

**2.68 Technical Wing - Absorption and Recruitment of Engineering staff in Rural Development Department from other Technical Departments**

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Rural Development (E-IV) Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 102

Dated : 25.05.1998

Read :

G.O. (Ms) No.263, Rural Development, Dated 27.12.96

**ORDER**

At present the Engineering staff working in Rural Development Department are drawn from various other departments on transfer of service on deputation basis. It had been experienced some administrative difficulties in implementing the various pivotal schemes of the State as well as Centre without adequate powers to the implementing authorities to control over the Engineering staff of their departments. It has become imperative need, from a purely administrative point of view, that Rural development Department should have an Engineering Wing of its own. As a first step in G.O.(Ms).No.263, Rural Development (CSS.I) Department, dated 27.12.96, Government created 384 additional posts of Union Engineers i.e., Assistant Engineers at the rate of one for each Block, 15 additional post of Assistant Executive Engineer for those sub-division which did not have the post, 28 posts of Executive Engineers at the District level (one for each District) and one Superintending Engineer with the powers of a Chief Engineer. The Engineers required for these posts were drawn from Highways and Rural Works, Public works Department, Agriculture Engineering, Tamil Nadu Water Supply and Drainage Board and other allied Technical Departments. The required number of Engineers could not be filled from these departments, since they do not have adequate technical staff for Rural Development Department posts.

2) After a detailed deliberations with the senior officers of the Departments concerned, it has been proposed, among other things, that the technical posts in Rural Development Department could be categorized into "New Posts" (i.e. those sanctioned by G.O.(Ms).No.263 Rural Development (CSS-I) Department dated: 27.12.96) and "Original Posts" (i.e. those sanctioned prior to the said G.O). The powers to do postings and transfers of officers manning the "New Posts" is vested in Collector/Director of Rural Development/ Government in Rural Development Department and in respect of "Original Post" now manned by personnel drawn from Highways Department, whose postings are done by the Divisional Engineers (Highways)/ Chief Engineer (Highways and Rural Works)/ Government in Highways Department. The present system of "Dual Control" of the technical posts in Rural Development Department with the "New Posts" being controlled by Rural Development Department and the "Old Posts" by Highways Department was creating administrative confusion and was not conducive to good administration.

3) The Government examined the issues in details and hereby orders as follows:

- (i) The Chief Engineer (H&RW) Government in Highways Department shall stop posting of personnel directly to the "Original" 53 posts of Assistant Executive Engineers (RD); 384 posts of Block Engineers 768 posts of Overseers 53 posts of Junior Engineers/ Assistant Engineers and the 53 posts of Junior Draughtsmen (one in each technical sub-division) and all the posts of Road Inspectors, which are borne on Panchayat Union General Funds with immediate effect. The Chief Engineer (H& RW) Government in Highways Department should instead place these personnel at the disposal of the Director of the Rural Development / Collectors on transfer of services basis and the Director of Rural Development / Collectors will, in turn, discharge the duty and powers of postings and transfers.
- (ii) In order to avert reversions within Highways Department the "Original" 53 posts of Assistant Executive Engineers (RD); 384 posts of Block Engineers; 768 posts of Overseers; 33 posts of Junior Engineers/Assistant Engineers and 53 posts of Junior Draughtsmen (one in each technical sub-division) will be earmarked for personnel

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from Highways Department but if that department is not able to sponsor candidates within 2 Months from the date of request made by the Director of Rural Development Department will fill up these posts by drawing personnel from other Departments.

- (iii) Although the posts of Overseers are found only in the Panchayat Unions, the incumbents cannot be promoted against a part of the posts of Block Engineers Assistant Engineers (RD) because they are presently staff of Highways Department. They need to be permanently absorbed into R.D Department by getting individual options and only thereafter the question of their promotions be taken up. Similar individual options may be obtained from the Draughtsmen of Highways Department for permanent absorption against the 53 posts of Junior Draughtsmen in the officers of the AEE (RD) EE (RD) also. The Road Inspector/ Assistant Draughtsmen (the scale of these 2 posts are the same) in Highways Department will also be given an opportunity for permanent absorption against the posts of Road Inspectors in the Panchayat Unions. These posts will be the feeder categories for appointment (by promotion) of Overseers. The Chief Engineer (H&RW) may be requested to obtain options from all those personnel and place them at the disposal of Rural Development Department.
- (iv) 209 posts in the category of Block Engineers/Assistant Engineer (RD) will be earmarked to be filled up by promotion from the feeder categories of Overseers and Junior Draughtsmen. But this route would be open to them only after they exercise their option and are permanently absorbed in R.D Department. This number of 209 would be out of the 384 posts of Block Engineers suggested in item (i) above to be earmarked for engineers from Highways Department.

4) The Director of Rural Development is directed to explore the possibility and report to Government of permanently absorbing Assistant Engineers from other Technical Departments giving them a 1:1 weightage for service already put in by them in their respective Departments. This would enable Rural Development Department to have officers of varying seniorities and the promotion channels will not be clogged as happens when bulk retirement is done.

- 5) This order will come into force from the date of issue of order.

(By order of the Governor)

**RAMESH CHANDRA PANDA**  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT