

2. IMPORTANT G.Os

2.130 Public Services - Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service - Steno-typists - Promotion as Superintendents

Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 121

Dated : 18.05.2007

Read :

1. G.O. (Ms) No. 256, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department, dated 1.8.92.
2. G.O. (Ms) No. 284, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department, dated 19.8.92.
3. G.O. (Ms) No. 417, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department, dated 1.12.93.

Read also :

4. G.O. (Ms) No.34, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department, dated 21.2.2001.
5. G.O. (Ms) No. 122, Personnel and Administrative Reforms (B) Department, dated 2.9.2005.

In the Government Order first read above, the posts of Typist and Steno-Typist were split into two separate categories. In the Government Order second read above, to provide promotional opportunities to the persons with long regular service in the category of Steno-Typist, it was ordered that the post of Steno-Typist be re-designated as Steno-Typist Grade-III and the then existing post of Upper Division Steno-Typist be converted as Steno-Typists Grade-II and Steno-Typist Grade-I with the higher scales of pay. In the Government Order third read above, the Steno-Typist stood excluded for promotion as Assistant in the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service with effect from 1.8.92, as they were provided with separate line of promotion in their own category. However, in the Government Order fourth read above, the ban order for promotion to the post of Assistant from Steno-Typist Grade-III was lifted from 5.8.2000 and the Steno-Typists Grade III were also required to exercise their option either to continue in the category of Steno-Typist Grade-III for further promotions in the same line, or for appointment as Assistant with certain conditions as specified therein. The qualifying service of 8 years, a condition specified, was reduced to 5 years in the Government Order fifth read above.

2. The High Court of Madras, in the W.P.No.6550/2006 (O.A.No. 1705 of 1996) on 4.11.2006, filed by Surukkezhuthalargal Sangam, has directed as follows:-

"Stenographers have a unique opportunity of closely working with the Presiding Officers and learning the Court procedures. This experience is a valuable asset for administration. We fail to understand why they cannot be placed in other posts. It is not desirable to treat the Stenographer like "once a mortgage, always a mortgage". His valuable experience could be fully utilized in other branches of administration as well. It is not good even from health point of view as correctly stated by some High Courts, State Government.

We, therefore, recommend that the Stenographers may be permitted to switch over to ministerial / supervisory cadre, after they have completed a minimum period of service as determined by the High Court, subject to the condition that the option once exercised shall not be revoked.

In view of the above, it is clear that the Stenographers have justification for seeking a promotional avenue in their career. Consequently, the Writ Petition is disposed off with a direction to the respondent to have a fresh look at the issue of providing a promotional avenue for Stenographers, in the light of the above observations and take a decision".

3. The Government have examined the matter in depth and in detail, in the light of the above directions of the High Court, and decided to provide promotional avenues in supervisory cadre for Steno-Typists Grade-II and Steno-Typists Grade-I who worked as such during the period from 1.8.92 to 21.2.2001 for the reason that Steno-Typists Grade III were already provided for appointment as Assistants.

4. The Government, accordingly, issue the following orders:-

- (i) The persons who had worked as Steno-Typists Grade-I and Steno-Typists Grade II between 1.8.92 to 21.2.2001 in the Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service alone be considered for promotion as Superintendent, etc.
- (ii) 5% of vacancies in the category of Superintendent, etc., and in the identical posts prevailing in the Departments concerned shall be allocated for appointment by promotion from the category of Steno-Typist Grade-II and Steno-Typist Grade I.
- (iii) The required period of service in the category of Steno-Typist Grade-II and Steno-Typist, Grade-I shall be prescribed as five years.
- (iv) The Steno-Typists Grade-II and Steno-Typists Grade-I should undergo training as Assistant for a period of one year, as prescribed by the Department concerned where they are working and also satisfy other qualifications prescribed for such promotion.
- (v) The Steno-Typists Grade-II and Steno-Typists Grade-I should exercise their option prior to their promotion either to continue in the category of Steno-Typist, or for promotion as Superintendent, etc., which will be irrevocable.
- (vi) According to their options exercised, Steno-Typist Grade-II and Steno-Typist Grade-I shall be considered for appointment as Superintendent, etc., in the order of seniority in the respective category.

5. The appointing authorities should follow the above orders scrupulously. Further procedure and service conditions to be followed while giving promotions shall be issued separately. Consequential amendments to Tamil Nadu Ministerial Service will also be issued separately.

6. In regard to Tamil Nadu Judicial Ministerial Service, separate orders will be issued by Government in the Home Department.

(By order of the Governor)

L.K. TRIPATHY
CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT