

MEMORANDUM

Sub: - Proposal for amendment in the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, with a view to changing the pattern and syllabi of West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Etc. Examination in commensurate with the same of the Civil Services Examination conducted by the UPSC.

1. The matter for change of pattern and syllabi of WBCS (Exe.) Etc. Examination has been under consideration of this Department for quite some time past since a large number of meritorious and competent students/aspirants appearing in the WBCS (Exe.) Etc. Examination find it difficult to appear in the UPSC Examination due to wide variation in the pattern of examination, specially with respect to syllabus/topics/subjects.
2. It is commonly felt that if the pattern of examination and syllabi are kept similar with that of the UPSC Examination, then the potentially capable candidates from West Bengal will be better equipped to appear at the UPSC Examination with the same preparation.

3. The Preliminary Examination is proposed to have two papers, viz., "General Studies Paper-I" and "General Studies Paper-II". The papers will be of objective type consisting of 200 multiple-choice questions. The papers will carry 200 marks each and each will be of 2(two) hours duration. The "General Studies Paper-II" will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%. It is mandatory for the candidates to appear in both the papers for the purpose of evaluation. A candidate will be disqualified in case he/she does not appear in both the papers. The standard of the papers will be of the level of knowledge as expected of a Graduate of any faculty of a recognized University.
4. Like many other States, it was also felt necessary to introduce a compulsory qualifying paper to ensure selection of candidates having ability to speak and write the state language. It has been proposed to introduce Bengali/Nepali as a qualifying paper in the Main Examination. English will be the other qualifying paper like the UPSC Examination.
5. Therefore, 2 (two) qualifying papers of the standard of Madhyamik / Secondary Examination – Paper A on Bengali/Nepali and Paper B on English language, will be introduced in the Main Examination as qualifying papers. Compulsory papers of the Main Examination of only those candidates who will obtain qualifying marks in these 2 (two) papers, will be evaluated. Marks obtained in these papers will not be considered for Merit List.
6. The Main Examination will consist of 8 (Eight) compulsory papers of 250 marks each. These compulsory papers will be of 3 hours' duration and will be of conventional type. Answer scripts will have to be written either in English or in Bengali. Candidates opt for Group 'C' and Group 'D' Services and posts need not appear in Paper VII and Paper VIII (as detailed in Notification enclosed).

7. The existing procedure for distribution of marks in the Personality Test will remain unchanged.
8. The proposal containing the pattern and syllabi was sent to the Public Service Commission, West Bengal, for valued opinion and the views of the Public Service Commission, West Bengal, received for certain changes have been duly incorporated in the proposal of this Department.
9. The proposal containing the amendment in the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, with a view to changing the existing pattern and syllabi of West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Etc. Examination was sent to the Law Department for vetting. Law Department vide their U.O. Reference No. 307 of 2022 06/02/2023 have sent the vetted proposal with the following observation: -

“It has been proposed to amend the recruitment rule the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive Recruitment Rules, 1978, for purposes of the said rule.

The draft to be issued under the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution of India appears to be in order.”
10. Thereafter, the draft notification for incorporating amendments of sub-rule 3(A) of Rule 7 in the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, published under Notification 271-PAR(WBCS), dated 13.01.1978, as subsequently amended, was sent to the Finance Department for concurrence. Group P2 of the Finance Department vide their U.O. No. Group P2/2022-2023/0841 dated 10/02/2023 has given concurrence with the following observation: -

“We may concur with revised draft notification for incorporating amendments of sub-rule 3(A) of rule 7 in the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, published under Notification No. 271-

PAR(WBCS), dated 13.01.1978, as subsequently amended, subject to approval of Cabinet.”

11. Now, the Department of Personnel & Administrative Reforms proposes for amendment in the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, with a view to changing the pattern and syllabi of West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Etc. Examination in commensurate with the Civil Services Examination conducted by the UPSC as detailed in the Notification annexed herewith.
12.
 - a) Necessary notification in this regard will be published within 1 (one) month from the date of approval by the Cabinet.
 - b) Quarterly Report on progress of implementation will be sent to the Cabinet Secretary and Chief Secretary.
13. Now, the proposal contained in Para 10 above is placed before the Cabinet for consideration and approval.

NOTIFICATION

No.....-PAR(WBCS)/1D-179/21Howrah, the, 2023.- In exercise of the power conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution of India, the Governor is pleased hereby to make, with immediate effect, the following amendments in the rules regulating the recruitment to the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) Recruitment Rules, 1978, published under this department notification No. 271-PAR(WBCS), dated 13.01.1978, as subsequently amended (hereinafter referred to as the said rules) :-

Amendments

In the said rules, in rule 7, for sub-rule (3A), *substitute* the following sub-rule:-

“(3A) The scheme and syllabus of the examination shall be as detailed below:-

I. PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION

1. The Preliminary Examination will consist of two papers, viz., “General Studies Paper-I” and “General Studies Paper-II”. The papers will be of objective type consisting of 200 multiple-choice questions. The papers will carry 200 marks each and each will be of 2(two) hours duration. The “General Studies Paper-II” will be a qualifying paper with minimum qualifying marks fixed at 33%. It is mandatory for the candidates to appear in both the papers for the purpose of evaluation. A candidate will be disqualified in case he/she does not appear in both the papers. The standard of the papers will be of the level of knowledge as expected of a Graduate of any faculty of a recognized University. General Studies Paper-I will include questions covering the following fields of knowledge :-

- (i) English Composition
- (ii) General Science
- (iii) Current Events of National and International Importance
- (iv) History of India
- (v) Geography of India with special reference to West Bengal
- (vi) Indian Polity and Economy
- (vii) Indian National Movement
- (viii) General Mental Ability

General Studies Paper-II will include questions covering the following fields of knowledge :

- i) Comprehension;
- ii) Interpersonal skills including communication skills;
- iii) Logical reasoning and analytical ability;
- iv) Decision making and problem solving;
- v) General mental ability;

vi) Basic numeracy (numbers and their relations, orders of magnitude, etc.),
Data interpretation (charts, graphs, tables, data sufficiency etc.) – Class
X level.

2. The Preliminary Examination is meant to serve as a screening test only for the purpose of selection of candidates for the Main Examination. The marks obtained in this Preliminary examination by the candidates will not be counted for merit list rather will be qualifying in nature. Only those candidates who will be declared qualified at the Preliminary Examination in a year shall be eligible for appearing at the West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) etc. (Main) Examination of that year.

II. MAIN EXAMINATION

1. The Main Examination shall consist of a Written Examination and Personality Test.
2. The Written Examination shall consist of Ten papers of conventional type out of which two papers viz., Bengali/Nepali as paper 'A' and English as Paper 'B' carrying 300 marks each shall be of qualifying in nature.
3. Marks obtained in all the Compulsory papers (Paper-I to Paper-VIII) and marks obtained in Personality Test shall be counted for final merit list.
4. Each compulsory and Optional Papers shall carry 250 marks and shall be of 3(Three) hours duration.
5. Candidates opting for Group 'C' and Group 'D' Services & Posts need not to appear at the Paper VII and Paper-VIII.
6. The Written Examination shall consist of the following papers:-

Paper-A

Bengali/Nepali

300 Marks

The paper will include questions covering the following topics :-
Letter writing, Drafting of report, Precis writing, Comprehension,
Translation from English to Bengali/Nepali, Short Essay.

Paper-B

English

300 Marks

The paper will include questions covering the following topics :-
Comprehension of a given passage, Precis writing, Usage and Vocabulary,
Short Essay, Letter writing/Drafting of Report, Translation from
Bengali/Hindi/Urdu/Nepali/Santali to English.

Note: These papers will be of Madhyamik Pariksha or equivalent examination standard and will be of qualifying nature only. Marks obtained in Paper-I to Paper-VIII of only such candidates will be taken into consideration who obtains 30% marks or more in each of the Paper-A and Paper-B. The marks obtained in these papers shall not be considered for Merit List.

