



Government of West Bengal
Higher Education Department

(University Branch)

Bikash Bhavan, 6th Floor, Bidhannagar, Kolkata – 700091

No: 1030 - Edn (U)/ IU(PU)-25/15

Kolkata, the 3rd of November, 2015

MEMORANDUM

The Department of Biological Sciences at Presidency University was set up in 2013 by amalgamation of the six erstwhile Departments of Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Molecular Biology and Genetics, Biochemistry and Biotechnology in keeping with the international and national best practices, and based on the assessment that Biological Sciences ought to be pursued through an inter-disciplinary approach among its various sub-disciplines.

Recently, a concern was raised by the Vice Chancellor, Presidency University whether the discipline of Biological Sciences is recognized as an eligible subject for the recruitment exercises conducted by various bodies at the national and state level, such as The West Bengal Public Service Commission, The West Bengal College Service Commission, The West Bengal School Service Commission, etc. and examinations like National Eligibility Test (NET) or State Eligibility Test (SET).

With a view to addressing these concerns, the Government in the Higher Education Department set up an Expert Committee comprising eminent subject experts and headed by Prof. Malayendu Saha, Vice Chairman (Academic), West Bengal State Council of Higher Education vide Notification no. 911-Edn(U)/IU(PU)-25/15 dated 15.09.2015, to study various aspects related to the question of recognition of Biological Sciences, as mentioned above.

The said Expert Committee has submitted its recommendations to the Government in the Higher Education Department and, after due examination, the Government has accepted the recommendations of the Committee.

Now, after careful consideration of the matter, and to ensure that students pursuing UG or PG courses in Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences are not put to any disadvantage in terms of employment/ job prospects, and also considering the practice followed by the University Grants Commission with regard to the National Eligibility Test (NET) conducted by it, the Governor is pleased to decide that --

- I. For recruitment exercises by different bodies to teaching posts in West Bengal in Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry, the subject of Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences shall be treated as a “relevant” subject;
- II. In respect of students pursuing Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences where the transcript shows topics related to Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry respectively apart from other topics, shall be considered equivalent to the subjects of Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry respectively;

- III. All the recruitment agencies for various teaching posts in the State including The West Bengal Public Service Commission, The West Bengal College Service Commission, The West Bengal School Service Commission, etc. shall indicate Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences as a recognized/ eligible subject for the public examinations conducted by them for filling up teaching posts in the subjects of Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry;
- IV. All the agencies in the State conducting recruitment exercises/ competitive examinations/ public examinations for recruitment to posts in the Government and Public Sectors should indicate Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences as a recognized/ eligible subject apart from the other/usual subjects;
- V. The West Bengal College Service Commission shall recognize Biological Sciences/ Life Sciences as an eligible subject for the State Eligibility Test (SET) following the practice adopted by the UGC in the conduct of the National Eligibility Test (NET).

The Director of Public Instruction, West Bengal, while sending requisitions to the West Bengal Public Service Commission and the West Bengal College Service Commission for filling up of teaching posts in Botany, Zoology, Physiology, Microbiology, Biotechnology, Molecular Biology and Biochemistry shall follow the above-mentioned decisions of the Government.

The State-aided Universities in West Bengal are also advised to accordingly take necessary action with regard to recruitment to teaching posts subject to the provisions of their Statutes, Rules, Regulations and the attendant procedures.

All agencies conducting recruitment for teaching posts in higher education / conducting public examinations in the State in the State of West Bengal including The West Bengal Public Service Commission, The West Bengal College Service Commission, The West Bengal School Service Commission are requested to take the necessary action in the matter, with immediate effect.

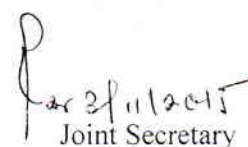
Sd/-
(S. BASURAY)
Joint Secretary,
Higher Education Department

No: 1030 /1(26)/Edn (U)/ 1U(PU)-25/15

Date: 03rd November 2015

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

- 1-19) The Vice Chancellor, University
- 20) The Chairman, West Bengal Public Service Commission
- 21) The Chairman, West Bengal College Service Commission
- 22) The Principal Secretary, School Education Department
- 23) The Principal Secretary, Minority Affairs and Madrasah Education Department
- 24) The Principal Secretary, Department of Animal Resource Development
- 25) The Principal Secretary, Agriculture Department
- 26) The Director of Public Instruction, West Bengal


Joint Secretary