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Government of India
MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, Dated, the -----, 2026

G.S.R.... – In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 of the Constitution and in supersession of notification numbers GSR 115, dated the 3rd May, 2019 except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the President hereby makes the following rules regulating the method of the recruitment to the Group ‘B’ posts of Section Officer in the Group ‘B’ Posts under the Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change namely:-

1. **Short title and commencement-** (1) These rules may be called Regional Offices, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Section Officer, Group-‘B’) Recruitment Rules, 2026.
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
2. **Number of posts, classification and Level in pay matrix-** The number of posts, its classification and **Level in the pay Matrix** attached thereto, shall be as specified in column (2) to (4) of the Schedule annexed to these rules.
3. **Method of recruitment, age limit and qualifications, etc.-** Method of recruitment, age- limit, qualifications and other matters relating thereto, shall be as specified in columns (5) to (13) of the aforesaid Schedule.
4. **Disqualification-** Any person,-
 - (a) who has entered into or contracted a marriage with a person having a spouse living; or
 - (b) who, having a spouse living, has entered into or contracted a marriage with any person, shall be eligible for appointment to the said post:

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

5. **Power to relax-** Where the Central Government is of the opinion that it is necessary or expedient so to do it may, by order, and for reasons to be recorded in writing and in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission relax any of the provisions of these with respect to any class or category of persons.
6. **Saving-** Nothing in these rules shall affect reservation, relaxation in age- limit and other concessions required to be provided for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes, the Other Backwards Classes, the Ex-servicemen, the Economically Weaker Section and other special categories of persons in accordance with the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in this regard.

ANNEXURE-II

RECRUITMENT RULES FOR THE POST OF 'SECTION OFFICER' IN REGIONAL OFFICE, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST & CLIMATE CHANGE.

SCHEDULE

Name of Post	Number of post	Classification	Level in Pay Matrix	Whether selection post or non-selection post	Age limit for direct recruits	Educational and other qualifications required for direct recruits
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Section Officer	10* (2025) *Subject to variation dependent on workload in Regional Offices located at: * Bengaluru-2 * Bhubaneswar-1 * Bhopal-1 * Chandigarh-1 * Chennai-1 * Lucknow-1 * Nagpur-1 * Shillong-2	General Central Service, Group 'B', Gazetted, Ministerial	Level-7, (₹44,900-₹1,42,400/-)	Selection	Not applicable	Not applicable
Whether age and educational qualifications prescribed for direct recruits will apply in the case of promotees	Period of probation, if any	Method of recruitment: whether by direct recruitment or by promotion or by deputation or absorption and percentage of the vacancies to be filled by various methods	In case of recruitment by promotion or deputation or absorption, grades from which promotion or deputation or absorption to be made	If Departmental Promotion Committee exists, what is its composition	Circumstances in which Union Public Service Commission to be consulted in making recruitment	
(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	
Not applicable	Not applicable	By promotion failing which by deputation including short-term contract	Promotion: Assistant in level-6, (₹35,400-₹1,12,400) in the pay matrix with five years regular service in respective Regional Office and have successfully completed mandatory training of 2-4 weeks in the relevant area from the institute to be specified by the Administrative Ministry. Note: Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors shall also be considered provided they are not short of the requisite qualifying/eligibility service by more than half of such qualifying/eligibility service, or two years, whichever is less, and have successfully completed their probation period for promotion to the next higher grade along-with their juniors who have already completed such qualifying/eligibility service. Deputation (including short-term contract):	Group 'B' Departmental Promotion/Selection Committee consisting of: - 1. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi - Chairman; 2. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) of concerned Regional Office -Member; 3. Director or Deputy Secretary or Deputy Inspector General of Forests or Asst. Inspector General of Forests, RoHQ, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member; 4. Director or Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment,	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission not necessary.	

		<p>Officers of the Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions or Statutory or Autonomous Organizations, -</p> <p>(a) (i) holding analogous posts on a regular basis in the parent cadre or Department; or</p> <p>(ii) with five years regular service in the level-6 (₹35,400-₹1,12,400/-) in the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre or Department; and</p> <p>(b) possessing the following education qualifications:-</p> <p>(i) Bachelors' degree from recognised University or Institute;</p> <p>(ii) two years experience in accounts, administration, establishment work in a Government office or Public Sector Undertaking or Autonomous Body or Statutory Body.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation, and similarly deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another ex-cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation or Department of the Central Government shall ordinarily not exceed five years.</p> <p>Note 3. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation shall not be exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.</p>	<p>Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member;</p>	
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ANNEXURE-III

**FORM TO BE FILLED BY THE MINISTRY/DEPARTMENT WHILE FORWARDING
PROPOSALS TO THE DEPARTMENT OF PERSONNEL & TRAINING AND THE
UNION PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION FOR AMENDMENT OF APPROVED
RECRUITMENT RULES.**

1.	Name of the post	Section Officer		
2.	Name of Ministry/Department	Regional Office, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change		
3.	Reference No. in which commission's advice on recruitment rules was conveyed	Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, New Delhi Notification No..... dated		
Sl. No.	Schedule Details	Provision in the approved/existing rules	Revised provisions proposed	Reasons for the revision proposed
1.	Name of the Post	Section Officer	Section Officer	No Change
2.	Number of posts	10	10	No Change
3.	Classification	General Central Service, Group 'B', Gazetted, Ministerial	General Central Service, Group 'B', Gazetted, Ministerial	No Change
4.	Level in Pay Matrix	Level-7, (₹44,900-₹1,42,400/-)	Level-7, (₹44,900-₹1,42,400/-)	No Change
5.	Whether selection post or non-selection post	Selection	Selection	No Change
6.	Age limit for direct recruits	Not applicable	Not applicable	No Change
7.	Educational and other qualifications required for direct recruits	Not applicable	Not applicable	No Change
8.	Whether age and educational qualifications prescribed for direct recruits will apply in the case of promotees	Not applicable	Not applicable	No Change
9.	Period of probation, if any	Not applicable	Not applicable	No Change
10.	Method of recruitment: whether by direct recruitment or by promotion or by deputation or absorption and percentage of the vacancies to be filled by various methods	By promotion failing which by deputation including short-term contract	By promotion failing which by deputation including short-term contract	No Change
11.	In case of recruitment by promotion or deputation or absorption, grades from which promotion or deputation or absorption to be made	<p>Promotion:</p> <p>Assistant in level-6, (₹35,400-1,12,400/-) in the pay matrix with five years regular service in respective Regional Office and have successfully completed mandatory training of 2-4 weeks in the relevant area from the institute to be specified by the Administrative Ministry.</p> <p>Note:- Where juniors who have completed their qualifying or eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors shall also be considered provided they are not short of the requisite qualifying or eligibility service by more than half of such</p>	<p>Promotion:</p> <p>Assistant in level-6, (₹35,400-1,12,400/-) in the pay matrix with five years regular service in respective Regional Office and have successfully completed mandatory training of 2-4 weeks in the relevant area from the institute to be specified by the Administrative Ministry.</p> <p>Note:- Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors shall also be considered provided they are not short of the requisite qualifying/eligibility service by more than half of such</p>	<p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p>

		<p>qualifying or eligibility service, or two years, whichever is less, and have successfully completed their probation period for promotion to the next higher grade along-with their juniors who have already completed such qualifying or eligibility service.</p> <p>Deputation (including short-term contract):</p> <p>Officers of the Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions or Statutory or Autonomous Organizations, -</p> <p>(a) (i) holding analogous posts on a regular basis in the parent cadre or Department; or</p> <p>(ii) with five years regular service in the level-6 (₹35,400-₹1,12,400/-) in the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre or Department; and</p> <p>(b) possessing the following education qualifications: -</p> <p>(i) Bachelors' degree from recognised University or Institute;</p> <p>(ii) two years experience in accounts, administration, establishment work in a Government office or Public Sector Undertaking or Autonomous Body or Statutory Body.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation, and similarly deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another ex-cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation or Department of the Central Government shall ordinarily not exceed three years.</p> <p>Note 3. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation shall not be exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.</p>	<p>qualifying/eligibility service, or two years, whichever is less, and have successfully completed their probation period for promotion to the next higher grade along-with their juniors who have already completed such qualifying/eligibility service.</p> <p>Deputation (including short-term contract):</p> <p>Officers of the Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions or Statutory or Autonomous Organizations, -</p> <p>(a) (i) holding analogous posts on a regular basis in the parent cadre or Department; or</p> <p>(ii) with five years regular service in the level-6 (₹35,400-1,12,400/-) in the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre or Department; and</p> <p>(b) possessing the following education qualifications: -</p> <p>(i) Bachelors' degree from recognised University or Institute;</p> <p>(ii) two years experience in accounts, administration, establishment work in a Government office or Public Sector Undertaking or Autonomous Body or Statutory Body.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation, and similarly deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another ex-cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation or Department of the Central Government shall ordinarily not exceed five years.</p> <p>Note 3. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation shall not be exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.</p>	<p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>As per DoPT OM No. DOPT-1716267027220 dated 28.03.2024, Consolidated Guidelines on deputation/foreign service for Central Govt. Employees.</p>
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12.	If Departmental Promotion Committee exists, what is its composition	Group 'B' Departmental Promotion Committee consisting of: - 1. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi - Chairman; 2. Additional Director General of Forests (Central) of concerned Regional Office -Member; 3. Director or Deputy Secretary Regional Office (Head Quarters), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member; 4. Director or Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member;	Group 'B' Departmental Promotion/ Selection Committee consisting of: - 1. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi - Chairman; 2. Deputy Director General of Forests (Central) of concerned Regional Office -Member; 3. Director or Deputy Secretary or Deputy Inspector General of Forests or Asst. Inspector General of Forests, RoHQ , Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member; 4. Director or Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi -Member;	The Selection Committee has been proposed as per the existing nomenclature of the post.
13.	Circumstances in which Union Public Service Commission to be consulted in making recruitment	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission not necessary.	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission not necessary.	No Change
