F. No. A-12011-1-2016-P-I
Government of India
Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change
Indira Paryavaran Bhawan,
Prithvi Wing, 1st Floor,
Jor Bagh Road, New Delhi-110003
Dated: 02.11.2026

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Subject: Seeking comments from stakeholders on the draft 'Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Technical Posts (Forestry), Recruitment Rules, 2026' - regarding.

The undersigned is directed to refer to the subject cited above and to state that this Ministry is in the process of amending the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Technical Posts (Forestry), Recruitment Rules, 2011 (RR, 2011). Upon notification, 'The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Technical Posts (Forestry), Recruitment Rules, 2026' shall supersede the RRs, 2011.

2. In this regard, the draft RRs, 2026 (copy enclosed) are being placed on the Ministry's website for a period of 30 days for inviting comments from all stakeholders.

3. All stakeholders are, therefore, requested to furnish their comments, if any, in a tabular form (in a MS word format), clearly indicating the paragraph/column number, original content and the suggested change along with reason w.r.t. the original content, latest by 02.12.2026. The comments may preferably be sent by email to admin.p1-moefcc@gov.in.

Encl: As above

(Bhaskar Seal)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India

To,

i. NIC/IT Cell - with the request to upload the draft RRs, 2026 on the Ministry's website and also upload the same on the e-office.

ii. ROHQ/all Regional Offices - with a request to intimate concerned stakeholders in this regards

MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE

NOTIFICATION

New Delhi, XXXX 2026

G.S.R. 468(E). In exercise of the powers conferred by the provision to Article 309 of the Constitution and in supersession of Department of Agriculture and Cooperation Assistant Commissioner (Forestry) Recruitment Rules, 1984 and Ministry of Environment and Forest & Climate Change Group 'B' (Forestry) Officers Recruitment Rules, 2011 or 2016 except as respects things done or omitted to be done before such supersession, the President hereby makes the following rules regulating the method of recruitment to the posts of Deputy Commissioner (Forestry), Assistant Commissioner (Forestry), Technical Officer (Forestry) Gr. I, Technical Officer (Forestry) Grade. II and Research Investigator (Forestry) in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change namely: -

1. Short title and commencement. -(1) These rules may be called the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Technical Posts (Forestry), Recruitment Rules, 2026.

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

2. Number of the posts, classification and scale of pay. The number of said posts, their classification and scale of pay attached thereto shall be as specified in columns (2) to (4) of the Schedule annexed thereto.

3. Method of recruitment, age limit, qualifications, etc The method of recruitment, age limit, qualifications and other matters relating thereto shall be as specified in columns (5) to (13) of the said Schedule.

4. Disqualification. No 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 a marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person and other party to the marriage and that there are other grounds for so doing, exempt any persons 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, for reasons to be recorded in writing, and in consultation with the Union Public Service Commission, relax any of the provisions of these rules with respect to any class or category of persons.

6. Savings. Nothing in these rules shall affect reservations, relaxation of age limit

and other concessions required to be provided for the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and other special categories of persons in accordance with the orders issued by the Central Government from time to time in this regard.

SCHEDULE

Name of the post	Number of the post	Classification	Grade Pay/ Pay Scale	Whether selection or non-selection post	Age Limit for direct recruitments
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1. Deputy Commissioner (Forestry)	01(2026) *Subject to variation dependent on workload	General Central Service Non -Ministerial Gazetted Group,A	Level-12 in the Pay Matrix, Rs. 78,800-2,09,200/-	Selection	Not applicable
Educational and other qualifications required for direct recruits		Whether age and educational qualifications prescribed for direct recruits will apply in case of promotees		Period of probation, if any	
(7)		(8)		(9)	
Not applicable		Not applicable		N.A.	
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			
(10)		(11)			
Promotion failing which Deputation including Short Term Contact		**Promotion** 5 years of regular service in the feeder grade on the post of Assistant Commissioner (Forestry) in Pay Level-11. **Note 1:** Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors would also be considered provide			

d they are not short of the requisite qualifying/eligibilit y service by more than half of such qualifying/eligibilit y service or two years, whichever is less, and have su ccessfully completed their probation period for promot ion to the next higher grade along with their juniors w ho have already completed such qualifying or eligibilit y service.

Note 2: For the purpose of computing minimum qualif ying service for promotion, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/ the date with effect from which the revised pay structure based on the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommend ations has been extended shall be deemed to be serv ice rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commissi on.

Deputation

Officers under the Central Government / State Gover nments/ Union Territories / recognized Universities / Recognized Research Institutes / Public Sector Under takings / Statutory or Autonomous Organizations :

(A) (i) Holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre / department; or

(ii) with five years of service in the grade rendered aft er appointment thereto on a regular basis in the posts in the Pay level 11 in the pay matrix or equivalent in t he parent cadre / department; and

(B) Possessing the following educational qualification s and experience:

(i) Master degree in Statistics or Operations Research or Forestry or Economics (with Statistics) or Mathema tics (with Statistics) or Agriculture (with Statistics) or t wo years Post Graduate Diploma in Forestry Manage ment from a recognized University / Institute.

(ii) Five years experience of formulation and processi ng of various programme relating to forestry or agricu lture work.

Note 1 : Period of deputation including period of depu tation in another ex cadre post held immediately proc eeding this appointment in the same or some other or ganization/department of Central Government shall or dinarily not exceed 4 years.

Note 2 : The maximum age limit for appointment by d eputation shall be not exceeding 56 years as on the cl osing date of receipt of application.

If a Departmental Promotion Committee exists, what is its composition	Circumstances in which Union Public Service Commission is to be consulted in making recruitment.
(12)	(13)
Chairman/Member Union Public Service Commission - Chairman Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change - Member Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change - Member Deputy Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change - Member	Consultation with UPSC is necessary for filling up of post.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
2. Assistant Commissioner (Forestry)	10(2026) *Subject to variation dependent on workload	General Central Service, Group 'A' Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Level-11, (Rs. 67,700-2,08,700)	Selection	Not applicable

Educational and other qualifications required for direct recruits	Whether age and educational qualifications prescribed for direct recruits will apply in case of promotees	Period of probation, if any
(7)	(8)	(9)
Not applicable	Not applicable	2 years for promotees
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	

(10)	(11)
80% by promotion. 20% by deputation (including short-term contract).	**Promotion:** Technical Officer (Forestry) Grade-I, Level-08, (Rs. 47,600-1,51,100) with eight year's regular service in the grade. **Note1:** For existing Technical Officer (Forestry) Gr.I, who has completed six years' regular service in the grade and are eligible for promotion to the grade of Assistant Commissioner (Forestry) as on date of the notification of this revised rule, the qualifying service for promotion will remain 06 years for them. **Note 2:** Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors would 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 or eligibility service. **Note 3:** For the purpose of computing minimum qualifying service for promotion, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/the date with effect from which the revised pay structure based on the seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations has been extended shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission. **Deputation (including short-term contract):** Officers under the Central Government/State Governments/Union Territories/Universities/Recognized Research Institutes/Public Sector Undertakings/Semi-Government/Statutory or Autonomous Organisations : (A) (i) Holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre/department; or (ii) With five years' service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in posts in the Level 10 of the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre/department; and

	(B) Possessing the following educational qualifications and experience:- **Essential:** (i) Master's Degree in Statistics or Operations Research or Forestry or Economics (with Statistics) or Commerce (with Statistics) or Mathematics (with Statistics) or Agriculture (with Statistics) or two years' Post-Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management from a recognized institute/university. (ii) Five years' experience of formulation and processing of various programmes relating to forestry or agriculture work. The Departmental Officers in the feeder category who are in the direct line of promotion will not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation (including short-term contract). Similarly, deputations shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion. [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 ordinarily not exceed 3 years. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall not be exceeding six years as on the closing date of receipt of applications]. **Note:** For the purpose of appointment on deputation basis, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/the date from which the revised pay structure based on the 7th CPC recommendations has been extended shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission except where there has been merger of more than one pre-revised scales of pay into one grade with a common or pay scale, and where this benefit will extend only for the post(s) for which that pay scale is the normal replacement grade without any upgradation
If a Departmental Promotion Committee exists, what is its composition	Circumstances in which Union Public Service Commission is to be consulted in making recruitment.

(12)	(13)
Group 'A' Departmental Promotion Committee (for considering promotion) : 1 . Chairman/Member Union Public Service Commission - Chairman 2. Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member 3. Director (Administration)/Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member 4. Dy. Inspector General of Forests, Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is necessary for filling up of post.

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
3. Technical Officer (Forestry) Grade-I	10* (2026) *Subject to variation dependent on workload	General Central Service, Group 'B', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Level-8, (Rs. 47,600-1,51,100)	Selection	Not applicable

(7)	(8)	(9)
Not applicable	Not applicable	Nil

(10)	(11)
By promotion failing which by deputation including short-term contract	**Promotion:** Technical Officer (Forestry) Grade-II Level-7, (Rs. 44,900-1,42,400) with two years' regular service in the grade.

Note 1: Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors would 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.

Note 2: For the purpose of computing minimum qualifying service for promotion, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016 the date from which the revised pay structure based on the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations has been extended shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission.

Deputation (including short-term contract):
Officers under the Central Government/State Governments/Union Territories/Universities/Recognized Research Institutions/Public Sector Undertakings/Semi-Government/Statutory or Autonomous Organisations:-

(A) (i) Holding analogous posts on regular basis in the parent cadre/Department; or
(ii) With two years' service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in posts in the Level 7 (Rs 44,900 – 1,42,400) of the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre/department; and
(b) Possessing the following educational qualifications and experience:-

Essential:

(i) Master's Degree in Statistics or Operations Research or Forestry or Economics (with Statistics) or Commerce (with Statistics) or Mathematics (with Statistics) or Agriculture (with Statistics) or two years' Post-Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management from a recognized institute/university.

(ii) Three years' experience in collection or Compilation analysis of data (including data in agriculture) or forestry work.

The Departmental Officers in the feeder category who

	are in the direct line of promotion will not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation (including short-term contract). Similarly, deputations shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion. 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 ordinarily not to exceed 3 years. The maximum age limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall not be exceeding fifty-six years as on the closing date of receipt of applications. **Note:** For the purpose of appointment on deputation basis, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/the date from which the revised pay structure based on the 7th CPC recommendations has been extended shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission except where there has been merger of more than one pre-revised scale of pay into one grade with a common pay scale, and where this benefit will extend only for the post(s) for which that pay scale is the normal replacement grade without any upgradation
(12)	(13)
Group 'B' Departmental Promotion Committee (for considering promotion): 1. Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Chairman 2. Director (Administration)/Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member 3. Director (incharge of Indi	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is not necessary for filling up of post.

an Forest Service Division) /Deputy Secretary (incharge of Indian Forest Service Division) Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member					
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
4. Technical Officer (Forestry) Grade-II	12* (2026) *subject to variation dependent on workload	General Central Service, Group 'B', Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Level-7, (Rs. 44,900-1,42,400)	Selection	Not exceeding thirty years. The crucial date for determining the age limit shall be the losing date for receipt of applications from candidates in India, (and not the closing date prescribed for those in Assam, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikkim Union Territory of Ladakh, Lahaul and Spiti district and Pangi sub-division of Chamba district

					of Himachal Pradesh, Andaman and Nicobar Islands and Laks hadweep).
(7)		(8)		(9)	
Essential: (i) Master's Degree in Statistics or Operations Research or Forestry or Economics (with Statistics) or Commerce (with Statistics) or Mathematics (with Statistics) or Agriculture (with Statistics) or two years' Post-Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management from a recognized institute/University. (ii) Two years' experience in Collection, compilation, or analysis of data including data in Agriculture or forestry work. **Note 1:** Qualifications are relaxable at the discretion of the Union Public Service Commission for reasons to be recorded in writing, in case of candidates otherwise well qualified. **Note 2:** The qualification regarding experience is relaxable at the discretion of the Union Public Service Commission, for reasons to be recorded in writing, in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribe, if at any stage of selection the Union Public Service Commission is of the opinion that suffi		Not applicable		Two years for direct recruits	

cient number of candidates from these communities possessing the requisite experience are not likely to be available to fill up the posts reserved for them		
(10)	(11)	
40% by promotion failing which by deputation including short-term contract 60% by direct recruitment	**Promotion:** Research Investigator (Forestry) Level - 6, (Rs. 35,400- Rs. 1,12,400) with five years' regular service in the grade. **Note 1:** Where juniors who have completed their qualifying/eligibility service are being considered for promotion, their seniors would 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 **Note 2:** For the purpose of computing minimum qualifying service for promotion, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/the date from which the revised pay structure based on the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations has been extended, shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission **Deputation (including short-term contract):** Officers under the Central Government/State Governments/Union Territories/Universities/Recognized Research Institutes/Public Sector Undertakings/Semi-Government/Statutory or Autonomous Organisations: (A) (1) Holding analogous posts on regular basis in the parent cadre/Department; or (ii) With five years' service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in posts in the Level 6 of the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre/department; and (B) Possessing the educational qualifications and experience prescribed for direct recruitment under column 7. The Departmental Officers in the feeder category who	

