

HIGH COURT AT CALCUTTA
APPELLATE SIDE
NOTIFICATION

NO. 10789-RG

Dated: Calcutta, the 30th day of November, 2023

LIMITED COMPETITIVE EXAMINATION IN THE CADRE OF DISTRICT JUDGE
(ENTRY LEVEL) FROM MEMBERS OF THE WEST BENGAL JUDICIAL SERVICE
FOR THE YEAR 2023

Applications are invited from the **members of the West Bengal Judicial Service** belonging to the substantive posts of Civil Judge (Senior Division) having not less than 5 years qualifying service and also the officers belonging to the post of Additional District & Session Judge, Fast Tract Courts, both in the feeder cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division), other than District Judges as mentioned in the clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 6 of the West Bengal Judicial (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2004, for conducting **Limited Competitive Examination**, strictly on the basis of merit for preparation of a panel of qualified officers towards filling up the **01 (one) vacancy in the quota for Limited Competitive Examination** as well as the **vacancies, if any, remaining unfilled out of 04 (Four) vacancies in the quota of Direct Recruitment from the members of the Bar**, in the cadre of District Judge (Entry Level), for the year **2023**, consistent with the relevant provisions under Rule 26(1) of the West Bengal Judicial (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2004, without carrying forward such vacancies following the directions and time-schedule of Hon'ble the Supreme Court of India in Malik Mazhar Sultan's case (Civil Appeal No. 1867 of 2006) and without any prejudice to the rights of any of the successful candidates.

A Competitive Examination will be held in Kolkata, West Bengal for selection of District Judge as referred to in clause (a) of sub-rule (1) of rule 24 of the West Bengal Judicial (Conditions of Service) Rules, 2004 as per time schedule fixed by Hon'ble Supreme Court of India in Malik Mazhar Sultan's case.

PLAN OF EXAMINATION:

The examination shall be conducted in **03 (three) phases**.

In the **first phase**, there will be a **preliminary test** consisting of objective type questions of **50 (fifty) marks**. Each question of such preliminary test shall carry **02 (two) marks**. In case of each wrong answer, there will be negative marking of 02(two) marks. The **duration** of the preliminary test will be **01 (one) hour**. The preliminary test will be taken on the basis of *Current Affairs, General Awareness and Law papers* (i.e. **Paper II – V**), as prescribed for written examination (Second Phase). **Preliminary Test** will be conducted through *OMR* sheets in duplicate. *The answer-key of the preliminary test will be published after the test, for inviting objections from the candidates, if any, within 7 (seven) days from the date of such publication of answer-key. Any objection filed beyond the stipulated time shall not be entertained.*

The minimum marks required to appear in the **written test** (the **Second Phase**), is **50%** with negative marking in the preliminary test. Successful candidates shall be allowed to appear at the written examination in the Second Phase.

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| <p><i>NOTE-I: The marks obtained in the preliminary test would not be carried forward in the written test in the second phase.</i></p> |
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The **Written Test** in the **Second Phase** consists of **05 (five) papers (Paper I – V)** mentioned below. Each paper carries **100 (one hundred) marks**. Time for giving answer is **03 (three) hours** for each paper. Total marks for written test in second phase are **500 (five hundred)**.

The answer scripts shall be evaluated by adopting evaluation method. The qualifying marks on each subject will be **40** (forty) and in addition to that candidates must obtain **50%** on aggregate in order to be successful in the written test in the Second Phase.

Further **100** (one hundred) marks are reserved for **Viva-Voce/ Personality Test**.

Total **300** (three hundred) marks in aggregate *i.e.* **50%** of the **total marks 600** (six hundred) will be the **qualifying marks** for being empanelled in the panel for being appointed to the post of District Judge (Entry Level) by way of Limited Competitive Examination, in view of the decision of the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India passed in Writ Petition (C) No. 490 of 2007 (Hemani Malhotra – Vs. – High Court of Delhi) prohibiting fixation of any bench mark for viva-voce/personality test.

