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PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL
School Education Department
(Secondary Branch)
Bikash Bhawan, Salt Lake, Kolkata 700091

No. 1114-S(S)/1S-26/2010 (Pt.-III)

Dated the 21st September, 2016.

NOTIFICATION

In exercise of the power conferred by sub-section (1) of section 17, *read* with section 8 and clause (d) of sub-section (2) section 17, of the West Bengal School Service Commission Act, 1997 (West Ben. Act IV of 1997), and in supersession of the West Bengal School Service Commission (State Level Selection Test for appointment to the posts of Teachers) Rules, 2015, issued with this Department Notification No. 165-SE(S)/1S-26/2010 (Part II) dated the 3rd March, 2015, published in Kolkata Gazette, Extra Ordinary, Part – I, dated the 9th March, 2015, the Governor is pleased hereby to make the following rules regulating the manner and scope of selection of persons for appointment to the posts of Headmaster/Headmistress in Secondary or Higher Secondary and Junior High Schools:—

Rules

1. **Short title and commencement.**—(1) These rules may be called the West Bengal School Service Commission (Selection for appointment to the Posts of Headmaster / Headmistress in Secondary or Higher Secondary and Junior High Schools) Rules, 2016.
(2) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the *Official Gazette*.
2. **Definitions.**—(1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires,—
 - (a) “Act” means the West Bengal School Service Commission Act, 1997 (West Ben. Act IV of 1997);
 - (b) “Category” means medium of instruction category, gender category;
 - (c) “Degree or Diploma” means Graduate degree or Master’s degree in relation to an academic qualification obtained from a recognised University and accepted by the Commission or a professional qualification duly recognised by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE), as the case may be;

- (d) “interview list” means a list of candidates to be called for personality test category wise on the basis of merit (Marks of written test, Academic and Professional Qualification) in the ratio of 1:2 of final vacancies;
- (e) “merit list” means a list of candidates prepared category-wise on the basis of marks obtained by a candidate in written test, evaluation of academic and professional qualification and the marks obtained by a candidate in the personality test;
- (f) “Panel” means a list of candidates (category-wise) of the merit list equal to the number of final vacancies and includes a panel (region-wise) on the basis of the option exercised by the candidates;
- (g) “Post” means a whole-time sanctioned post of - Headmaster/Headmistress against Vacancy declared and sanctioned for Secondary or Higher Secondary or Junior High Schools;
- (h) “Schedule” means Schedules appended to these rules;
- (i) “School” means Secondary, Higher Secondary or Junior High/Upper Primary school in West Bengal under the jurisdiction of West Bengal School Service Commission;
- (j) “State” means the State of West Bengal;
- (k) “State Government” means the Government of West Bengal in the School Education Department;
- (l) “State Level Selection Test (SLST)” means the test to be conducted by the Central School Service Commission for recruitment of Headmaster/Headmistress of the categories stated in these rules;
- (m) “vacancy” means a vacancy in the post of a Headmaster/Headmistress caused by—
 - (i) creation of a new post;
 - (ii) superannuation;
 - (iii) death;
 - (iv) resignation;
 - (v) transfer;
 - (vi) removal or dismissal; or
 - (vii) any other reason, apart from the above, as the State Government may, by order, determine.
- (n) “waiting list” means a list of candidates from the merit list (category wise) but not included in the panel;
- (o) “NCTE” means National Council for Teacher Education (a statutory body of the Government of India);
- (p) “RTE Act” means the Right of Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act, 2009;
- (2) Words and expressions used and not defined in these rules but defined in the Act shall have the same meanings as respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. **Method of recruitment.**— The appointment of persons to the Headmaster/Headmistress mentioned in column (2) of Schedule I shall be made by selection (direct recruitment) through West Bengal School Service Commission in the manner as specified in Rule 7.

4. **Names of post, qualification and age.** — (1) The name of the post is Headmaster/Headmistress, and its qualification shall, subject to rule 5, be such as specified respectively in columns (2) and (3) of Schedule I:

(2) The age-limit for the post referred to in column (2) shall be such as specified in column (4) of Schedule I:

Provided certificates received upto the last date of the application and mentioned in the application form shall only be counted for academic and professional qualification.

5. **Additional essential qualification of candidate.** — A candidate willing to be selected as a Headmaster/Headmistress in any School having Bengali or English or Hindi or Nepali or Oriya or Santhali or Telegu or Urdu as the medium of instruction, shall have Bengali or English or Hindi or Nepali or Oriya or Santhali or Telegu or Urdu, as the case may be, as first or second or third language at Secondary level of the Board or equivalent or at Higher Secondary level of the Council or equivalent.

6. **Disqualification.** – (1) No person shall be eligible for selection for appointment to the post of Headmaster/ Headmistress unless he/she is a citizen of India.
- (2) No person shall be eligible for selection for appointment to the post of a Headmaster/ Headmistress in any school if he/she is convicted by any Court of law or who is under suspension from any school or removed from service from any school or against whom criminal case is pending in any court of law.
7. **Manner of selection of Headmaster/ Headmistress.** – (1) Selection to the post of the Headmaster/Headmistress shall be made on the basis of the results of the State Selection Test comprising written examination conducted by the Central Commission, evaluation of academic and professional qualifications and personality tests of the candidates in the manner as specified in Schedule II.
- (2) The Central Commission may, in its discretion, fix qualifying marks, to be scored by the candidates, in written examination or in aggregate or in both and/or relax the qualifying marks on reasonable grounds and reasons to be recorded in writing..
8. **Information regarding vacancies.** – (1) The District Inspectors of Schools (Secondary Education) shall on being asked by the Director of School Education prepare a report regarding the number of vacancies medium-wise, gender-wise for such Headmaster/Headmistress and send to the Directorate of School Education.
- (2) On receipt of report under sub-rule (1), the Directorate of School Education with due approval of the Government shall send the medium-wise, gender-wise report compiled Region wise for such posts to the Central Commission.
- (3) The report as mentioned in sub-rule (2) shall be sent to the Central Commission in the following manner:—
- (a) firstly, before the date of publication of the advertisement inviting application; and
- (b) lastly fifteen (15) days before the date of publication of the result of the written examination.
9. **Advertisement.**— (1) The Central Commission shall, on receipt of the report of Region wise vacancies under rule 8, issue an advertisement through newspapers in the State in English, Bengali, Hindi and / or any other languages, if necessary, as may be decided by the Commission and also through the website of the Commission.
- (2) Such advertisement shall be issued specifying the vacancies, qualifications, age as on the 1st day of January of the year of advertisement, and other necessary information relating to such posts, details of which may be obtained through the website of the Central Commission and from the Offices of Central Commission and Regional Commissions.
- (3) While specifying the vacancies in the advertisement, the Central Commission shall, for the said post publish a tentative number of vacancy at the time of inviting applications for State Level Selection Test that have been reported under clause (a) of sub-rule (3) of rule 8 and a final vacancy list at the time of publication of the result of the written examination declaring the actual vacancies that have been reported under clause (b) of sub-rule (3) of rule 8.
10. **Form of application.**— (1) The form of application for State Level Selection Test for appointment to the post shall be such, as may be determined by the Central Commission from time to time.
- (2) The proforma of the form of application may be published in the Newspapers or the Commission's website as may be determined by and at the discretion of the Central Commission.
- (3) The fees of SLST shall be such as may be fixed by the Central Commission from time to time.
11. **Submission of applications.**—The applications shall be submitted within such time and in such manner as may be specified by the Central Commission in the advertisement.
12. **Selection of candidates and preparation of panel.**— (1) The Central Commission shall arrange for proper custody of all online applications which may be received by it against the vacancies;
- (2) (a) The Central Commission after receiving application forms shall prepare list of eligible candidates for the purpose of preparation of a computer generated database of all the candidates;

- (b) The admit cards for written examination shall be issued by the Central Commission by any mode as may be determined by the Central Commission.
- (3) The Central Commission shall arrange written examination;
- (4) The Central Commission shall determine the method of written examinations, contents of papers, duration of examination, time and venue of examination and other matters relating to the State Level Selection Test;
- (5) The Central Commission shall decide the procedure and the manner of conducting the Selection Test;
- (6) After the evaluation of the OMR Sheet or answer-sheet of the written examination, the Central Commission shall prepare and publish in their website with all details of the candidates to be called for personality test (interview list) category-wise on the basis of merit (Marks of written test, Academic & Professional Qualification) in the ratio of 1 : 2 of final vacancies;
- (7) The Central Commission shall prepare and publish in their website a Merit List of candidates prepared Post-wise, category-wise on the basis of marks obtained in written test, evaluation of academic and professional qualification and marks of personality test;
- (8) The Central Commission shall prepare and publish in their website a merit based Panel of candidates (category wise) of the merit list equal to the number of vacancies and region-wise list on the basis of the option exercised by the candidates and also shall prepare and publish in their website a category-wise waiting list of the rest of the candidates of the merit list not included in the panel:

Provided written answer script/OMR shall not be reviewed or re-evaluated.

Provided further the Central Commission shall publish in their website the appropriate answers of the Questions for general information.

Provided that the number of qualified candidates to be called for the personality test shall not exceed 2 times the number of actual vacancies published at the time of declaration of the result of written examination under clause (b) of sub-rule (3) of rule 8.

Provided further that if the marks at the last position of the qualified list of candidates shall be same for more than one candidate, all such candidates at that position shall be called for the personality test even if the last candidate exceeds limit of 2 times.

Provided also that if any candidate makes omission or commits error or makes any mistake of any nature to fill in the OMR sheet or any defect crept in the OMR sheet of such candidate, the answer script of such candidate will not be evaluated and the candidature of such candidate will not be considered.

- (9) If more than one candidate obtain the same aggregate (total marks) the merit position of the candidates shall be determined according to their date of birth, i.e. candidates with earlier date of birth shall be preferred and if the aggregate and date of birth shall also be same, the candidates obtaining higher academic score shall be preferred and if the aggregate, date of birth and academic score shall be same, the candidates obtaining higher marks in written examination shall be preferred.
- (10) The Central Commission shall publish such panel and waiting list of candidates in the website of the Commission as well as the Offices of the concerned Regional Commissions. A copy of the same will be submitted to the School Education Department and the Directorate of School Education for information.

13. Duties of the Central Commission in regard to selection:— (1) Save as otherwise provided under these rules, the Central Commission shall perform the following functions in general:—

- (i) to keep liaison with the department to resolve different issues and chalk out the programme for conducting Selection Test;
- (ii) to finalize the details of the programme for Selection Test;
- (iii) to appoint paper setters;
- (iv) to issue notification and/or advertisement for conducting Selection Test;

- (v) to determine the format of application along with brochure and mode of publication thereof;
 - (vi) to appoint district observers for conduct of Selection Test.
 - (vii) to constitute Personality Test Board consisting of members as specified in Schedule III;
 - (viii) to determine the procedure for preparation of Merit List and Panel;
 - (ix) to fix up the mode of publication of notice, merit list, vacancies etc.;
 - (x) to do such other act as may be necessary for proper conduct of the Selection Test;
 - (xi) other duties as may be required to perform in connection with the selection.
- (2) The Central Commission may assign any of the above functions to the Regional Commissions and may take any assistance of the Regional Commissions in conducting the Selection Test.

