

THE HIGH COURT OF KERALA

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REC4 - 75831/2017

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NOTIFICATION

KERALA JUDICIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION – 2017

Online applications are invited from qualified candidates for appointment to the post of Munsiff-Magistrate (**Scale of pay** : 27700 – 44770) in the Kerala Judicial Service against NCA and Regular vacancies as detailed below. Online applications can be submitted from 14.11.2017 onwards. No other means/modes of application will be accepted.

NCA VACANCIES

2. **Recruitment number** : 24/2017 (3rd Re-notification relating to the select list prepared pursuant to notification No. REC 4 - 97821/2011 dated 31-01-2012)

Number of vacancy : Scheduled Tribes – 1

Method of recruitment: Direct recruitment (candidates belonging to the Scheduled Tribes communities in the State of Kerala alone are eligible to apply).

3. **Recruitment number** : 25/2017 (1st Re-notification relating to the select list prepared pursuant to notification No. REC 4 -5384/2013 dated 21.03.2013)

Number of vacancies : Latin Catholics/Anglo Indians – 1

Nadars included in SIUC – 1

SC converts to Christianity – 1

Dheeveras – 1

Hindu Nadars - 1

Method of recruitment: Direct recruitment (candidates belonging to the Non-Creamy layer of the above notified communities in the State of Kerala alone are eligible to apply).

4. **Recruitment number** : 26/2017 (1st Re-notification relating to the select list prepared pursuant to notification No. REC 4 – 10945/2016 dated 18.02.2016)

Number of vacancy : Latin Catholics/Anglo Indians – 1

Method of recruitment: Direct recruitment (candidates belonging to the Non-Creamy layer of the above notified communities in the State of Kerala alone are eligible to apply).

Rule 15 (a) of Part II of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958 shall be applicable for the above NCA recruitments.

REGULAR VACANCIES

5. **Recruitment number** : 27/2017

Number of vacancies : 33 +1 Nos. (**Probable**) (includes one vacancy reserved for Persons with Disabilities which was kept unfilled in the previous year for want of

eligible candidate and carried forward to this year as per Section 34 (2) of the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016)

6. **Methods of recruitment:** (i) Direct Recruitment; and (ii) Recruitment by Transfer.
7. **Mode of selection:** The selection shall be after holding competitive examinations at two successive stages. The first stage is the Kerala Judicial Service (Preliminary) Examination. The second stage is the Kerala Judicial Service (Main) Examination, consisting of a written examination and a viva-voce. The preliminary examination and main examination will be conducted on the basis of the Scheme given at clauses 10 to 13 of this notification. The preliminary as well as the main examinations will be common for the candidates who apply in response to Recruitment Nos. 24/2017, 25/2017 and 26/2017 for NCA vacancies and Recruitment No. 27/2017 for regular vacancies.

8. **Qualifications:**

I. **Direct Recruitment:**

A candidate for appointment as Munsiff-Magistrate by direct recruitment shall satisfy the following general conditions, namely;

- a) He/She shall be a citizen of India.
- b) He/She shall be a holder of a degree in Law recognized by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of enrollment as an Advocate.
- c) He/She shall not have completed 35 years of age on the first day of January, 2017. The upper age limit shall be raised by five years in the case of candidates belonging to any of the Scheduled Castes or adult members of such castes and their children when such adult members are converted to other religions, or Scheduled Tribes, and by three years in the case of candidates belonging to any of the Other Backward Classes, as provided in Rule 10(c) of Part II of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1958.
- d) He/She shall be of good character.
- e) He/She shall be of sound health having no bodily infirmities, which renders him/her unfit for appointment.

While applying for the post, the candidate should ensure that he/she fulfills the eligibility and other norms mentioned in the notification. Save as otherwise provided, the qualification prescribed for the post shall be the one acquired by the candidate on or before the last date fixed for closure of Step-II process of online filing of applications.

II. **Recruitment by Transfer:**

No officer in service shall be eligible for appointment as Munsiff-Magistrate by transfer, unless he is a holder of a degree in law recognized by the Bar Council of India for the purpose of enrolment as an advocate and is an approved probationer in any one or more of the feeder categories enumerated as Sl. Nos. (i) to (viii) below. He/She shall not have completed 54 years of age on the last date fixed for closure of Step-II process of online filing of applications.

A person who is otherwise qualified for appointment by transfer but is not holding any of the posts enumerated below at the time of his application for appointment by transfer, shall be eligible for appointment if he has held any one or more of such posts at any time for the prescribed number of years and is holding a post in a higher scale of pay in any of the

offices from which appointment is to be made.

Note:- Save as otherwise provided, eligibility to apply shall be determined with reference to the last date fixed for the closure of Step-II process of online filing of applications.

