

THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

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REC4-63016/2015

NOTIFICATION

KERALA STATE HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION – 2015

Online applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment as District and Sessions Judge in the Kerala State Higher Judicial Service by direct recruitment from the Bar. Online applications can be submitted from 15/10/2015 onwards. No other means/modes of application will be accepted.

1. **Recruitment Number** : 9/2015
2. **Scale of Pay of the Post** : ₹ 51550 – 63070
3. **Number of vacancies** : 8 Nos. (Number of vacancies may increase in the event of enhancement of the cadre strength by the Government on or before the date of publication of result of the written examination)
4. **Qualifications** : A candidate for appointment as District and Sessions Judge from the Bar shall satisfy the following general conditions:
 - (a) He shall be a citizen of Indian Union.
 - (b) He shall have attained 35 years of age and shall not have completed 45 years of age on the first day of January, 2015.
 - (c) He shall be of good character.
 - (d) He shall be of sound health and active habits and free from any bodily defect or infirmity which renders him unfit for such appointment.
 - (e) He shall not have more than one wife living unless exempted by the Government on special grounds.
 - (f) He shall be a practising Advocate and should have so practised for a period of not less than 7 (seven) years, as on the last date fixed for closure of Step II process.

Note: (1) For relaxations of age limit, provisions in sub rule (c) of Rule 10 of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958 raising the upper age limit in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, adult members of Scheduled Castes and their children when such adult members are converted to other religions, Scheduled Tribes and Other backward Classes shall be applicable.

(2) Save as otherwise provided, eligibility shall be determined with reference to the last date fixed for closure of Step II Process.

5. **Mode of Selection:** The selection shall be on the basis of a competitive examination consisting of a written examination and a viva voce. The competitive examination will be common for the candidates who apply in response to this Notification, Notification No. REC 4 – 63013/2015 dated 30/09/2015 (Recruitment No. 6/2015), Notification No. REC 4 – 63014/2015 dated 30/09/2015 (Recruitment No. 7/2015) and Notification No. REC 4 – 63015/2015 dated 30/09/2015 (Recruitment No. 8/2015). The total mark for the written examination is 300 and it shall consist of two papers each carrying a maximum of 150 marks based on the syllabus given

below. The prescribed duration of each paper will be three hours. The general candidates and candidates belonging to Other Backward Classes who secure 50% and SC/ST candidates who secure 40% aggregate minimum for both the papers together shall be declared as qualified for the viva voce. Maximum marks for viva voce shall be 50. The merit list of successful candidates will be prepared on the basis of the total marks obtained in the written examination and viva voce.

If the number of applicants is disproportionately large vis-a-vis the number of posts to be filled up, the High Court reserves the right to shortlist the candidates by their length of practice at the Bar and such shortlisted candidates alone will be called for the written examination. However, such shortlisting will not be applicable to the candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes. The schedule of written examinations will be announced later.

6. **Syllabus for the Written Examination:**

PAPER - I	Limitation Act, Specific Relief Act, Transfer of Property Act, Indian Contract Act, Arbitration and Conciliation Act, Indian Succession Act (Probate, Letters of Administration, Wills, etc.), Personal Laws - Hindu, Muslim & Christian, Guardian and Wards Act, Code of Civil Procedure, Civil Rules of Practice, Kerala Court fees and Suit valuation Act and Judgment Writing (Civil).
PAPER - II	Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, Code of Criminal Procedure with special emphasis on framing of charges, Sessions trial, Bail, etc., Criminal Rules of Practice and Judgment Writing (Criminal).

7. **Reservation of Appointment:** The rules relating to reservation of appointments for Other Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes contained in Part II of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958 (Rules 14 to 17) shall apply to appointment by direct recruitment, subject to the condition that the benefit in the case of Other Backward Classes will be available only to those who do not belong to the creamy layer of the respective communities.

8. **Probation:** Every person appointed as District and Sessions Judge by direct recruitment shall be on probation for a period of two years on duty within a continuous period of three years from the date on which he/she joins duty.

9. **How to Apply:**

(a) The online application process has two parts - **Step-I** and **Step-II**. 'Step-I /New Registration' is the first part for registration of the applicants. 'Step-II /Registered Applicant' is the second part of the process for those applicants who complete Step-I. A candidate's online application is complete only if he/she completes both the steps which includes the submission of applications by clicking the 'FINAL SUBMISSION' option available in Step - 2 process.

(b) Eligible candidates are required to apply only 'ONLINE' through the website **www.hckrecruitment.nic.in**. To start the process, the candidates should click the link 'Step-I/New Applicant' below the head 'Apply Online' seen in the right side of the web page. This will take the candidate to the next page where the options of 'POSTS' are displayed. The candidates can access the **RECRUITMENT OF DISTRICT & SESSIONS JUDGE main page** (hereafter called the main page) by clicking the option 'District & Sessions Judge' available there. Before proceeding further, the candidate should read the detailed notification in the home page and How to Apply, Guidelines for Photograph & Signature, FAQ and Sample Application Form provided in the main

page. He/She should also be ready with his/her scanned Photograph & Signature (in a pen drive or CD) and the details to be filled in the online application. No other means/modes of application will be accepted.