SYLLABUS:

| Name of the paper | Syllabus |
|-------------------------|--|
| <u>PAPER-I</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Translation from Bengali to English 2. Precis Writing. 3. Essay Writing on General Awareness Topics. |
| <u>PAPER-II</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Code of Civil Procedure including its application to commercial courts. 2. Arbitration & Conciliation Act including its application to commercial courts. 3. Limitation Act. 4. Specific Relief Act. 5. Law relating to Intellectual Property. 6. Law relating to Contract. 7. Evidence Act. |
| <u>PAPER-III</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Code of Criminal Procedure. 2. Indian Penal Code. 3. Negotiable Instruments Act (Sections 138 to 147). 4. NDPS Act. 5. Juvenile Justice (Care & Protection of Children) Act. 6. Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012. 7. Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005. |
| <u>PAPER-IV</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Transfer of Property Act. 2. Constitutional Law. 3. Statutes on Hindu Law relating to Marriage, Succession, Adoption, Maintenance, Minority & Guardianship. 4. Muslim Law relating to Marriage, Maintenance, Minority & Guardianship. 5. Indian Succession Act. 6. Guardian and Wards Act. 7. Indian Trust Act. |
| <u>PAPER-V</u> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. West Bengal Premises Tenancy Act. 2. West Bengal Land Reforms Act. 3. West Bengal Estate Acquisition Act. 4. Bengal Public Demand Recovery Act. 5. Industrial Disputes Act. 6. Motor Vehicles Act. |

NOTE-II: Candidates will not be allowed to answer the questions with the assistance of books/Bare Acts in any of three phases of the entire examination procedure.

VIVA-VOCE:

The Selection Board shall call such number of successful candidates in the written test in the Second Phase for viva-voce/personality test as it thinks fit strictly according to merit list prepared on the basis of aggregate marks obtained by those candidates but such number in no case should exceed five times the number of vacant posts.

The High Court reserves the right to relax above eligibility criteria and qualifying marks in each subject or aggregate, if required.

The **final merit list** will be published on the basis of the total marks obtained by the successful candidates on the **written test** (descriptive) in the second phase and the **viva-voce/personality test**.

PAY SCALE:

The pay matrix in Annexure-I of the Judicial Department G.O. No.3129-J/JD/V/2A-03/2020 dated 28.10.2022 illustrates the existing pay of the officers of the District Judge (Entry Level) of the W.B.J.S. cadre as follows:-

| Sr. No. | District Judges (Entry Level) | District Judges (Selection Grade) | District Judges (Super Time Scale) |
|---------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Level | <u>J-5</u> | <u>J-6</u> | <u>J-7</u> |
| Year 1 | 144840 | 163030 | 199100 |
| Year 2 | 149190 | 167920 | 205070 |
| Year 3 | 153670 | 172960 | 211220 |
| Year 4 | 158280 | 178150 | 217560 |
| Year 5 | 163030 | 183490 | 224100 |
| Year 6 | 167920 | 188990 | |
| Year 7 | 172960 | 194660 | |
| Year 8 | 178150 | 200500 | |
| Year 9 | 183490 | 206510 | |
| Year 10 | 188990 | 212710 | |
| Year 11 | 194660 | 219090 | |

All other perks like free News Papers, Magazine, Medical Reimbursement facilities, entitlement of fuel (petrol or diesel), Robe Allowance etc. are admissible as per Rules.

All appointments to the posts mentioned above shall be made by the Governor in accordance with the recommendation of the High Court and all selection to the posts mentioned above shall be made by the High Court.

LAST DATE FOR SUBMISSION OF APPLICATION:

The last date for submission of application is by 4:30 P.M.on 16th December, 2023.

Application reaching the office concerned after the due date and time shall not be considered, even though the same are posted well in advance.

NOTE-A: Any form of solicitation for selection by or on behalf of any candidate will lead to outright rejection of his/her candidature.

NOTE-B: Admission to the examination is purely provisional subject to determination of eligibility in terms of the advertisement.

By Order

Sd/-

Chaitali Chatterjee (Das)
Registrar General-cum-Secretary,
Selection Board
High Court, Appellate Side,
Calcutta.