No. 23193 Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to the Head, State Portal Group, IT Center Odisha Secretariat for hoisting the Govt website-www.odishagov.in for information to general public.

*Adalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.

Memo No. 23194 Dated 24-12-18

Copy forwarded to the Computer Cell, Agriculture & F.E. Department to up-load the same in the departmental website-www.agriodisha.nic.in.

*Adalai*  
22/12/2018  
Under Secretary to Govt.