

## Sub : Option of Hindi medium in Departmental Examinations.

While consolidating various instructions issued by the Board from time to time regarding option of Hindi medium in departmental examinations, it has been decided that the special care should be taken of the following measures in all the departmental examinations:-

1. Option of Hindi medium should be allowed in all the qualifying and competitive departmental tests, which include technical & non-technical departmental examinations also, conducted by the railway offices located in all the regions 'A', 'B' and 'C' irrespective of the fact whether translation of concerned rule books is available or not. It should invariably be made clear to the candidates in the beginning itself i.e while calling for applications for these examinations that the option of Hindi medium would be allowed in the said examination. However, in departmental examination conducted for technical posts, the knowledge of English, wherever necessary, could be ascertained.

2. In the qualifying and competitive departmental tests conducted for technical and non-technical posts, candidates will have the option to write answers to all the question papers, except the General English paper, in Hindi. Candidates should also be allowed to use such technical words in English whose equivalents are not known to them. Similarly, they are also allowed to give extracts in English from technical books, wherever necessary.

3. Question papers of all the departmental tests, whether technical or non-technical, should invariably be prepared in bilingual form. Each question paper should contain the clear mention about the option of Hindi Medium.

4. Option of Hindi medium should also be allowed to the candidates in oral tests and viva-voce conducted for departmental selection. The information regarding such an option should be given in writing through notices issued in this regard. This option is also applicable to oral tests conducted by the training institutes after the completion of training.

5. Since on the railways, cadre and channel of promotions for Hindi and English stenographers is the same, therefore, where some posts of steno 'C' are to be filled up by departmental promotion from amongst steno grade 'D' employees, option of Hindi or English stenography should be given to grade 'D' stenos in all steno grade 'C' selections, so that Hindi steno grade 'D' could also get promotions and for this purpose requisite posts of steno 'C' should be earmarked as Hindi steno grade 'C', such hindi steno grade 'C' stenographers could be posted with Hindi knowing officers or with those who are desirous of doing their work in Hindi.

6. Questions regarding official Language policy and Rules should also be set up in departmental tests, which includes technical and non-technical examinations also, conducted for group 'C' posts, for promotion from group 'C' to group 'B' posts and in limited departmental competitive tests conducted for filling up the vacancies in group 'B'. In order to judge the professional ability of the employees for this purpose, 10% marks out of total prescribed marks should be prescribed for Official Language Policy and Rules and these questions should be set up in consultation with the Mukhya Rajbhasha Adhikari.

7. Normally, there is no need to judge the working knowledge of English in such departmental tests conducted for promotion from Class IV to Class III. In such cases, only working knowledge of Hindi should be considered sufficient.

8. The results of all departmental tests should be displayed/published in Hindi-English bilingual form.

9. A subject on 'RAJBHASHA' should be included in the syllabus of all Zonal and Technical Training institutes, under which trainees should be apprised of various provisions of Official Language Amendment Act and Official Language (Use for the official purposes of the Union) Rules, 1976. Question papers should invariably be set up in Hindi-English bilingual form in the tests conducted after the completion of training. In addition to allow option of Hindi medium in these examinations, one compulsory question of 15 marks should be set up, along with other questions, about the Official Language Act and Rules.

10. The above orders are applicable to all types of departmental tests including Assistant Accounts Officers, Clerk Grade -I etc., whether these tests are conducted to fill up Class III posts or Class-II posts.

11. In every Selection Board, one of the officers should have working knowledge of Hindi.

12. In case, option of Hindi medium is not allowed or question papers are not made bilingual in any departmental test, whether technical or non-technical, such an examination will be treated against the rules and could be cancelled by the competent authority.

13. This is being issued in consultation with the Establishment Directorate.

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