(c) In Step-I (Registration for New Applicants), the candidate has to fill in basic information about him/her. The information provided during Step-I (New Applicants) process is of permanent nature and cannot be modified.

(d) In Step-II (For Registered Applicant), the candidate has to upload his/her scanned photograph and signature, fill in fee payment details and detailed information about him/her. The details furnished by the candidates during Step-II process can be modified till the **Final Submission** of online applications. **However, the photograph and signature once uploaded cannot be changed.**

(e) The online application form is common for the General Recruitment (Recruitment No.9/2015), NCA 2nd Renotification for SC converts to Christianity (Recruitment No.8/2015), NCA 3rd Renotification for Scheduled Tribes (Recruitment No.7/2015) and NCA 4th Renotification for SIUC Nadar (Recruitment No.6/2015).

(f) Candidates applying for more than one recruitment **should not apply separately**. In Step-I, they should select all the recruitment numbers for which they want to apply by clicking in the appropriate check boxes. They need to pay the application fee only once. If they opt to apply separately, they will have to remit separate application fee for each recruitment and they will lose the 'common candidate' status in the examination. So, the eligible candidates who desire to apply for more than one recruitment should avoid applying separately to get the status of the 'common candidate' in view of the fact that common examination is prescribed for recruitments to General and NCA vacancies.

(g) Candidates are advised to have a valid Mobile Number/valid personal e-mail ID. It should be kept active for the duration of the recruitment. No request for change of Mobile Number/e-mail ID will be entertained. High Court will send various intimations relating to the recruitment as SMS/e-mail to this Mobile Number/e-mail ID. Under no circumstances, he/she should share/mention the e-mail ID with/to any other person.

(h) In case a candidate does not have a valid personal e-mail ID, he/she may create his/her new e-mail ID before applying online.

(i) If the candidate does not mention his/her Mobile Number/e-mail ID, no intimation relating to the recruitment will be sent to the candidates. Such candidates will have to visit the website frequently for getting information about the recruitment.

(j) Before applying online a candidate will be required to have a scanned (digital) image of his photograph and signature as per the specifications given in the link "**Guidelines for Photograph & Signature**" available on the main page. For photograph, the size of the file should be between 20 to 40 KB and for signature, it should be between 10 to 20 KB. Candidates should take care to upload good quality photographs. Otherwise it would be difficult to identify the candidate from the photograph on the Admission Ticket. If the candidate can not be identified from the photograph printed on the Admission Ticket, he/she will not be allowed to write the examination.

(k) The candidate should also keep the particulars of educational qualifications, enrolment details, history of practice during the last five years, experience details and other personal details ready before applying as these details are required to be entered in the online Application Form. The detailed requirement are given in the links "**Sample Application Form**" available in the main page.

(l) Candidates should fill in the required details including uploading of his/her photograph and Signature during the course of applying online. Care should be taken by the applicant while filling in information in the Online Application Form.

(m) Towards the end of Step-I process, the candidate will be asked to generate a **Key Number**. The Key Number should be eight digit long and it should contain at least one upper case letter (A,B, C,...), one lower case letter (a,b,c,...), one digit (0,1,2,3,...) and one of the special characters (! @ # \$ % ^ * () _ - + { } ; : < . >) . The candidate is advised to note down the Key Number and to keep it securely till the selection process is over since it is required to be entered each time he/she log in to the system. Under no circumstances, he/she should share/mention Key Number with/to any other person.

(n) Candidates are required to submit the application fees, as stated below:

<u>Category of Applicant</u>	<u>Amount of Fees</u>
SC/ST/Unemployed Differently Abled	Nil
All Others	₹ 1500/-

The application fee can be paid only through the branches of the State Bank of India using the system generated fee payment challan that can be downloaded on completion of Step I Process. Payment of fee by Demand Draft/Cheque/Money Orders/Postal Orders etc. will not be accepted. Fees once paid will not be refunded on any account nor can it be held in reserve for any other examination.

(o) On completion of Step-I (New Registration), the candidate will be assigned an **Application Number** which will be displayed on the screen and intimated to the candidates through SMS/e-mail and the candidate can take a print of the system generated Fee Payment Challan by clicking on the link "**Download Challan**". The candidates can also take a print of the Fee Payment Challan by clicking on the link "**Download Challan**" in the profile of the candidate in Step-II part.

(p) Making use of this Challan, a candidate can deposit the fee in cash at any branch of the State Bank of India after two banking days of completion of Step-I process or on receipt of an SMS alert in this regard, whichever is earlier. The bank will not accept any other challan/form for the payment of fee by cash. On depositing the fee by this challan, the bank will provide a "**Journal Number**". The candidate should ensure that on deposit of fee, the bank branch issues to him/her CANDIDATE COPY of the Challan with Journal number and Date of Deposit clearly written/stamped in it as these are required for fee validation. **Those who have to pay fees can proceed with Step-II only after 2 banking days of making the fee payment or on receipt of SMS alert in this regard, whichever is earlier.** However, the uploading of the photograph and signature in Step-II can be made even before fee payment, if the candidate so desires.