Papers to be counted for merit:

Paper-I		
English Essay and composition		250 marks
Paper-II		
Tradition and Culture of Bengal	250 marks	
Comprising -		
(a) Cultural aspects of Bengal	}	From ancient to modern times.
(b) Art forms including Folk Art and Music of Bengal		
(c) Literature of Bengal		
(d) Architectural Heritage of Bengal		
Paper-III		
General Studies-I		250 marks
Paper-IV		
General Studies-II		250 marks
Paper-V		
General Studies-III		250 marks
Paper-VI		
General Studies-IV		250 marks
Paper-VII		
Optional Subject-Paper 1		250 marks
Paper-VIII		
Optional Subject-Paper 2		250 marks

- The question paper will be of conventional type.
- Each paper will be of three hours' duration.
- Answers in all papers whether compulsory or optional, may be written either in English or in Bengali.

NB. Candidates opting for Group 'C' & 'D' Services & Posts need not appear at the Paper-VII & paper-VIII.

Distribution of Services in different Groups :

Sl. No.	Group	Services	Pay Level
1	A	1. West Bengal Civil Service (Executive) 2. West Bengal Revenue Service 3. West Bengal Co-operative Service 4. West Bengal Labour Service 5. West Bengal Food and Supplies Service 6. West Bengal Employment Service	Pay Level 16
2	B	West Bengal Police Service	Pay Level 16
3	C	1. Superintendent, District Correctional Home / Deputy Superintendent, Central Correctional Home	Pay Level 15
		2. Joint Block Development Officer 3. Deputy Assistant Director of Consumer Affairs and Fair Business Practices 4. West Bengal Junior Social Welfare Service 5. West Bengal Subordinate Land Revenue Service, Grade-I 6. Assistant Commercial Tax Officer 7. Joint Registrar (W.B. State Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission)	Pay Level 14
		8. Assistant Canal Revenue Officer (Irrigation) 9. Chief Controller of Correctional Services	Pay Level 12
4	D	1. Inspector of Co-operative Societies 2. Panchayat Development Officer under Panchayat and Rural Development Department 3. Rehabilitation Officer under the Refugee Relief and Rehabilitation Department	Pay Level 10

Distribution of Total Marks among different Groups of W.B.C.S (Exe.) etc. Examination :

Written Examination :

Sl. No.	Group	Distribution of marks
1	A	8 Papers of 250 marks each Total 2000 marks
2	B	8 Papers of 250 marks each Total 2000 marks
3	C	6 Papers of 250 marks each excluding Optional Papers Total 1500 marks
4	D	6 Papers of 250 marks each excluding Optional Papers Total 1500 marks

3. List of Optional Subjects :- For candidates applying for group A or group B post, there will be two papers of any of the following optional subjects :-

Subject	Code
Bengali	01
Hindi	02
Sanskrit	03
English	04
Pali	05
Arabic	06
Persian	07
French	08
Urdu	09
Santali	10
Comparative Literature	11
Agriculture	12
Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Science	13
Anthropology	14
Botany	15
Chemistry	16
Civil Engineering	17
Commerce and Accountancy	18
Computer Science	19
Economics	20
Electrical Engineering	21
Geography	22
Geology	23
History	24
Law	25
Mathematics	26
Management	27
Mechanical Engineering	28
Medical Science	29
Physiology	31
Physics	32
Political Science	33
Psychology	34
Sociology	35
Statistics	36
Zoology	37

4. The standard of Arithmetic part of Compulsory Paper - VI (Arithmetic & Test of Reasoning) will be similar to that of the Compulsory Mathematics paper at the Madhyamik Examination of the Board of Secondary Education, West Bengal. Test of Reasoning : Data Sufficiency, Logical Reasoning : (i) Logical Deduction (ii) Letter series, Inferring from Data, Analogy tests, Symbol Interpretation, Mathematical puzzles, Odd man out, Perception test, Not-verbal reasoning, Selecting the correct sequence.
5. The standard of other compulsory papers will be of the level of learning expected from a graduate of any faculty of a recognized University.

6. The two papers of the optional subjects will be of conventional type and the standard of the examination will be approximately that of an Honours Degree Examination as prescribed by the recognized Indian Universities except Law, Medical Science and Engineering subjects which will be that specified for the LLB, MBBS and BE or equivalent courses respectively by recognized Indian Universities / Institutions.
7. The Topic 'Environment' in paper General Studies II will include the following :-
Bio diversity and Coastal Regulation Zone, Global Warming, Industrial and Environmental Pollution, Ozone Layer and related issues.
8. The Topic 'Indian Economy including role and functions of the Reserve Bank of India' of the Compulsory paper- V will consist of the following :-
Central State relation and devolution of central funds to state, Planning process and objectives of five years plan, Functions of Reserve Bank of India and Monetary policy, Central Finance Commission and State Finance Commission and Fiscal Policy of Government of India.
9. Answers in all the papers, Compulsory and Optional, except the language papers may be written either in English or in Bengali (unless otherwise directed in these rules or in the question papers). Answers in the following optional papers may also be written in Nepali :

Optional : (1) Political Science
(2) Botany

Note : Candidates shall write their answers to all the questions in only one and the same language in any particular paper.

10. Candidates may use the Devanagari or Bengali Script in the answer papers on Sanskrit, the Devanagari Script in the answer papers on Hindi or Nepali, and the Bengali, Arabic, Persian, Urdu in the answer papers on Bengali, Arabic Persian, Urdu respectively. Questions for Santali Paper will be set in Olchiki script and answers should also be written in Olchiki.
11. A summary of the group-wise papers in the Main Examination :
Group 'A' & 'B' Services and Posts: All 10 compulsory papers and one optional subject consisting of two papers;

Group 'C' & 'D' Services and Posts : All 10 compulsory papers.
12. Personality Test : A number of candidates selected in order of merit on the results of the Main Examination for all the services and posts included in Group A, B, C and D shall have to appear for the Personality Test. Each candidate will be asked questions on matters of general interest. The object of the test will be to assess the candidate's personal qualities e.g., alertness of mind, power of clear and logical exposition, intellectual and moral integrity, leadership and also the candidate's range of interests.

13. Candidates for Group 'B' Service (West Bengal Police Service) will be tested at the interviews with regard to their suitability for the service.

Marks for the Personality Test

(i) Group 'A' and 'B'	200 Marks
(ii) Group 'C'	150 Marks
(iii) Group 'D'	100 Marks

Note : No separate Personality Test shall be held for different groups viz. Group-'A', Group-'B', Group-'C' and Group-'D' in respect of a candidate. Marks will be awarded according to different services against allotted full marks for Personality Test.

14. Deduction of marks :-
- (i) In all the answer papers under examination, due credit will be given for proper economy of words combined with clarity, precision and effectiveness of expression and originality of approach.
 - (ii) A deduction of 10% of full marks may be made from the total marks secured by a candidate in a particular paper if he/she discloses his / her identity by writing his / her name, roll number or by putting any identifying marks in the answer script of that paper.
 - (iii) There shall be negative marking for each wrong answer to multiple-choice questions (MCQ) type.
15. Discretion of the Commission:-
- (1) The Commission has discretion to fix qualifying marks in any or all the papers / subjects and in the aggregate.
 - (2) If a candidate fails to secure qualifying marks in any paper / subject, the marks in that paper / subject will not be considered in calculating his / her aggregate.

Abstract Table of Papers / Subjects and Marks in Main Examination and Personality Test:

Sl. No.	Compulsory Papers	Marks			
		Group 'A'	Group 'B'	Group 'C'	Group 'D'
1.	English Essay and Composition	250	250	250	250
2.	Tradition and Culture of Bengal	250	250	250	250
3.	General Studies-I	250	250	250	250
4.	General Studies-II	250	250	250	250
5.	General Studies -III	250	250	250	250
6.	General Studies-IV	250	250	250	250
7.	Optional Subject Paper-I	250	250	-	-
8.	Optional Subject Paper-II	250	250	-	-
	Personality Test	200	200	150	100
	Total Marks	2200	2200	1650	1600

By order of the Governor,

(B.P.Gopalika)
*Additional Chief Secretary to the
 Government of West Bengal*