14. Duties of the Regional Commissions in regard to Selection:— Save as otherwise provided in other provisions of these rules, each Regional Commission shall, in the process of recommendation of Persons for selection, perform the following functions:—

- (i) to assist to process application forms received at the Central Commission;
- (ii) to arrange for counselling and recommend persons for appointment from the concerned region wise list prepared by the Central Commission;
- (iii) to do such other duties apart from the above, as may be assigned to it by the Central Commission.

15. Validity of panel and waiting list. — (1) Each panel and waiting list shall remain valid for one year from the date of publication of the panel and waiting list, or the date of advertisement for the next Selection Test whichever is earlier:

Provided that the names of candidates shall not be recommended against any post other than the post applied for or against any vacancy which has not been notified in terms of clause (b) of sub-rule (3) of rule 8.

- (2) Notwithstanding anything contained in sub-rule (1), a panel, waiting list, merit list prepared by each of the Regional Commissions before coming into force of these rules, such panel, waiting list, merit list shall remain valid according to the rules prevalent at that material point of time.

16. Recommendation of candidates for appointment.— (1) The Regional Commission shall hold counselling with a view to recommending the name of the candidate from the list for appointment against each vacancy.

- (2) Thereafter, the Regional Commission shall recommend the name of only one candidate against each vacancy depending on his/her position in the panel and a copy of the letter recommending the name shall be sent through speed post or in such other mode to the candidate, to the concerned authority of the School as well as concerned District Inspector of Schools (SE) where the particular vacancy exists.

- (3) A recommendation letter shall remain valid for a period of ninety days from the date of issue.

Provided that the Regional Commission may, if it thinks expedient to extend the validity of the recommendation beyond the period of ninety days for any reasonable cause, for the reasons to be recorded in writing, extend the period of validity of such recommendation letter for a further period not exceeding sixty days.

- (4) The concerned School authority shall on the basis of the recommendation of the Commission, issue the letter of appointment to the candidate allowing joining time of not less than thirty (30) days through registered post with acknowledgement due and upon receipt of appointment letter from the concerned school authority the candidate shall join the post within the stipulated period as mentioned in the appointment letter on verification of original certificates/documents of the candidate by Headmaster/ Headmistress or Teacher in Charge.

Provided that if the School authority has any doubt about the vacancy position, it shall intimate the same to the Central Commission/Regional Commission, District Inspector of Schools (Secondary Education) and Director of School Education.

(5) If—

- (a) a candidate refuses to accept his/her allotment of post during counselling, or
- (b) the Central Commission gets information from any school or from the District Inspector of Schools (Secondary Education), or otherwise, that a candidate recommended for appointment has not accepted the offer of appointment or join the post within the stipulated period, or
- (c) such a candidate refuses to accept appointment, or
- (d) on further scrutiny it appears that the candidate has misrepresented the facts,

the Central Commission may do away with his/her name from the panel and will be deemed to have been depanelled and recommend the name of a candidate from the waiting list to the Regional Commission for Counselling and final Recommendation, strictly within the validity period of the panel and waiting list.

- (6) If a candidate, whose name has been recommended by the Regional Commission for appointment, cannot be appointed to the vacancy for which he/she was recommended for the reason that such vacancy ceased to exist, the managing committee, by whatever name it is called, or the *ad-hoc* committee or the administrator or the concerned District Inspector of Schools (Secondary Education), as the case may be, shall send an information in this regard to the Regional Commission and Regional Commission may, on receipt of such information, recommend his/her name for any other appropriate vacancy.
- (7) If the managing committee, by whatever name it is called, or *ad-hoc* committee or the administrator, if any, of any School does not appoint the candidate on the recommendation of School Service Commission having jurisdiction, the Regional Commission shall forward the matter to the School Education Department through the Central Commission for taking action under section 9A of the Act.
- (8) Male candidate shall not be recommended for appointment in any girls' school.