(q) To continue the application process, the candidate has to log in to the system by clicking on the link "Step-II / Registered Applicant". For this the Application Number and Key Number of the candidate are required. Then the candidate will have access to the profile of the candidate.

(r) A candidate who is exempted from payment of application fee can directly log in by clicking on "Step-II /Registered Applicant" immediately on completion of Step-I and continue with the application process.

(s) In the **profile** of the candidate, the links - Upload Photograph and Signature, Download Challan, Fees Validation, Application, History of Practice, Experience, Final Submission, and Print Application are available to the candidate. Only after completion of uploading of photograph and signature and fees validation, can the candidate proceed with the other links in Step-II.

(t) After satisfying that the information furnished are correct and complete, the candidate must finally submit the Application by clicking the link '**Final Submission**' and furnishing the details required therein. The process of online application will be complete only on Final Submission of application as stated above. Once an online application is finally submitted, no further change can

be made in Step-II. Therefore, the candidates are instructed to ensure the accuracy and correctness of details furnished before clicking the '**Final Submission**' button.

(u)The candidates can take printout of Application and keep it for future reference. They need not send the print out of the online application to the High Court.

(v)The candidates should submit the following documents to the High Court by post or by hand on or before 05/12/2015, after applying online.

I.Original Certificate of Experience at the Bar, Character and Conduct in 'FORM-A' duly filled up and certified by the Judicial Officer, which should show atleast 7 years of practice. (FORM -A can be downloaded from the District & Sessions Judge Recruitment Portal by clicking the link "**Downloads**"). The candidate may use as many number of FORM A, as required. Application Number should be mentioned in the space provided for the same in Form 'A'.

II.Self attested copies of the following documents

a)Law Degree certificate.

b)Relevant page of school record to prove name and date of birth.

The originals of all relevant records (including the certificates referred at II (a) and (b) above) shall be produced when called for. Failure to produce the original documents when called for, will result in disqualification of the applicant.

(w)The envelope containing the duly filled 'FORM-A' in original and self attested copies of documents mentioned at (v) (II) shall be superscribed "KERALA STATE HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION 2015 – APPLICATION NO : – COPIES OF DOCUMENTS" and sent to "THE REGISTRAR GENERAL, HIGH COURT OF KERALA, ERNAKULAM, KOCHI-682 031".

(x)The candidates are advised to keep the Application Number and Key Number securely as both are required each time they log in to the system.

(y)Online application validation rules are designed based on the Notification / Rules requirement. Candidates are advised to read the Notification / rules carefully and refer "How to Apply" pages on the main page. Application submitted through online form does not imply that candidate has fulfilled all the criteria given in the Notification / Rules and application is subject to subsequent scrutiny and the application can be rejected if found to be not fulfilling the eligibility criteria at any point of time.

10) The candidates should ensure that the details in the system generated printout of Application are that of the candidates themselves. The candidates who make alterations or attempt to write the written test by making alterations in the Admission Tickets downloaded will be disqualified.

11) An application once made will not be allowed to be withdrawn.

12) The candidate's copy of the Fee Payment Challan should be retained by the candidate and produced if called for.

13) Full and correct information shall be furnished in the online application. Furnishing of false or incorrect information/documents or suppression of material information will disqualify the candidate at any stage of selection. Anything not specifically claimed in the application against the appropriate field will not be considered at a later stage.

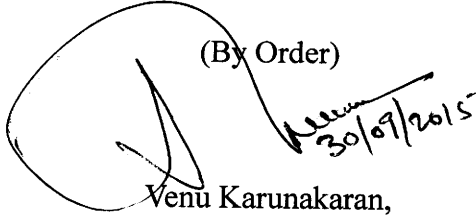
- 14) Applications which do not comply with the instructions in this notification shall be rejected.
- 15) A candidate shall submit only one application.

16) Important Dates to be remembered with regard to submission of application:

Date of commencement of Step-I and Step-II process	15/10 /2015
The date of closure of Step-I process	09/11/2015
The last date for remittance of application fee	18/11/2015
Date of closure of Step-II process	25/11 /2015
Last date for receipt of the copies of the required documents	05/12/2015

- 17) **Admission Tickets :** Admission Tickets for written examination will not be sent by post. The candidates should download the Admission Tickets from the website www.hckrecruitment.nic.in. The Admission Tickets will be ready for download three weeks prior to the date of the written examination and the matter will be informed through press release and through SMS/e-mail. The candidates are also advised to visit the website of the High Court at least once in two weeks to know about the schedule of the examination.
- 18) **Call Letter for Viva-voce :** Call Letters for viva-voce will not be sent by post. The eligible candidates should download the Call Letters from the website www.hckrecruitment.nic.in. The Call Letters will be ready for download two weeks prior to the date of the viva-voce and the matter will be informed through press release and through SMS/e-mail. The eligible candidates are also advised to visit the website of the High Court at least once in a week to know about the schedule of the viva-voce.
- 19) For removal of doubts, candidates may call: 0484-2562235.

(By Order)



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Registrar (Recruitment & Computerisation)