Feeder categories of officers for Recruitment by Transfer:

- i. Assistant Public Prosecutor Grade I & II
- ii. Assistant Registrars and other officers of the High Court in the same scale of pay of Assistant Registrars, Personal Assistant to the Chief Justice, Additional Personal Assistant to the Chief Justice, Section Officers, Librarian, Reference Librarian, Court Officers, Filing Scrutiny Officers, Accountant, Head Translator, Private Secretary to Judges including Higher Grade, and Personal Assistant (Selection Grade) to Judge in the High Court of Kerala.
- iii. Under Secretaries, Section Officers and Librarian in the Advocate General's Office.
- iv. Section Officers and Librarian in the Law Department, Government Secretariat.
- v. Sheristadars of District Courts, Additional District Courts, Special Courts, the Office of the Motor Accidents Claims Tribunals, the Office of the State Transport Appellate Tribunal, Family Court and Wakf Tribunals and Sub Courts, Senior Superintendents of the District Courts and Additional District Courts and Selection Grade Confidential Assistants in the Subordinate Civil Courts.
- vi. Sheristadars of Chief Judicial Magistrate's Courts and Selection Grade Confidential Assistants in the Subordinate Criminal Courts.
- vii. Full time Assistant Professors of Government Law Colleges.
- viii. Officers working in the High Court, Subordinate Courts, Advocate General's Office and Law Department in the Government Secretariat not covered by categories (i) to (vii) and having not less than ten years of total service in any one of the four offices or in the four offices taken together.

(For the purpose of computing 10 years of total service under serial No. viii above, the period of practice as an Advocate shall also be counted.)

9. Reservation of appointment for Regular vacancies:

- a) The rules relating to reservation of appointment for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and non-creamy layer of Other Backward Classes contained in Part II of the Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958 (Rules 14 to 17) shall apply to appointment by direct recruitment.
- b) One percent of vacancies shall be reserved for persons with disabilities having Locomotor disability-moderate provided that the Medical Board constituted for assessment certifies that the candidate will be able to perform the duties of Judicial Officer with the aid of Assistive Technologies and the candidate qualifies in the selection in terms of the Kerala Judicial Service Rules, 1991

10. Scheme of the Preliminary Examination:

The preliminary examination will consist of one paper of objective type screening test based on the syllabus given below containing 100 multiple choice questions, each question carrying two marks. Maximum marks will be 200 and one mark will be deducted for each incorrect answer. The duration of the preliminary examination will be two and half hours. The preliminary examination is conducted for the purpose of shortlisting the candidates and the marks obtained in the preliminary examination shall not be counted for determining the

final order of merit of the candidates.

For every notified vacancy, 10 candidates from the preliminary examination in the order of merit, shall be selected for the main examination. If more than one candidate obtains the same mark as that of the last candidate in the descending order of merit, all such candidates securing identical mark shall be treated as qualified for the main examination. Only those candidates who are declared by the High Court to have qualified in the preliminary examination will be eligible for admission to the main written examination provided they are otherwise found eligible for admission to the main examination. Short list of candidates selected for the main examination will be published by the High Court in the Notice Board and the recruitment portal of the High Court.

11. Syllabus for the Preliminary Examination:

Part A	Code of Civil Procedure, Indian Contract Act, Negotiable Instruments Act, Transfer of Property Act, Specific Relief Act, Kerala Building (Lease and Rent Control) Act.
Part B	Code of Criminal Procedure, Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act.
Part C	Constitution of India, Legal G.K., Reasoning & Mental ability.

12. Scheme of the Main Examination:

- a) Written Examination: The Kerala Judicial Service Examination (Main) will consist of 4 papers, each carrying 100 marks at a total of 400 marks, based on the syllabus given below and viva-voce carrying 50 marks. The prescribed duration for each paper will be three hours. Cut off mark for general and OBC candidates in the main written examination is 40% of the marks in each paper of the written examination. For candidates belonging to SC/ST category the cut off mark shall be 35%.
- b) Viva-Voce: Only those candidates who score the prescribed percentage of marks or more in the main written examination shall be called for viva-voce. The cut off marks in the viva-voce is fixed at 40% for general and OBC candidates and 35% for candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste and Schedules Tribes. Fraction of half or more than half shall be regarded as full marks and less than half shall be ignored. The marks secured by a candidate in the viva-voce shall be added to the total marks secured by him/her at the written examination (Main).

13. Syllabus for the Written Examination (Main):

Papers	Subjects
Paper-I	English Grammar, General Essays, Translation of Malayalam Depositions/Documents to English and vice-versa, Precis writing.

Paper-II	Part-A: Indian Contract Act, Transfer of Property Act, Limitation Act, Specific Relief Act, Easements Act, Kerala Building (Lease and Rent Control) Act, Hindu Succession Act, Indian Succession Act - Parts V, VI & X, Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act. Part-B: Kerala Court Fees and Suits Valuation Act, Kerala Stamp Act, Kerala State Legal Services Authorities Act, The Kerala Panchayath Raj Act -Ch. X, XI, XXIA & XXIII, Kerala Municipality Act -Ch. IX, X, XXIV & XXV, Negotiable Instruments Act (except Ch. XVII), and Registration Act.
Paper-III	Part-A: Indian Penal Code, Indian Evidence Act, Abkari Act, Negotiable Instruments Act -Ch. XVII, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act. Part-B: Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, Kerala Police Act, Probation of Offenders Act, Forest Act, N.D.P.S. Act (provisions relating to bail and trial by Magistrates)
Paper-IV	Part-A: Code of Civil Procedure, Civil Rules of Practice, Kerala Civil Courts Act, Order in Interlocutory Application/ Framing of issues/Judgment writing (Civil) Part-B: Code of Criminal Procedure, Criminal Rules of Practice, Framing of charges/Order in Criminal Miscellaneous Petitions/ Judgment writing (Criminal)

14. **Training:** Every person selected for appointment shall undergo training for a period of not less than one year extendable up to two years. The training will be conducted by the Kerala Judicial Academy.
15. **Probation:** Every person appointed shall be on probation for a total period of two years on duty within a continuous period of three years from the date on which he joins duty.
16. **Tests:** Every person appointed shall, within the period of probation, pass the Account Test for Executive Officers of the Kerala State or the Account Test (Lower) unless he has already passed either of those tests.
17. **Pre-examination training to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe candidates:** A pre-examination training of a short duration will be conducted by the Kerala Judicial Academy for the candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes, who qualify in the Preliminary Examination. Such training shall be given only if there are sufficient number of candidates in that category who qualify in the Preliminary Examination. No fee will be charged for the training. The candidates will not be eligible for any stipend or allowance for attending the training. The expenses of board and lodging will not be met by the High Court.

18. How to Apply:

- a) The online application process has two parts - **Step-I** and **Step-II**. 'Step-I /New Registration' is the first part for registration of the applicants. 'Step-II /Registered Applicant' is the second part of the process for those applicants who had completed Step-I. A candidate's online application is complete only if he/she completes both the steps which includes the submission of applications by clicking the '**FINAL SUBMISSION**' option available in Step -II process.
- b) Eligible candidates are required to apply only '**ONLINE**' through the website www.hckrecruitment.nic.in. To start the process, the candidates should click the

link '**Step-I/ New Applicant**' below the head '**Apply Online**' seen in the right side of the web page. This will take the candidate to the next page where the options of '**POSTS**' are displayed. The candidates can access the **RECRUITMENT OF MUNSIFF-MAGISTRATE main page** (hereafter called the main page) by clicking the option '**Munsiff-Magistrate**' available there. Before proceeding further, the candidate should read the detailed notification in the home page and How to Apply, Guidelines for Photograph & Signature, FAQ and Sample Application Form provided in the main page. He/She should also be ready with his/her scanned Photograph & Signature (in a pen drive or CD) and the details to be filled in the online application. No other means/modes of application will be accepted.

- c) In Step-I (Registration for New Applicants), the candidate has to fill in basic information about him/her. The information provided during Step-I (New Applicants) process is of permanent nature and cannot be modified.
- d) In Step-II (For Registered Applicant), the candidate has to upload his/her scanned photograph and signature, fill in fee payment details and detailed information about him/her. The details furnished by the candidates during Step-II process can be modified till the **Final Submission** of online applications. **However, the photograph and signature once uploaded cannot be changed.**
- e) The online application form is common for the NCA Recruitments (Recruitment Nos.24/2017,25/2017 & 26/2017) and Regular Recruitment (Recruitment No.27/2017).
- f) Candidates applying for more than one Recruitment Number **should not apply separately**. In Step-I, they should select all the recruitment numbers for which they want to apply by clicking in the appropriate check boxes. They need to pay the application fee only once. If they opt to apply separately, they will have to remit separate application fee for each recruitment and they will lose the '**common candidate**' status in the examination. So, the eligible candidates who desire to apply for more than one recruitment should avoid applying separately to get the status of the 'common candidate' in view of the fact that common examination is prescribed for recruitments to Regular and NCA vacancies.
- g) Candidates are advised to have a **valid Mobile Number / valid personal e-mail ID**. It should be kept active for the duration of the recruitment. No request for change of Mobile Number / e-mail ID will be entertained. High Court will send various intimations relating to the recruitment as **SMS/e-mail** to this Mobile Number/e-mail ID. Under no circumstances, he/she should share/mention the e-mail ID with/to any other person.
- h) In case a candidate does not have a valid personal e-mail ID, he/she may create his/her new e-mail ID before applying online.
- i) If the candidate does not mention his/her Mobile Number/e-mail ID, no intimation relating to the recruitment will be sent to the candidates. Such candidates will have to visit the website frequently for getting information about the recruitment.
- j) Before applying online a candidate will be required to have a **scanned (digital) image of his photograph and signature** as per the specifications given in the link "**Guidelines for Photograph & Signature**" available on the main page. For photograph, the size of the file should be between 20 and 40 KB with dimensions of