	are in the direct line of promotion will not be eligible for consideration for appointment on deputation. Similarly, deputations shall not be eligible for consideration for appointment by promotion. [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 ordinarily not to exceed 3 years. The maximum age-limit for appointment by deputation (including short-term contract) shall not be exceeding fifty-six years as on the closing date of receipt of applications]. Note: For the purpose of appointment on deputation (including short-term contract) basis, the service rendered on a regular basis by an officer prior to 1-1-2016/the date from which the revised pay structure based on the Seventh Central Pay Commission recommendations has been extended, shall be deemed to be service rendered in the corresponding pay scale extended based on the recommendations of the Pay Commission except where there has been merger of more than one pre-revised scale of pay into one grade with a common pay scale, and where this benefit will extend only for the post(s) for which that pay scale is the normal replacement grade without any upgradation
(12)	(13)
Group 'B' Departmental Promotion Committee (for promotion and confirmation):- 1. Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change - Chairman 2. Director (Administration) or Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change - Member 3. Director (incharge of Indian Forest Service Division) or Deputy Secretary (incharge of Indian Forest Servic	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is not necessary for filling up of post.

e Division) Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member					
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
5. Research Investigator(Forestry)	7* (2026) Subject to variation dependent on workload	General Central Services, Group "B', Non-Gazetted, Non-Ministerial	Level-6, (Rs. 35,400-Rs. 1,12,400)	Not applicable	Not exceeding thirty years. The crucial date for determining the a

					gelimit shall be the losing date for receipt of applications from candidates in Indi

					a, (and not the closing date prescribed for those in Assam, Meghalaya,

					Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland, Tripura, Sikki

m
Union Territory of Ladakh,
Lahaul and Spiti district and
Pangi sub-divisi

					on of Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh, And aman and Nicobar

					Islands and Lakshadweep).
(7)		(8)		(9)	
Essential: (i) Master's Degree in Statistics or Operations Research or Forestry or Economics (with Statistics) or Commerce (with Statistics) or Mathematics (with Statistics) or Agriculture (with Statistics) or two years' Post-Graduate Diploma in Forestry Management from a recognized institute/University. (ii) One years' experience in collection or compilation or analysis of data including data in Agriculture or forestry work. **Note 1:** Qualifications are relaxable at the discretion of the Staff Selection Commission for reasons to be recorded in writing, in case of candidates otherwise well qualified.		Not applicable		Two years for direct recruits.	

Note 2: The qualification regarding experience is relaxable at the discretion of the Staff Selection Commission, for reasons to be recorded in writing, in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribe, if at any stage of selection the Staff Selection Commission is of the opinion that sufficient number of candidates from these communities possessing the requisite experience are not likely to be available to fill up the posts reserved for them.		
(10)	(11)	
By direct recruitment, Vacancies caused by the incumbents being away on deputation or long illness or study leave or under other circumstances for a duration of one year or more may be filled on deputation basis from the officers of Central Government. (a) (i) Holding analogous post on regular basis in the parent cadre/Department; or (ii) With six years' service in the grade rendered after appointment thereto on a regular basis in posts in the Level 5 of the pay matrix or equivalent in the parent cadre/department; and (b) Possessing the educational qualifications and experience prescribed for direct recruits under column.	Not applicable	

(12)	(13)
Group 'B' Departmental Promotion Committee (for considering confirmation):- 1. Joint Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change - Chairman 2. Director (Administration) / Deputy Secretary (Administration), Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member 3. Director (incharge of Indian Forest Service Division) / Deputy Secretary (incharge of Indian Forest Service Division) Ministry of Environment Forest, & Climate Change -Member	Consultation with Union Public Service Commission is not necessary for filling up of post.

[F. No. 12011/1/2016-P.I.]

Bhaskar Seal
Under Secretary to the Government of India