

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Estt - APAS - G.O.Ms.No.64, Agriculture & Cooperation (Agri. I) Department,
dt.27.07.2017 - Cancellation - Orders - Issued.

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AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION (AGRI. I) DEPARTMENT

G.O.MS.No. 79

Dated: 18-10-2017

Read the following:-

1. G.O.Ms.No.16, Agri. & Coop. (FP. I) Dept., dt.21.01.2000.
2. G.O.Ms.No.1, Agri. & Coop. (Agri. I) Dept., Dated:03.01.2017.
3. Govt.Memo.No.AGST-13/9/2016, dt.20.01.2017.
4. Govt.Memo.No.AGST-13/9/2016, dt.21.02.2017.
5. G.O.Ms.No.64, Agri. & Coop. (Agri. I) Dept., Dt.27.07.2017.
6. Govt. Memo.No.AGST-13/9/2016, Agri. & Coop. (Agri. I) Dept.,
Dt.27.07.2017.
7. G.O.Ms.No.65, Agri. & Coop. (Agri. I) Dept., Dt.28.07.2017.
8. From the Hon'ble High Court of A.P. and Telangana Orders dt.11.08.2017 in
W.P.M.P.No.32837/2017 in W.P.No.26470/2017 filed by Sri M.
Venugopal and another.

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ORDER:-

In the G.O. 1st read above, ad-hoc rules were issued for the post of Agriculture Officer given effect from 17.04.1997. In the said G.O., it was also mentioned that "no person shall be eligible for appointment to the post of Agriculture Officer by direct recruitment or by transfer or promotion unless he possesses a Degree of Bachelor of Science in Agriculture of a recognized University in the State or any other University recognized by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research".

2. Later, in the G.O. 2nd read above, orders were issued substituting the words "**recognized by Indian Council of Agricultural Research**", by the words "**accredited by Indian Council of Agricultural Research**", as the ICAR not recognized any College / University but only accreditate the Colleges / Universities.

3. In Govt. Memo. 3rd read above, permission was accorded to the Director of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur to regularize the services, declaration of probation and consequential benefits which are pending for the last few years to the Agricultural Officers / Agricultural Extension Officers with B.Sc. (Ag.) Degree from the Universities outside the State and not recognized by the ICAR and who were recruited without following the spirit of G.O.Ms.No.16, Agriculture & Cooperation (FP. I) Department, Dt:21.01.2000, as one time settlement and no further relaxations are entertained. He was also directed to follow the rules prescribed in G.O.Ms.No.16, Agriculture & Cooperation (FP. I) Department, dated:21.01.2000 strictly in future recruitments and also requested to prepare Draft Service Rules and submit necessary proposals to Government for approval. Later, the same was cancelled vide Govt. Memo. 4th read above.

4. The National Agricultural Education Accreditation Board in its Meeting held on 20.03.2017, has clarified that "Since the accreditation from ICAR is not mandatory, rather voluntary, for the agricultural colleges / programmes and universities, the students from non-accredited programmes / Colleges / Universities may not be denied for higher studies and employment. However, for quality assurance, all state universities and private universities offering courses in agricultural science should initiate process of accreditation with the Council". The NAEAB has also clarified that the ICAR does not recognize institutions and rather ICAR accredits an institution for ensuring educational qualities.

5. Accordingly, in G.O. 5th read above, orders were issued deleting the words "accredited by Indian Council of Agricultural Research" wherever occurred in Rule 6(a) & (b) of G.O.Ms.No.16, Agriculture & Cooperation (FP. I) Department, dt.21.01.2000 read with G.O.Ms.No.1, Agriculture & Cooperation (Agri. I) Department, dt.03.01.2017.

6. In Govt. Memo. 6th read above, orders were issued constituting a Three Men Committee to verify the genuineness of the B.Sc. (AG.) Certificates produced by all the Agricultural Extension Officers / Agricultural Officers who acquired the same from the Non-ICAR Universities outside the State and recruited in the Department of Agriculture and to submit a detailed report in the matter.

7. In the G.O. 7th read above, it was ordered that the orders issued in the G.O. 5th read above are subject to verification of the genuineness of the Certificates by the Committee constituted in the Govt.Memo. 6th read above. In case, the Certificates produced are found not genuine, action will be taken to terminate the individuals from service apart from filing Criminal Cases against them and also recovery of salaries paid to them by attaching the properties as per rules in force.

8. Sri M. Venugopal and another have filed W.P.No.26470/2017 before the Hon'ble High Court of A.P. & Telangana against the orders issued in G.O.Ms.No.64, dt.27.07.2017 and in the orders 8th read above, the Hon'ble High Court has passed interim suspension orders of the G.O. 5th read above.

9. Government after careful re-examination of the matter, have felt that it is the prerogative and responsibility to prescribe the qualifications and maintain quality assurance in recruitment of Agriculture Officers and Agriculture Extension Officers and desires to examine the whole issue in view of pendency of various legal cases before Hon'ble Courts and instructions / modifications issued from time to time and decided to cancel the orders issued in G.O.Ms.No.64, Agriculture & Cooperation (Agri. I) Department, dt.27.07.2017.

10. Accordingly, Government hereby cancel the orders issued in G.O.Ms.No.64, Agriculture & Cooperation (Agri. I) Department, dt.27.07.2017.

11. The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur shall take further necessary action in the matter accordingly.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

B. RAJSEKHAR
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT (FAC)

To
The Special Commissioner of Agriculture, A.P., Guntur.
Copy to the Govt. Pleader for Agri. & Coop.,
High Court of A.P. & Telangana, Hyderabad.
Copy to the Prl. Secy. to Hon'ble C.M.
Copy to the P.S. to Hon'ble Min. (Agri.).
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER