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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 128, dated the 20th 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 ‘A’ posts of Assistant Legal Adviser in the Group ‘A’ Posts under the Regional Office Headquarter, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change at New Delhi namely:-

1. **Short title and commencement-** (1) These rules may be called Regional Office Headquarter, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (Assistant Legal Adviser, Group-‘A’) Recruitment Rules, 2026.
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.
2. **Number of post, 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.

**RECRUITMENT RULES FOR THE POST OF 'ASSISTANT LEGAL ADVISER' IN
REGIONAL OFFICE HEADQUARTER, MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FOREST
& CLIMATE CHANGE, NEW DELHI.**

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)
Assistant Legal Adviser	01* (2025) * Subject to variation dependent on the volume of work in the ROHQ Division, MoEF&CC, New Delhi	General Central Service, Group 'A', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Level-11 , (₹67700- ₹2,08,700/-)	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable
Whether age & 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/absorption and percentage of the vacancies to be filled by various methods	In case of recruitment by promotion/deputation/absorption grades from which promotion/deputation/absorption to be made		If a 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	Two years for promotees	Composite Method (Deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion	Composite method [deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion]: Officers of Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Autonomous or Statutory Organisation or Public Sector Undertaking or University or Recognised Research Institutions- (i) holding analogous posts on regular basis; or (ii) with five years regular service in level-10 in pay matrix or equivalent, or (iii) with nine years regular service in level-7 in pay matrix or equivalent; and Processing following qualification and experience:- (i) Degree in law from a recognised University/Institute; and (ii) five years experience in legal matters in Central or State Government or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or		A Departmental Promotion/Selection Committee shall consist of:- 1. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi- Chairman; 2. Joint Secretary	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is not necessary.

			<p>Statutory or Autonomous Bodies or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental Legal Assistant in level 7 of the Pay Matrix with nine years of regular service in the grade is considered along with outsiders. If the departmental candidate is selected for appointment to the post; it shall be treated as having been filled by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation (including short-term contract), Similarly, deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 3. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) including period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation/Department of the Central Government shall ordinarily not exceed five years.</p> <p>Note 4. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.</p>	<p>(PL), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi - Member;</p> <p>3. Director or Deputy Secretary or Deputy Inspector General of Forests or Asst. Inspector General of Forests Regional Office (Head Quarters), 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	Assistant Legal Adviser		
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	Assistant Legal Adviser	Assistant Legal Adviser	No Change
2.	Number of posts	01	01	No Change
3.	Classification	General Central Service, Group 'A', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	General Central Service, Group 'A', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	No Change
4.	Level in Pay Matrix	Level-11, (₹67700 - ₹2,08,700/-)	Level-11, (₹67700- ₹2,08,700/-)	No Change
5.	Whether Selection Post or Non-Selection Post	Not applicable	Not applicable	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 & 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	Two years for promotees	Two years for promotees	No Change
10.	Method of recruitment, whether by direct recruitment or by promotion or by deputation/absorption and percentage of the vacancies to be filled by various methods	Composite Method (deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion	Composite Method (deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion	No Change
11.	In case of recruitment by promotion/deputation/absorption grades from which promotion/deputation/absorption to be made	Composite method [deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion]: Officers of Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Autonomous or Statutory Organisation or Public Sector Undertaking or University or Recognised Research Institution- (i) holding analogous posts on regular basis; or	Composite method [deputation (including short-term contract) plus promotion]: Officers of Central Government or State Governments or Union territories or Autonomous or Statutory Organisation or Public Sector Undertaking or University or Recognised Research Institution- (i) holding analogous posts on regular basis; or	No Change No Change No Change

		<p>(ii) with five years regular service in level-10 in pay matrix or equivalent, or</p> <p>(iii) with seven years regular service in level-7 in pay matrix or equivalent; and Processing following qualification and experience:-</p> <p>(i) Degree in law from a recognised University/Institute; and</p> <p>(ii) five years experience in legal matters in Central or State Government or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Statutory or Autonomous Bodies or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental Legal Assistant in level 7 of the Pay Matrix with seven years of regular service in the grade is considered along with outsiders. If the departmental candidate is selected for appointment to the post; it shall be treated as having been filled by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation (ISTC), Similarly, deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 3. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) including period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another ex-</p>	<p>(ii) with five years regular service in level-10 in pay matrix or equivalent, or</p> <p>(iii) with nine years regular service in level-7 in pay matrix or equivalent; and Processing following qualification and experience:-</p> <p>(i) Degree in law from a recognised University/Institute; and</p> <p>(ii) five years experience in legal matters in Central or State Government or Union territories or Public Sector Undertakings or Statutory or Autonomous Bodies or Universities or Recognised Research Institutions.</p> <p>Note 1. The Departmental Legal Assistant in level 7 of the Pay Matrix with nine years of regular service in the grade is considered along with outsiders. If the departmental candidate is selected for appointment to the post; it shall be treated as having been filled by promotion.</p> <p>Note 2. The Departmental officers in the feeder category who are in direct line of promotion shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation (including short-term contract), Similarly, deputationists shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion.</p> <p>Note 3. Period of deputation (including short-term contract) including period of deputation (including short-term contract) in another ex-cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation/Department of the Central Government shall</p>	<p>No Change</p> <p>As per DoPT OM dated 20.09.2022, the minimum qualifying service for promotion has been included.</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>As per DoPT OM dated 20.09.2022, the minimum qualifying service for promotion has been included.</p> <p>No Change</p> <p>As per DoPT OM No. DOPT-1716267027220 dated 28.03.2024, Consolidated Guidelines on</p>
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		cadre post held immediately preceding this appointment in the same or some other organisation/Department of the Central Government shall ordinarily not exceed four years. Note 4. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.	ordinarily not exceed five years. Note 4. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the closing date of receipt of applications.	deputation/foreign service for Central Govt. Employees. No Change
12.	If a Departmental Promotion Committee exists, what is its composition	Not applicable	A Departmental Promotion/Selection Committee shall consisting of: - 1. Additional Director General of Forests (Forest Conservation), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi-Chairman; 2. Joint Secretary (PL), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, New Delhi-Member; 3. Director or Deputy Secretary or Deputy Inspector General of Forests or Asst. Inspector General of Forests Regional Office (Head Quarters), New Delhi – Member.	DoPT, through its letter dated 03.07.2024, advised that the Ministry may constitute a Selection Committee as per administrative convenience, ensuring that the Chairperson and Members are at least one level above the post for which the committee is constituted.
13.	Circumstances in which Union Public Service Commission to be consulted in making recruitment	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is necessary.	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is not necessary.	The Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT) issued a Notification on 15.03.2024 exempting all Group 'A' and Group 'B' posts up to Level 13A in the pay matrix from the requirement of consultation with UPSC