17. **Cancellation or Withdrawal of Recommendation.**— If prior to or after recommendation or during the course of selection process, it is found that any candidate concealed or suppressed or misrepresented or made false declaration in his/her application or at any subsequent stage or any mistake or fault committed by the Commission in granting recommendation wrongly to any candidate in contradiction to the provisions of the Act, Rules or other conditions as may be laid down, such candidate will be treated as disqualified and his/her recommendation will be cancelled and/or withdrawn at any stage and further his/her appointment, if any, shall stand terminated/cancelled and in such cases the decision of the Central Commission shall be final. Further the Central Commission may also take steps to fill up such post(s) from Waiting List within the validity period of the Panel and Waiting List, by issuing suitable direction to the concerned Regional Commission.
18. **Carry forward of vacancy.**— The vacancies, which are not filled up for unsuitability of candidates or for any other reasons, as the Central Commission may by order mention, shall be carried forward for the next recruitment/transfer process.
19. **Interpretation.**— (1) If any question arises regarding any decision of Central Commission, a reference may be made to the State Government and the decision taken by it shall be final.
(2) In regard to the interpretation of any provision of these rules, the decision of the State Government shall be final.
20. **Savings.**— (1) Nothing in these rules shall affect reservation, relaxation of age limit and other concessions required to be provided for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes and other special categories of persons in accordance with the orders issued by the State Government from time to time in this regard.
(2) Nothing in these rules shall affect any act done or cause to be done in accordance with the provisions of the earlier rules made or notifications or orders issued under the Act.
21. **Preservation of written examination answer scripts.**— The written answer scripts / OMRs of examinations shall be destroyed by the Commission after 1 year from the date of publication of the panel.

SCHEDULE I
[See rules 3 and 4]

Sl. No.	Name of posts	Educational qualification including professional qualifications	Age-limit
1.	Headmaster/ Headmistress of High School/ Higher Secondary School	<p>Essential:</p> <p>(i) Master's Degree from a recognized University with at least 45% marks at the Post Graduate Level, with degree in Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Education/Post Graduate Basic Training from any recognized University or any training recognized by the State Government as equivalent to Bachelor of Teaching / Bachelor of Education / Post-Graduate Basic Training from a Teachers' Training Institution duly recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) in the relevant academic session:</p> <p>Provided that the above criteria of marks shall not apply to a Headmaster/Headmistress already appointed in Jr. High / High / Higher Secondary School prior to publication of these amendments;</p> <p>(ii) Ten years continuous teaching experience on the last date of submission of application in approved service in a Higher Secondary School/High School/Junior High School recognized by the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education/West Bengal Board of Secondary Education.</p>	Upto 55 years
2.	Headmaster/ Headmistress of Junior High School	<p>Essential:</p> <p>(i) Master's Degree from a recognized University with at least 45% marks at the Post Graduate Level, with degree in Bachelor of Teaching/Bachelor of Education/Post Graduate Basic Training from any recognized University or any training recognized by the State Government as equivalent to Bachelor of Teaching / Bachelor of Education / Post-Graduate Basic Training from a Teachers' Training Institution duly recognized by the National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) in the relevant academic session:</p> <p>Provided that the above criteria of marks shall not apply to a Headmaster / Headmistress already appointed in Jr. High / High / Higher Secondary School prior to publication of these amendments.</p> <p>(ii) Five years continuous teaching experience on the last date of submission of application in approved service in a Higher Secondary School / High School / Junior High School recognized by the West Bengal Council of Higher Secondary Education/ West Bengal Board of Secondary Education.</p>	Upto 55 years

SCHEDULE II

[See rules 7]

PART A

Selection to the post of Headmaster or Headmistress of High School or Higher Secondary School shall be made on the basis of written examination, evaluation of Academic and Professional qualifications and experience of the candidates in teaching and personality tests to be determined by the Commission in the following manner:

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|----------|
| (a) | Written Examination | : | 60 marks |
| (b) | Academic qualifications including professional qualifications | : | 25 marks |
| (c) | Experience in teaching (marks to be allotted as per the break-up detailed below) | : | 5 marks |
| | Experience | | Marks |
| (i) | ten years | : | Nil |
| (ii) | above ten years but upto twenty years | : | 3 marks |
| (iii) | above twenty years | : | 5 marks |
| (d) | Personality Test | : | 10 marks |
| | (Appearance before the Personality Test Board is compulsory) | | |

Note 1.—The academic qualifications including professional qualification for selection to the post of Headmaster or Headmistress of High School, or Higher Secondary School shall be evaluated in accordance with Table 1 of Part C of this Schedule.

PART B

Selection to the post of Headmaster or Headmistress of Junior High School shall be made on the basis of written examination, evaluation of Academic and Professional qualifications and experience of the candidates in teaching and personality tests to be determined by the Commission in the following manner:

- | | | | |
|-------|--|---|----------|
| (a) | Written Examination | : | 60 marks |
| (b) | Academic qualifications including professional qualifications | : | 25 marks |
| (c) | Experience in teaching (marks to be allotted as per the break-up detailed below) | : | 5 marks |
| | Experience | | Marks |
| (i) | five years | : | Nil |
| (ii) | above five years but up to fifteen years | : | 3 marks |
| (iii) | above fifteen years | : | 5 marks |
| (d) | Personality Test | : | 10 marks |
| | (Appearance before the Personality Test Board is compulsory) | | |

Note - The academic qualifications including professional qualification shall be evaluated in accordance with Table 1 of Part C of this Schedule.

PART C

PROVISION RELATING TO EVALUATION OF ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS INCLUDING PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION FOR SELECTION TO THE POST OF HEADMASTER / HEADMISTRESS

Table 1						
Manner of evaluation of academic qualifications including professional qualification for the selection of Headmaster/ Headmistress in Secondary or Higher Secondary and Junior High Schools						
Sl. No.	Examination passed	Full marks 25	Award of Marks			Remarks
1	School Final/Madhyamik equivalent	5	5 [For 1st Div/Class]	4 [For 2nd Div/Class]	3 [For other Div/Class]	
2	H.S.(+2 stage)/Pre University/ Intermediate / University Entrance or its equivalent	5	5 [For 1st Div/Class]	4 [For 2nd Div/Class]	3 [For other Div/Class]	
3	Old H.S. [in lieu of School Final/ Madhyamik or its equivalent and H.S.(+2 stage)/ Pre University/ Intermediate/ University Entrance or its equivalent]	10	10 [For 1st Div/Class]	8 [For 2nd Div/Class]	6 [For other Div/Class]	
4	(a) Bachelor's degree in Honours as regular/ external/ private candidate or through distance mode of education / correspondence course	6	6 [For 1st Div/Class]	5 [For 2nd Div/Class]	4 [For other Div/Class]	Holders of Degree with Spl. Hons./ Condensed Hons./Approved Proficiency courses shall not be allotted any additional marks for their pass course degree.
	or					
	(b) Bachelor's degree in Pass course		4 marks (fixed)			
	or		5 marks (fixed)			
5	Post Graduate degree as regular/ external/ private candidate or through distance mode of education / correspondence course	6	6 [For 1st Div/Class]	5 [For 2nd Div/Class]	4 [For other Div/Class]	
6	Diploma in Teachers Training (B.T/B. Ed./P.G.B.T/ P.G.T or its equivalent) in regular course or through distance mode of education / correspondence course from a Teachers' Training Institution duly recognized by the National Council for Teachers Education (NCTE) / Rehabilitation Council of India (RCI) in the relevant academic session	3	3 [For 1st Div/Class]	2 [For 2nd Div/Class]	1 [For other Div/Class]	

SCHEDULE III

[See rule 13(vii)]

PROVISIONS RELATING TO CONSTITUTION OF PERSONALITY TEST BOARD

1. For the purpose of holding personality test the Personality Test Board, shall be constituted by the Central Commission, with the following members:—
 - (a) One Nominee from the Central Commission not below the rank of Principal / TIC / Professor / Associate Professor who shall preside.
 - (b) One member from any Regional Commission to be nominated by the Chairperson of that Regional Commission.
 - (c) One expert having minimum 10 years of teaching experience in a Recognized College/University to be nominated by Central Commission.

SCHEDULE IV

[See rule 16(1)]

Provision relating to counselling for recommendation

1. For the post of Headmaster/ Headmistress there shall be Counselling for the purpose of recommendation of a person to the post within the territorial jurisdiction of the School Service Commission after publication of the list on the basis of the combined rank position of the empanelled candidate in relation to the category of vacancy against which they have been empanelled.
2. The Central Commission shall publish the details of each vacancy in schools Region-wise, category-wise separately on the basis of which panel has been prepared. The Central Commission shall publish such list of vacancies in the Commission's Website. Such relevant list shall be displayed in the counselling venue on the respective counselling date with regular updation during counselling for exercising option for selection of School as the case may be, by the candidates at the material point of time as per his/her choice.
3. The empanelled candidates for the post of Headmaster/ Headmistress qualified for counselling shall be informed of their rank category wise through speed post mentioning the date, time and venue of counselling. Candidates can also obtain such information from the Commission's Website and Notice Board of the Central and Regional Commissions. In case a qualified candidate does not receive the counselling letter, the candidate must appear for counselling on the date and time specified in the counselling schedule available on the website of the Commission or at the offices of the Central and Regional Commissions.
4. The candidates called for counselling are required to bring with them the original as well as self-attested copies of valid age-proof document, requisite testimonials, caste certificate (if applicable), Physically Handicapped certificate (if applicable) for final verification along with the Intimation Letter for Counselling, Call Letter for Personality Test and Admit Card for the Written Examination.

In case of grave and unavoidable circumstances a candidate may authorize one of his/her near relatives in the manner as will be decided by the Commission to represent him/her at the time of counselling.

5. During counselling the candidate shall exercise option for selection of School as the case may be, in his/her relevant category of post and medium for being recommended to a post of Headmaster/Headmistress against his/her category of post-wise rank on the basis of availability of vacancies of same nature at the material point of time displayed at the counselling venue on the basis of query regarding allotment of vacancies. The Regional Commission shall arrange to display each allotment of vacancy against empanelled candidates' category of post-wise, medium-wise in the counselling venue.

Further, at the time of counselling the candidates whose names occur in more than one lists i.e., Male/Female & Female lists, vacancies of all the lists will be shown to them for selection. However if a candidate's name occurs in separate lists for separate regions he/she may choose any region he/she likes.

6. If a candidate appears in the counseling within the day fixed for counseling but not within proper time and misses his/her turn while his/her name is called for selection of schools during the counselling session he/she may not get the opportunity of availing the number of Schools which would have been available to him/her normally in the relevant category of post and medium against which he/she has been empanelled. But he/she will get his/her turn at the end of the day after completion of counselling of last member attending serially.
7. The candidate shall have to sign a declaration of
 - (a) selection and acceptance of the School as per his/her choice available at the time of his/her turn during the counselling session; or
 - (b) refusal to exercise his/her option in respect of selection and acceptance of any School available at the time of his/her turn during the counselling session.
 - (c) the qualified absentee candidates will be directed to contact the concerned Regional School Service Commission for getting recommendation letters from the Commission's office within 10 days from the date of issue of letter in this regard failing which his/her candidature shall be treated as cancelled without any further reference in the matter.
8. Absentee candidates shall not be called for any second counseling.
9. The candidates in the waiting list, if necessary, may be recommended for the post on the basis of counselling and in such case, the relevant provisions of this Part shall apply *mutatis mutandis*.

By order of the Governor,

Secy. to the Govt. of West Bengal.