

Consolidated till 2nd Amendment 2026
20.04.2026

**THE ODISHA SUPERIOR JUDICIAL
SERVICE (OSJS) AND ODISHA
JUDICIAL SERVICE (OJS) RULES,
2007**

[Consolidated with 2nd Amendment 2026]

20.04.2026

LAW DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

The 17th August, 2007

[Published in the Odisha Gazette (E.O.) No.1483, 23rd August, 2007]

S.R.O. No. 447/2007 – In exercise of the powers conferred by the proviso to article 309 read with article 233, 234 and 235 of the Constitution of India, the Governor of Odisha after consultation with the Odisha Public Service Commission and the High Court of Orissa hereby makes the following rules regulating the recruitment and conditions of service of the persons appointed to the posts in the Odisha Superior Judicial Service and Odisha Judicial Service, namely:-

1. Short title and commencement —

- (1) These rules may be called “the Odisha Superior Judicial Service and Odisha Judicial Service Rules, 2007”.
- (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) ‘Appendix’ means an Appendix appended to these rules;
 - (b) ‘Commission’ means the Odisha Public Service Commission;
 - ¹(ba) ‘Departmental Examination’ means examination conducted by the Odisha Judicial Academy at such intervals for the Civil Judges and District Judges appointed by direct recruitment;
 - ²(bb) ‘Ex-serviceman’ means a person as defined in the Odisha Ex-servicemen (Recruitment to the State Civil Service and Posts) Rules, 1985;
 - (c) ‘Government’ means the Government of Odisha;
 - (d) ‘Governor’ means the Governor of Odisha;
 - (e) ‘High Court’ means the High Court of Orissa;

¹ Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 1605 dated 20.08.2013.

² Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 151 dated 24.01.2020.

(f) 'Official Gazette' means the Odisha Gazette;

¹(fa) 'Odisha Judicial Academy' means an institution established at Cuttack in the name of the Odisha Judicial Academy;

(g) 'Recruiting Authority' means the Orissa High Court or the Odisha Public Service Commission, as the case may be;

²(ga) 'Recruitment Year' means the period from 1st April of a year to 31st March of the succeeding year.

(h) 'Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes' shall have reference to the Scheduled Castes specified in the Constitution (Scheduled Castes) Order, 1950 and (Scheduled Tribes) Order 1950, made under Articles 341 and 342, respectively, of the Constitution of India and as amended from time to time.

(i) 'S.E.B.C.' means Socially and Educationally Backward Classes of the citizen other than the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes as may be specified by the Government from time to time;

(j) 'Service' means the Odisha Superior Judicial Service and Odisha Judicial Service;

(k) 'State' means the State of Odisha; and

(l) 'Year' means the calendar year.

(2) All other words and expressions used herein but not specifically defined in these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, shall have the same meaning as respectively assigned to them in the Odisha Service Code.

3. ³Constitution of Service —

(1) The service shall consist of three cadres namely:-

(a) District Judge;

(b) Civil Judge (Senior Division); and

(c) Civil Judge (Junior Division).

¹ Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 1605 dated 20.08.2013.

² Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

(2) The cadre of District Judge belonging to Odisha Superior Judicial Service shall comprise of the (i) District Judges (ii) Selection Grade District Judges (iii) Super Time Scale District Judges and shall include Session Judges, Additional District Judges, Additional Session Judges and all other posts in the erstwhile cadre of the Odisha Superior Judicial Service (Senior Branch) in the Registry of the High Court and on deputation to the Government and also any other post as shall be decided by the High Court from time to time.

(3) The cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) belonging to Odisha Judicial Service shall comprise of –

- (i) Civil Judge (Senior Division) - (Entry Grade);
- (ii) Civil Judge (Senior Division) - (Grade-II);
- (iii) Civil Judge (Senior Division) - (Grade-I); and

shall include Chief Judicial Magistrates, Additional Chief Judicial Magistrates, Civil Judges (Senior Division), Additional Civil Judges (Senior Division), Registrar of Civil Courts and all other posts in the erstwhile cadre of Odisha Superior Judicial Service (Junior Branch) and in the cadre of Odisha Judicial Service Class-I (Senior) in the Registry of High Court and on deputation to the Government and shall also include any other posts as shall be decided by the High Court from time to time.

(4) The cadre of Civil Judge (Junior Division) belonging to Odisha Judicial Service shall comprise of: –

- (i) Civil Judge (Junior Division) - (Entry Grade);
- (ii) Civil Judge (Junior Division) - (Grade-II);
- (iii) Civil Judge (Junior Division) - (Grade-I); and

shall include Civil Judges (Junior Division), Additional Civil Judges (Junior Division), Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrates, Judicial Magistrates and all other posts in the erstwhile cadres of Odisha Judicial Service, Class-I (Junior) and Class II and shall include all Officers in the Registry of High Court and on deputation to the

Government and shall also include any other posts as shall be decided by the High Court from time to time.

Explanation - For the purpose of sub-rule (3) and (4), the entry grade refers to the normal scales of pay and Grade-II and Grade-I refer to the Assured Career progression scales of pay at the First stage and second stage, respectively, as prescribed in the Resolution No-11636/L., dated the 26th October, 2022 of the Law Department of the Government and as may be modified from time to time.

- (5) (a) The grant of First Assured Career Progression (ACP) to the Civil Judge (Junior Division) shall be based on the relaxed norm limited to ascertaining whether there is anything positively adverse such as consistently poor or unsatisfactory performance or adverse report of serious nature leading to the inference that the Officer is unfit to have the benefit of ACP. However, the Committee constituted by the Chief Justice of the High Court for the purpose shall devise the norms for grant of ACP-I and ACP-II scales of pay to the Civil Judge (Senior Division) and ACP-II scale of pay to the Civil Judge (Junior Division).
- (b) If for any reason, delay in grant of ACP goes beyond one year, one additional increment for every year's delay shall be granted subject to adjustment while drawing the arrears on grant of ACP.
- (c) In order to avoid delay, the process of grant of ACP should be initiated 3 months in advance from the date on which the Judicial Officers will be completing 5/10 years and the financial benefits should be paid to the Judicial Officer within a period of 6 months after the Judicial Officer steps into the 6th/ 11th year of Service.

4. Selection Grade District Judges —

¹[Thirty-five per centum] of the posts in the cadre of District Judge who have put in five years of service in the cadre shall be granted selection grade pay and they shall be selected on the basis of merit-cum-seniority from the cadre of District Judge by the High Court.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

¹Note: The increase of percentage of the Selection Grade District Judges for the purpose of this rule shall be effective from 1st January, 2020.

5. Super time scale District Judges —

²Fifteen per centum of the posts in the cadre of District Judge who have put in three years of service as Selection Grade District Judges in the cadre shall be granted Super Time Scale of Pay and they shall be selected on the basis of merit-cum-seniority from amongst the Selection Grade District Judges.

Provided that High Court may in appropriate case relax the requirement of three years of service as Selection Grade District Judge for selection of Super Time Scale District Judge.

³**Note:** The increase of percentage of the Super Time Scale District Judges for the purpose of this rule shall be effective from 1st January, 2020.

Explanation - For the purpose of the rules 4 and 5, the expressions of 'Selection Grade Pay' and 'Super Time Scale of Pay' shall, respectively, mean the scale of pay as prescribed in the First Schedule of the Resolution No-11636/L., dated the 26th October, 2022 of the Law Department of the Government and as may be modified from time to time.

⁴5-A. Recording of Annual CCR of Judicial Officers —

The CCRs of the Judicial Officers of all the cadres of the State shall be recorded in the manner and format as specified in Form (S)-33 of the G.R & C.O (Civil), Volume-II. The date line specified therein shall be strictly adhered to by all concerned, as far as practicable. In case of non-recording of the CCRs of the Officers within the prescribed date line either by the 1st Reporting Authority or the 2nd Reporting Authority for any reason whatsoever, the CCRs of the concerned Officers shall be placed before the Chief Justice who shall pass appropriate orders for consideration of the CCRs of such Officers directly by the Full Court or Standing Committee as the case may be. The C.C.R shall be submitted by the Judicial Officers online and observations shall be recorded by the Reporting Authority, Full

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

Court or Standing Committee online as and when such facility will be made available.

6. ¹Recruitment of District Judges —

- (1) Recruitment to the cadre of District Judges shall be made by (a) usual promotion; (b) limited departmental competitive examination; and (c) direct recruitment.
- (2) Fifty per centum of the posts in the cadre of District Judge shall be filled up by usual promotion from the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) having not less than five years of qualifying service as Civil Judge (Senior Division) as on 1st April of the Recruitment Year on the basis of merit-cum-seniority and passing of suitability test in the manner provided in these rules and as per the syllabus contained in 'Appendix A-1'.
- (3) Twenty-five per centum of the posts in the cadre of District Judge shall be filled up by promotion strictly on the basis of merit through limited departmental competitive examination (LDCE) of Civil Judges (Senior Division) having not less than three years of qualifying service as Civil Judge (Senior Division) and minimum seven years of combined service as Civil Judge (Junior Division) and Civil Judge (Senior Division) as on 1st April of the recruitment year;
²[*****omitted*****]
- (4) Twenty-five per centum of the posts in the cadre of District Judge shall be filled up by direct recruitment ³[in accordance with the eligibility criteria as specified in rule 9] on the basis of aggregate marks obtained in the competitive examination conducted by the High Court.
- (5) ⁴[The vacancies for each recruitment year shall be determined on the basis of overall cadre strength, so as to apply the ratio of 50:25:25 to the entire cadre, as prescribed in sub-rules (2), (3) and (4) of rule 6.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

² Omitted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

- (6) If, in any recruitment year, the vacancies earmarked for Direct Recruitment and Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) remain unfilled due to non-availability of suitable candidates, despite the completion of the respective recruitment processes, such unfilled vacancies shall be filled up in the same recruitment year through usual promotion, from the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division), in accordance with sub-rule (2) of rule 6.]

7. ¹Promotion —

- (1) The appointment to the vacancies in the cadre of District Judge proposed to be filled up under sub-rules (2) and (3) of rule 6 shall be made by the Governor in consultation with the High Court of Orissa.

Provided that in case of exigencies the vacancies may be filled up by officiating promotion for a period not exceeding one year subject to the condition that they shall have no right to continue in the post and shall stand automatically reverted on expiry of one year, if not reverted earlier.

Provided further that period of service rendered in officiating promotion shall not be counted towards service in the cadre of District Judge for the purpose of seniority or any other incidental purpose.

- (2) The suitability of candidates for promotion under sub-rule (2) and (3) of rule 6 shall be assessed on the basis of the following factors; namely,-
- (i) The quality of judgments rendered by the Judicial Officers;

Provided that when the concerned Judicial Officers are serving in administrative posts where they are not required to deliver judgments, their performance in such administrative capacity during the said period shall be taken into consideration, which shall be in addition to the evaluation of their previously written judgments, rendered while serving in Judicial capacity.

- (ii) Confidential Character Rolls (CCRs) or Annual Confidential Reports (ACRs) or Performance Appraisal Reports (PARs) of the Judicial Officers for the preceding five years;

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

(iii) Disposal rate during the preceding five years;

Provided that where the Officers do not have adequate disposal rate, the reasons thereof may be considered.

(iv) Performance of the Judicial Officers in the viva voce which shall be conducted to ascertain the candidates' updated knowledge of law, general perception, awareness, and communication skill.

8. ¹Limited Departmental Competitive Examination —

The limited departmental competitive examination under sub-rule (3) of rule 6 shall be conducted by the High Court in the manner provided in these rules and as per the syllabus contained in 'Appendix A'.

9. Eligibility for direct recruitment —

A candidate in order to be eligible for direct recruitment to the post of District Judge must:-

(a) be a graduate in Law of a recognized University or an institution recognized by the Government;

(b) ²[be an advocate in continuous practice for not less than seven years as on the date of application; or

be an advocate who have previously served in the judicial service and possesses a combined experience of not less than seven years as judicial officer and as an advocate, as on the date of application; or

be a Judicial Officer who has completed seven years of continuous practice as an advocate before joining the judicial service; or

be a Judicial Officer who possesses a combined experience of not less than seven years as an advocate and as a judicial officer, as on the date of application.

Note 1 - Certificate of legal practice shall be certified either by the Principal Judicial Officer of a Court or by an advocate of that Court having a minimum standing of 10 years, duly endorsed by the Principal Judicial Officer of such a District or a Principal Judicial

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

officer at such a station. In so far as the candidates who are practicing before the High Courts or Supreme Court, they shall produce certificate certified by an advocate who has a minimum standing of 10 years, duly endorsed by an officer designated by that High Court or Supreme Court. The number of years of practice completed shall be calculated from the date of provisional enrolment or registration with the concerned State Bar Council.

Note 2 - The certificate pertaining to Judicial Service shall be obtained from the respective High Courts.]

- (c) not be below thirty-five years of age and above forty-five years of age¹[as on the date of application.]

²[Provided that, the maximum age limit shall be relaxed by five years in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, SEBC and Women and subject to the notification issued under sub-section (3) of Section 34 of the Rights of the Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 by ten years in case of Persons with Disabilities as referred to in sub-rule (5) of rule 9-A.]

³[Explanation - The aforesaid cut-off date shall also apply to any special recruitment drive made in respect of direct recruitment for any reasons whatsoever, in a particular recruitment year.]

- (d) ⁴able to speak, read and write Odia fluently and must have passed an examination in Odia Language equivalent to that of Middle English School standard.”

59-A. Reservation —

- (1) The percentage of vacancies to be reserved in favour of the following reserved categories in the post of District Judges which are to be filled up under sub-rule (4) of rule 6, shall be as follows-

(a) Scheduled Tribes ... 22.50%

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2905 dated 14.10.2022.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 689 dated 27.04.2021.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2905 dated 14.10.2022.

(b) Scheduled Castes	...	16.25%
(c) SEBC	...	11.25%

- (2) From out of the vacancies reserved for the categories mentioned in sub-rule (1) and for the unreserved categories, as nearly as 33.33 per centum of the vacancy may be reserved for women belonging to each of such category and in the event of non-availability or availability of insufficient number of eligible women belonging to any particular category, the vacancies or, as the case may be, the remaining vacancies shall be filled up by male candidates of that category.
- (3) In case of non-availability or availability, of insufficient number of candidates of any reserved category of S.C, S.T and S.E.B.C, the vacancy shall be filled up by the candidates of the Un-Reserved category.
- (4) Appointment in respect of vacancies reserved under sub-rules (1) and (2) shall be made in the order in which the names appear in the merit list.
- (5) ¹[From out of the vacancies reserved for each of the categories mentioned in sub-rule (1) and for the un-reserved categories, to the extent of four per-centum of the vacancies shall be reserved horizontally for persons with benchmark disabilities having physical disability as specified in the Schedule to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) excluding cerebral palsy.

Provided that in case of non-availability of suitable persons with benchmark disability or for any other sufficient reasons, such vacancy shall be carried forward to the subsequent recruitment year and if in the subsequent recruitment year also suitable person with benchmark disability is not available, it may first be filled by interchanging among the five categories and only when there is no person with disability available for the post of that year, such vacancy shall be filled other than a person with benchmark disability.]

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 590 dated 10.02.2026.

- (6) The candidates belonging to the category of Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe or SEBC shall furnish the certificate from the competent authority indicating their respective category.
- (7) The candidates with benchmark disabilities having physical disability shall furnish medical certificate or disability certificate from the competent Medical Board or Authority indicating their benchmark disability,

10. Method of direct recruitment —

Direct recruitment to the post of District Judge shall be made by the High Court through a competitive examination which shall consist of two parts viz; - written test and interview conducted in the manner provided in these rules and in accordance with the syllabus as specified in 'Appendix-B'.

11. List of candidates —

- (1) The High Court shall having regard to the number of direct recruits to be appointed, to the post of District Judge, furnish to the Governor a list of selected candidates in order of merit and the Governor shall appoint required number of candidates as per the vacancies.
- (2) The selected candidates must be physically fit and shall be required to appear before the State Medical Board before final appointment.

12. Seniority of direct recruits —

The inter-se-seniority of the direct recruits to the cadre of District Judge in a particular year and in the same batch shall be determined in accordance with their position in the merit list prepared under rule 11.

13. ¹Inter-se-seniority —

- (1) The inter se-seniority of officers appointed under rule 6 shall be determined on the basis of the annual four-point roster, comprising all officers recruited or promoted in the particular Recruitment Year, and shall follow the repeating sequence as prescribed in Appendix-C, irrespective of the actual dates of their appointment.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

- (2) If the recruitment process from any source is not completed in the recruitment year in which it began, but the appointments are made before the end of the following recruitment year, such appointees shall be placed at their respective roster points for the recruitment year in which the process was initiated, provided that no appointments from any source are made for the next recruitment year before these appointments are effected.

Explanation - Whereas, the recruitment process from all three sources is initiated in Recruitment Year A and the procedures for appointment of Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) and Usual Promotion (UP) candidates are completed within Year A, they shall accordingly be placed in the Annual Roster for that year. However, if due to various reasons, the appointments of Direct Recruits (DRs) are made only in Recruitment Year A+1, in such scenario, Direct Recruits, although appointed in Year A+1, shall also be placed in the roster for Year A, provided that their appointments are effected before the appointments of Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE), Usual Promotion and Direct Recruits arising from the recruitment process initiated in Year A+1.

- (3) If the recruitment process is not initiated for vacancies arising in the same recruitment year, the candidate filling such vacancies, in subsequent recruitment, shall be granted seniority within the annual roster of the recruitment year in which the recruitment process is finally concluded and appointment is made.
- (4) If the vacancies earmarked for Direct Recruitment (DR) or the Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) in a particular Recruitment Year cannot be filled due to non-availability of suitable candidates, despite completion of recruitment process, such unfilled vacancies shall be filled up in the same Recruitment Year through Usual Promotion (UP) from among eligible Civil Judges (Senior Division):

Provided that officers promoted through such Usual Promotion shall also be placed in the same Annual Roster, but only against the subsequent Usual Promotion (UP) roster positions. The diversion of

vacancies shall not entail any Regular Promoted officer to occupy the roster points reserved for Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE) or Direct Recruitment.

14. ¹Appointment of Officers in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) —

- (1)** Vacancies in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division) shall be filled up by the High Court from among the Officers serving in the cadre of Civil Judge (Junior Division) through: (a) usual promotion; and (b) limited departmental competitive examination (LDCE).
- (2)** Ninety per centum of the posts of Civil Judge (Senior Division) shall be filled up by usual promotion from Civil Judge (Junior Division) having not less than five years of qualifying service as Civil Judge (Junior Division) on the basis of merit-cum-seniority.
- (3)** Ten per centum of the posts of Civil Judge (Senior Division) shall be filled up by accelerated promotion on the basis of merit through limited departmental competitive examination of Civil Judge (Junior Division) having not less than three years of qualifying service as Civil Judge (Junior Division) as on 1st April of the Recruitment year.

Provided that, in the event sufficient numbers of Officers are not available for promotion through the LDCE, the vacancies shall be filled up by usual promotion in accordance with the provisions of sub-rule (2) of rule-14 in that particular year. Filling up of the vacant posts in the ratio considered for LDCE will have to be carried out from the simultaneous selection process carried out for usual promotions of the same year.

- (4)** The limited departmental competitive examination under sub-rule (3) of rule-14 shall consist of written examination, viva-voce test and evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs to be conducted by the High Court in the manner provided in these rules and as per the syllabus contained in “Appendix J”.
- (5)** The vacancies for the limited departmental competitive examination shall be calculated on the basis of the overall cadre strength.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

- (6) The Inter-se-Seniority of Officers recruited under rule-14 shall be determined on the basis of date when they have borne in the service /post i.e. date of issue of formal appointment order and seniority by roster points as per the twenty-point roster as specified in “Appendix-K” shall be fixed only when the date of appointment of Officers of two streams is same.

15. Recruitment of ¹Civil Judge (Junior Division) —

Direct recruitment to the cadre of ²[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] shall be made by the Commission through a competitive examination which shall consist of ³[three] parts viz – ⁴[preliminary written examination, main] and interview conducted in the manner provided in these rules/ and in accordance with the syllabus as specified in ‘Appendix D’.

16. Determination of vacancies —

- (1) The number of vacancies required to be filled up in the cadre of ⁵[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] from time to time shall be decided by the Government in consultation with the High Court and requisition shall be sent to the Commission accordingly.
- (2) The Commission shall, after receipt of requisition from the Government, notify the number of vacancies required to be filled up and invite applications from eligible candidates for recruitment, under rule 15.
- (3) The process of recruitment shall be completed by the Commission, as far as possible, within a period of ten months from the date of issuance of advertisement.

17. Reservation —

- (1) The percentage of vacancies to be reserved in favor of the following reserved categories in the post of ⁶[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] which are to be filled up under rule 15, shall be as follows –

(a) Scheduled Tribes ... 22.50%

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

⁶ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023

(b) Scheduled Castes	...	16.25%
(c) SEBC	...	11.25%

- (2) From out of the vacancies reserved for the categories mentioned in sub-rule (1) and for the Un-Reserved categories, as nearly as 33.33 of the vacancies may be reserved for women belonging to each of such category and in the event of non-availability or availability of insufficient number of eligible women belonging to any particular category, the vacancies or, as the case may be, the remaining vacancies shall be filled up by male candidates of that category.
- (3) In case of non-availability or availability, of insufficient number of candidates of any reserved category of S.C, S.T. and S.E.B.C the vacancy shall be filled up by the candidates of the Un-Reserved category.
- (4) Appointment in respect of vacancies reserved under rub-rules (1) and (2) shall be made in the order in which the names appear in the merit list.
- (5) ¹[From out of the vacancies reserved for each of the categories mentioned in sub-rule (1) and for the un-reserved categories, to the extent of four per-centum of the vacancies shall be reserved horizontally for persons with benchmark disabilities having physical disability as specified in the Schedule to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) excluding cerebral palsy;

Provided that in case of non-availability of suitable persons with benchmark disability or for any other sufficient reasons, such vacancy shall be carried forward to the subsequent recruitment year and if in the subsequent recruitment year also suitable person with benchmark disability is not available, it may first be filled by interchanging among the five categories and only when there is no person with disability available for the post of that year, such vacancy shall be filled other than a person with benchmark disability.]

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 509 dated 10.02.2026.

18. Eligibility of Candidates for the post of ¹[Civil Judge (Junior Division)]

—
(1) In order to be eligible for recruitment to the service as [Civil Judge (Junior Division)] a candidate must be -

- (a) ²a graduate in law of a recognized University or institutions recognized by the Government and having at least three years of practice as an advocate on 1st April of the recruitment year for which vacancies have been determined.

Provided that the period of experience as a Law Clerk/Research Assistant to any Judge or Judicial Officer in the Country, or to any Constitutional Authority shall be counted towards the period of legal practice.

- (b) ³not below twenty-three (23) years of age and not above forty-two (42) years of age on the 1st day of April of the year for which the vacancy is notified;

Provided that, the upper age limit shall be relaxed:

- (i) by five (5) years for candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST), Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC), Women, Ex-servicemen, and Commissioned/Short Service Commission Officers of the Defense Services; and
- (ii) by ten (10) years for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBDs) as defined in sub-rule (5) of rule 17, in addition to the normal age relaxation admissible to SC, ST, and SEBC category candidates.
- (c) able to speak, read and write Oriya fluently and must have passed an examination in Odia language equivalent to that of Middle English School standard;
- (d) of good character;

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

- (e) of sound health and free from any organic defects and physical infirmity;

¹NOTE:— clause (e) is not applicable in case of candidates with physical disability as referred to in sub-rule (5) of rule 17.

(2) ²[....Deleted....]

19. Manner of submitting applications —

- (1) ³Every candidate shall submit the application in the manner and within the time prescribed by the Commission along with required documents as indicated in the advertisement notified by the Commission for particular recruitment year;

Provided that in case of a person already in Government service, the applicant shall produce “No Objection Certificate” at the time of document verification.

- (2) ⁴Every application shall be accompanied with the following documents:-

- (i) Certificate showing the proof of age, which shall ordinarily be the High School Certificate or a certificate of passing an equivalent examination.
- (ii) Certificate from the Board of Secondary Education of Odisha or in any other Board or Council of Secondary Education approved by Government in support of passing of Odia language test equivalent to M.E. School standard;

⁵[Explanation- If a candidate produces a certificate from the recognized School showing that he/she had taken Odia as a subject in Class-VII or Standard-VII and has passed the said examination, it shall be treated as compliance of rule 19(3)(ii) of the rules.]

- (iii) Certificate of Degree of Law from the concerned University or the institution from which the candidate has obtained the same.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 258 dated 22.02.2018.

² Deleted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

⁴ Renumbered vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 11948 dated 22.12.2011.

- (iv) Certificate of good character from the institution last attended.
- (v) Certificate from the competent authority indicating the category of the caste or the Tribe or the class of the candidate in case he or she belongs to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe or SEBC;
- (vi) Medical certificate or disability certificate from the competent Medical Board or authority indicating orthopedic disability in case of candidates belonging to orthopedically handicapped category.
- (vii) ¹A certificate of practice duly certified either by the Principal Judicial Officer of a Court or by an advocate of that Court having a minimum standing of 10 years duly endorsed by the Principal Judicial Officer of such a District or a Principal Judicial Officer at such a station. Insofar as the candidates who are practicing before the High Courts or Supreme Court, they shall produce certificate certified by an advocate who has a minimum standing of 10 years duly endorsed by an Officer designated by that High Court or Supreme Court. The number of years of practice completed shall be calculated from the date of provisional enrolment/registration with the concerned State Bar Council.

Note: The candidates showing their experiences as law clerk/research assistant shall also produce certificate of experience duly endorsed by the concerned Judge/Judicial Officer or any authorized persons to that effect.

- (viii)²Any other documents as may be required or specified by the Commission.”

Note (I) - Copies of documents duly attested by Officer competent to attest shall be submitted with the application but the original shall be produced at the time of interview.

Note (II) - The Commission may at their discretion require such additional proof on any of the above matters as they may think fit.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

Note (III) - The application of a candidate may be rejected at the discretion of the Commission if it is not complete in all respect as specified by the Commission.

20. Consultation with the High Court —

The Commission shall consult the Chief Justice of the High Court confidentially in the matter of appointment of examiners for law papers prescribed for the ¹[main] written examination.

21. Penalty for misconduct in the examination —

A candidate who is or has been declared guilty of impersonation or of submitting fabricated document or documents specified in sub-rule(3) of rule 19 which has been tampered with or of making statements which are incorrect or false or of suppressing material information or of using or attempting support for his candidature may. In addition to the liability for criminal prosecution, be debarred either permanently or for a specified period’—

- (a) by the Commission from appearing at any ²[Preliminary written examination] or Main or Interview held by it for selection of candidates; and
- (b) by the Government, from employment under them as may be directed by the Commission or the Government, as the case may be.

22. Consideration of application by the Commission —

The Commission shall scrutinize the applications received by it and after considering the eligibility of the applicant for admission to the examination to be held by it for the purpose of recruitment under rule 15 shall issue well in advance a certificate of admission to each eligible candidate to appear at ³[the Preliminary written examination or Main] or Interview, as the case may be.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

23. ¹Intimation for appearing at the Preliminary written examination or Main written examination or Interview —

The certificate of admission issued by the Commission under rule 22 shall specify the date, time and venue of the preliminary written examination or the main written examination or the interview, as the case may be, and the candidates so intimated shall present themselves on the appointed date and at the time and place at their own expenses.

23-A. Determination of number of candidates for Main written examination —

²[The Commission shall call the candidates for main written examination who have secured not less than thirty-five per-centum of marks in case of Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and persons with benchmark disabilities and forty per centum of marks in case of others in the Preliminary Written Examination.]

24. ³Determination of number of candidates for interview —

The Commission shall call the candidates, from amongst those who have secured not less than forty-five per centum of marks in aggregate and a minimum of thirty three per centum of marks in each paper in the Main written examination, for interview which shall not more than three times the number of advertised vacancy under each category in order of merit.

⁴[Provided that candidates with benchmark disabilities who have secured not less than thirty percent marks in each paper and a minimum of forty per cent marks in aggregate shall be eligible to be called for the interview in proportion of 1:5.]

25. Representation of the High Court in the interview —

- (1) A sitting Judge of the High Court being nominated by the Chief Justice shall represent the High Court and be present at the interview referred to in rule 24 along with the Chairman and another Member of the Commission.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 509 dated 10.02.2026.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 258 dated 30.01.2023.

⁴ Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 509 dated 10.02.2026.

- (2) The opinion given by the representative of the High Court with regard to the suitability of candidates shall not be disregarded unless there are strong and cogent reasons to be recorded in writing for not accepting the opinion.

26. Preparation of the lists by the Commission —

- (1) For the purpose of recruitment under rule 15, the marks secured by the candidates in the interview shall be added to the marks obtained by him in the ¹[Main written examination] so as to arrive at the total marks secured by him and the names of the candidates shall be arranged in order of merit on the basis of such total marks.

Provided that the name of the candidates shall not be included in the merit list unless such candidates secure a minimum of forty per centum marks in the interview.

- (2) If two or more candidates secure equal marks in the aggregate the order shall be determined in accordance with the marks secured at the ²[main written examination] and if the marks secured at the ³[main written examination] of the candidates concerned be also equal, then the order shall be decided in accordance with the total marks obtained by them in the LLB examination and if the marks obtained in the LLB examination are also equal the candidate who is older in age shall be placed above the other.

Explanation: - There shall be prepared a composite merit list of unreserved as well as reserved categories of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe and SEBC candidates, by the Commission which shall also prepare separate merit list for each category of such reserved candidate and appointment shall be made to the vacancies reserved for them if they cannot be otherwise appointed on the basis of their position in the composite merit list.

27. Forwarding of the list to Government —

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 913 dated 09.05.2008.

The Commission shall then forward to the Government in the Law Department the list of candidates prepared by them under rule 26 which shall contain names of candidates found suitable, equal to the number of vacancies advertised by the Commission along with the applications and attestation forms of the concerned candidates indicating therein whether any candidates belongs to Scheduled Caste or Scheduled Tribe or SEBC.

28. Formation of the select lists —

- (1) The list so received from the Commission shall then be placed before the Government in Law Department for approval and after receiving the approval the same shall form the select list.
- (2) Appointment to the cadre of Civil Judge (Junior Division) shall be made from the select list in the order, the names appear therein.
- (3) The select list, unless the Governor in consultation with the High Court otherwise decides, shall remain ordinarily in force for one year from the date of its approval by the Government under sub-rule (1).
- (4) Mere inclusion of names in the select list shall confer no right of appointment unless the Governor is satisfied after making such inquiry as may be deemed necessary that the candidate is suitable in all respects for being appointed to the service.

29. Inter-se-seniority of ¹[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] —

The inter-se-seniority of the candidates appointed as ²[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] in a particular year and in the same batch shall be determined in accordance with the general merit list prepared by the Commission under rule 26.

30. Training of ³[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] —

- (1) ⁴Every candidate recruited as a ⁵[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] shall be required to undergo a course of training as specified in Appendix-E, which may be altered from time to time, by the Government in

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1047 dated 28.06.2018.

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

consultation with the High Court and the Commission and the period of such training shall ordinarily be one year, which may be extended up to a maximum period of six months on the recommendation of the Odisha Judicial Academy to the High Court:

Provided that the judicial work done by such Officers who remain in direct charge of Courts during the course of training shall be treated as work done in course of their training.

- (2) Every person appointed to the service of ¹[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] shall be given such periodical training as High Court may from time to time, prescribe.

²30-A. Training of District Judges —

- (1) Every candidate recruited as District Judge by direct recruitment shall be required to undergo a course of training as specified in Appendix – G and period of such training shall ordinarily be one year:

Provided that the High Court in any special case, may reduce the period of training.

Provided further that the judicial work done by such trainee Officers who remain in direct charge of Courts during the course of training shall be treated as work done by them in due discharge of the official duty attached to the post they hold.

- (2) For the purpose of working in the post of different cadres by direct recruit District Judges during training, Government shall create such numbers of additional posts for such period at such places as may be recommended by the High Court.
- (3) ³Every Candidate recruited as District Judge:
 - (a) by direct recruitment shall have to undergo training as specified in paragraph-2 of Appendix-G,

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1605 dated 20.08.2013.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 41 dated 05.01.2017.

- (b) by usual promotion or by limited departmental competitive examination, shall have to undergo training as specified in Appendix-H.
- (4) Every person appointed to the service of District Judge shall be given such periodical training as the High Court may, from time to time, prescribe.
- (5) The High Court may scrutinize the judgments delivered by the trainee District Judges appointed by Direct Recruitment periodically during their training and probation.

31. ¹Departmental examination —

- (1) Every person appointed as a District Judge by direct recruitment as well as every person appointed as a Civil Judge (Junior Division) shall, subject to such exemption, if any, as may be granted by the Government, in consultation with the High Court, have to pass the departmental examination conducted by the Odisha Judicial Academy in accordance with the rules as specified in 'Appendix-F' subject to such alternations as may be made therein by the Odisha Judicial Academy in consultation with the High Court.
- (2) Any Officer failing to pass the departmental examination within a period of two years from the date of joining his first appointment, may be allowed such number of chances, as is deemed just and proper by the Chief Justice of the High Court, within next one year, to pass the departmental examination, in which case the period of probation or confirmation, as the case may be, shall be deemed to have been extended accordingly.
- (3) An Officer, who has passed the departmental examination, shall be deemed to have passed the same on the last day on which the said examination was held or if he has passed it by installment on the last date of the examination in which he finally passed, and any benefit admissible to him on such passing may be granted, with effect from the day following it.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

- (4) An Officer, who is exempted from passing in any or all of the subjects of the departmental examination, shall be deemed to have passed the departmental examination in such subject or subjects, as the case may be, within the period of two years specified in rule 33.
- (5) A person appointed, either as a Civil Judge (Junior Division) or as a District Judge by direct recruitment, shall not be considered to have satisfactorily completed the period of probation and shall in turn not be considered for confirmation in the respective cadre, if he/she has not passed the prescribed departmental examination.

32. Disqualification for appointment —

No person shall be eligible for appointment to the service;

- (a) Unless he or she is a citizen of India;
- (b) If he or she is dismissed from service by any High Court, Government, Statutory or Local Authority;
- (c) If he or she has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude or has been (permanently debarred or disqualified by the High Court or the Union Public Service Commission or any State Public Service Commission from appearing in any examination or selection conducted by it);
- (d) If he or she directly or indirectly influences the recruiting authority by any means for his or her candidature;
- (e) ¹[If married a Candidate must not have more than one spouse living;

Provided that the Government may, if satisfied that such marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person or there are other grounds for doing so, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.]”

- (f) Unless he or she is able to speak, read and write Odia; and
- (g) Unless he or she has passed a test in Odia equivalent to Middle School standard.

33. Probation —

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

- (1)** All appointments to the service by direct recruitment, promotion and promotion by limited departmental competitive examination, shall be on probation for a period of two years.
- (2)** ¹[The period of probation may be extended by the appointing authority on the recommendation of the High Court by such period not exceeding a further period of one year.]
- (3)** At the end of the period of probation or the extended period of probation, the appointing authority shall, in consultation with the High Court, consider the suitability of the person appointed or promoted to hold the post to which he or she was appointed or promoted and-
 - (i) if it decides that he or she is suitable to hold the post to which he or she was appointed it shall, as soon as possible, issue an order declaring him or her to have satisfactorily completed the period of probation and such an order shall have effect from the date of extension of period of probation including the extended period, if any; or
 - (ii) if it considers that the person is not suitable to hold the post to which he or she was appointed or promoted as the case may be, it shall, by order,-
 - (a) if he or she is a promotee revert him or her to the post which he or she had held prior to his or her promotion, and
 - (b) if he or she is a direct recruit, discharge him or her from service.
- (4)** A person shall not be considered to have satisfactorily completed the period of probation, unless a specific order to that effect is passed and any delay in passing such an order shall not entitle the person to be deemed to have satisfactorily completed the period of probation.
- (5)** After satisfactory completion of period of probation a person shall be confirmed, by an order in writing, against available substantive vacancy.

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

Explanation: - Declaration of satisfactory completion of probation would not automatically entitle a person for confirmation.

34. Discharge or reversion during the period of probation —

- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the preceding rules the appointing authority may, in consultation with the High Court, at any time during the period of probation, discharge a direct recruit or revert a promotee probationer from service on account of his or her unsuitability for the service.
- (2) No disciplinary inquiry shall be necessary for discharge or reversion of a probationer under sub-rule (1).

35. Appeal —

No appeal shall lie against an under rule 33 and 34 discharging a direct recruit probationer or reverting a promote probationer to the post held him or her prior to his or her promotion.

36. Conduct —

- (1) Conduct of a Judge should uphold the integrity and independence of Judiciary.
- (2) An independent and impartial judiciary is indispensable for imparting justice in our society. A Judge should ensure in establishing, maintaining, and enforcing justice and should personally observe, high standards of conduct so that the integrity and independence of the judiciary may be preserved. A Judge shall always be aware that the judicial system is for the benefit of the litigant and the public, the provisions of this part shall-be construed and applied in furtherance of these objectives.
- (3) Public confidence in the judiciary is eroded by irresponsible or improper conduct by Judges. A Judge must avoid all impropriety and appearance of impropriety. A Judge must expect to be the subject of constant public scrutiny. A Judge must therefore accept restrictions on conduct that might be viewed as burdensome by the ordinary citizen and should do so freely and willingly.

- (4) A Judge shall respect and observe the law. At all time, the conduct and manner of a Judge should promote public confidence in the integrity and impartiality of the judiciary. Without regard to a person's race, gender, or other protected personal characteristic, a Judge should treat every person fairly, with courtesy and respect.
- (5) A Judge shall not allow family, social or other relationship to influence his judicial conduct or judgment. A Judge shall not lend the prestige of judicial office to advance his private interests or those of others. A Judge shall not convey or permit others to convey the impression that they are in a special position to influence the Judge. A Judge shall not appear as a character witness in a Court proceeding unless summoned.
- (6) A Judge shall not allow his or her activity as a member of an organization to cast doubt on the Judge's ability to perform the function of the office in a manner consistent with the code of judicial conduct and the laws of the State. A Judge shall not hold membership of an organization activities of which discriminate or appear to discriminate on the basis of race, gender, or other protected personal characteristic. Nothing in this paragraph should be interpreted to diminish a Judge's right to the free exercise of religion.

37. Duty —

- (1) A Judge shall be faithful to the law and maintain professional competence in it. A Judge should be un-swayed by partisan interest, public clamor or fear of criticism.
- (2) A Judge may require lawyers, court personnel and litigants to be appropriately attired for Court and should enforce reasonable rules of conduct, order and decorum in the court room.
- (3) A Judge shall be patient, dignified, and courteous to litigants, witnesses, lawyers, and others with whom the Judge deals in an official capacity and would require similar conduct of lawyers and of staff, court officials, and others subject to the Judge's direction and control.

- (4) A Judge shall not initiate, permit, or consider ex parte communications, or consider other communication made to the Judge outside the presence of the parties concerning a pending or impending proceedings.
- (5) A Judge shall hear and decide matters assigned to the Judge except those which he is disqualified to appear under rule 40 of these rules.
- (6) A Judge shall perform judicial duties without bias or prejudice. A Judge shall not in the performance of judicial duties, by words or conduct manifest bias or prejudice, including but not limited to bias or prejudice based upon race , sex, religion, national origin, disability, age, sexual orientation or socio economic status, and shall not permit staff, court officials and others subject to the Judge's direction and control to do so.
- (7) A Judge shall dispose of all judicial matters speedily, effectively and fairly.
- (8) A Judge shall not, while a proceeding is pending or impending in any Court, make any public comment that might reasonably be expected to affect its outcome or impair its fairness or make any private comment that might substantially interfere with a fair trial or hearing. The Judge shall require similar abstention on the part of court personnel subject to the Judge direction and control. This clause does not prohibit Judges from making public statements the course of their official duties or from explaining for public information the procedures of the Court. This clause does not apply to proceedings in which the Judge is a litigant in personal capacity.
- (9) A Judge should prohibit broadcasting, televising ,recording or taking of photograph of the court room during session of Court or recesses between sessions except as authorize by the High Court.

38. Obligation —

- (1) A Judge may properly intervene in a trial of a case to promote expedition and prevent unnecessary waste of time, or to clear up some obscurity, but the Judge should bear in mind that undue interference, impatience, or participation in the examination of witness, or a severe attitude on

the Judges part towards witness, or especially those who are excited or terrified by the unusual circumstance of trial, may tend to prevent the proper presentation of the cause, or the ascertainment of truth in respect thereto.

- (2) Conversation between the Judge and counsel in Court is often necessary, but the Judge should be studious to avoid controversies that are apt to obscure the merits of the dispute between litigants and lead to its unjust disposition. In addressing counsel, litigants, or witness, the Judge should avoid a controversial manner or tone.
- (3) A Judge shall avoid interruptions of counsel in their arguments except to clarify their positions, and should not be tempted to the unnecessary display of learning or a premature judgment.
- (4) A Judge shall adopt the usual and accepted methods of doing justice, avoid the imposition of humiliating acts of discipline, not authorized by law in sentencing and endeavor to conform to a reasonable standard of punishment and not seek popularity or publicity either by exceptional severity or undue leniency.
- (5) A Judge shall be punctual in attending Court and do judicial work during court hours. He shall ensure punctuality of the staff and court officials.
- (6) A Judge should diligently discharge administrative responsibilities, maintain professional competence in judicial administration, and facilitate the performance of the administrative responsibilities of other Judges and court officials.
- (7) A Judge should take or initiate appropriate measures as admissible under law against a Judge or lawyers for unprofessional conduct of which the Judge may become aware.

39. Extra-judicial and quasi-judicial activities —

- (1) (a) As a Judicial Officer and person specially learned in the law, a Judge is in a unique position to contribute to the improvement of the law, the legal system, and the administration for Justice, including revision of substantive and procedural law and improvement of criminal and

juvenile justice. To the extent time permits, and without affecting his judicial work, a Judge is encouraged to do so, either independently or through a Bar Association, judicial conference, or other organization dedicated to the improvement of the law.

(b) A Judge, subject the proper performance of judicial duties and to the extent time permits, may engage in the following quasi-judicial activities, namely:-

- (i) A Judge may speak, write, lecture, teach and participate in activities concerning the law, the legal system, and the administration of Justice; and
- (ii) A Judge may appear at a public hearing on matters concerning the law, the legal system, and the administration of justice.

Explanation: - A Judge may participate or involve himself in literary, educational, cultural and scientific activities without compromising the dignity of the service.

- (2)** A Judge should refrain from financial and business dealings that tend to reflect adversely on the Judge's impartiality or judicial office, interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties, exploit the judicial position, demean the judicial office or involve the Judge in transactions with lawyers or persons likely to come before the Court on which the Judge serves.
- (3)** A Judge should not serve as an executor, administrator, testamentary trustee or guardian.
- (4)** A Judge should not act as an arbitrator or mediator, except in the performance of judicial duties.
- (5)** A Judge should not practice law for remuneration.
- (6)** A Judge should not accept appointment to a Governmental Committee, Commission or other position except in performance of his duties with the permission of the High Court in writing.
- (7)** (i) A Judge or a candidate for judicial office should not be a member of or hold any office in a political party.

- (ii) A Judge shall not make speeches on behalf of a political party or endorse a candidate for a political office.
- (8)** A Judge shall keep himself informed about his personal and fiduciary interests, and makes a reasonable effort to keep informed about the personal and economic interests of his spouse and children residing in his house hold.
- (9)** A Judge shall conduct all of the Judge's extra-judicial activities in such a way that they do not:-
- (i) cast reasonable doubt on the Judge's capacity to act impartially as a Judge
 - (ii) demean the Judicial Officer as a Judge ;
 - (iii) interfere with the proper performance of judicial duties.
- (10)** A Judge shall not serve as an Officer, director, trustee or legal advisor of any organization except with prior permission of High Court.
- (11)** A Judge and members of the Judge's family residing in the Judge's household shall not accept, a gift, bequest, favor or loan from anyone except -
- (i) A gift incident to a public testimonial, books, tapes and other resource material supplied by publishers on a complementary basis for official use or an invitation to the Judge and the Judges' spouse or guest to attend a bar-related function or an activity devoted to the improvement of the law, the legal system or the administration of Justice;
 - (ii) a gift, award or benefit incident to the business, profession or other separate activity of a spouse or other family members of a Judge residing in the Judge's household including gifts, awards and benefits for the use of both the spouse or other family members and the Judge (as spouse or family member), provided the gift, award or benefit could not reasonably be perceived as intended to influence the Judge in the performance of judicial duties;
 - (iii) Ordinary social hospitality;

- (iv) a gift from a relative or friend, for a special occasion, such as a wedding, anniversary or birthday, if the gift is fairly commensurate with the occasion and the relationship;
- (v) a gift, bequest, favor or loan from a relative or close personal friend whose appearance or interest in a case would in any event require disqualification under rule 40;
- (vi) a loan from a lending institution in its regular course of business on the same terms generally available to persons who are not Judges;
- (vii) a scholarship or fellowship awarded on the same terms and based on the same criteria applied to other applicants; or
- (viii) any other gift, bequest, favour or loan, only if the donor is not a party or other person who has come or is likely to come or whose interests have come or are likely to come before the Judge.

40. Disqualification —

A Judge shall disqualify himself or herself in a proceeding in which the Judge's impartiality might reasonably be questioned, including but not limited to instances where:-

- (a) the Judge has a personal bias or prejudice concerning a party or a party's lawyer, or personal knowledge or disputed evidentiary facts concerning the proceeding;
- (b) the Judge served as a lawyer in the matter in controversy, or a lawyer with whom the Judge previously practiced law served during such association as lawyer concerning the matter, or the Judge has been a material witness concerning to it;
- (c) the Judge knows that he or she, individually or fiducially or the Judge's spouse parent or child wherever residing, or any other member of the Judge's family residing in the Judges' house, has an economic interest in the subject matter in controversy or in a party to the proceeding or has any other interest that could be substantially affected by the proceeding;

- (d) the Judge or the Judge's spouse, or a person within the third degree or relationship to either of them , or the spouse of such a person-
 - (i) is a party to the proceeding , or an Officer, director or trustee or a party; or
 - (ii) is acting as a lawyer in the proceeding ; or
 - (iii) is known by the Judge to have interest that could be substantially affected by the proceeding .

41. Applicability of Odisha Civil Service (C.C.A) Rules 1962 and the Odisha Service Code —

The Provisions of rules 12,13, 14,15,16,17,18,19& 20 of the Odisha Civil Services (Classification, control & Appeal) Rules 1962 and the Provisions of the Odisha Service Code shall mutatis and mutandis be applicable to members of the service and the powers under the said rules may be exercised by the High Court except the powers of dismissal, removal, reduction in rank or termination of service of Officer of the service which may be exercised by the Governor on the recommendation of the High Court.

42. Age of superannuation —

The age of superannuation of an office of the service shall be sixty years.

43. Re-employment —

An Officer of the service who has retired at the age of 60 years on superannuation may be reemployed on the recommendation of the High Court for any period till the age of sixty two years if there is vacancy in the cadre of District Judge on such terms and conditions as would be decided by the Government in consultation with the High Court.

44. Retirement in public interest —

- (1) Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules the Governor shall, in consultation with the High Court, if he is of the opinion that it is in the public interest so to do, have absolute right to retire any member of the service who has attained the age of fifty years, by giving him /her notice of not less than three months in writing or three months' pay and allowances in lieu of such notice.

- (2) Whether any Officer of the service should be retired in public interest under sub-rule(1) shall be considered at least three times, that is, when he is about to attain the age of fifty years, fifty five years, and fifty eight years:

Provided that nothing in sub-rule(2) shall be construed in public interest as preventing the Governor to retire a member of the service at any time after he/she attains the age of fifty years on the recommendation of High Court under sub-rule(1)

45. Seniority list —

Every year in the month of January seniority lists of Officers in all cadres shall be prepared and published by the High Court and the lists so published shall be used for the purpose of making promotions to the next higher cadre.

46. Residuary Provision —

The conditions of service of the members of the service to which no express provision is made in these rules shall be determined by the rules and order for the time being applicable to Officers of Indian Administrative Service in the State.

47. Relaxation —

Where the Government in consultation with the High Court is satisfied that it is necessary or expedient so to do. It may by order, for reasons to be recorded, writing, relax any of the provisions of these rules with respect to any class or category persons or posts in the service.

48. Repeal and Savings —

- (1) The Orissa Superior Judicial Service Rules, 1963 as the Orissa Judicial Service Rules, 1994 are hereby repealed:

Provided that any order passed, appointment made, action taken or things done under the above rules so repealed shall be deemed to have been passed, made, taken or done under the corresponding provisions of these rules.

- (2) Provision of other rules framed under Article 309 of the Constitution by the Government from time to time, if not inconsistent with these rules, shall have application to the Officer of the service.

¹APPENDIX-A

[See Rule 8]

(Promotion to the post of District Judge through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination)

A. Written Examination:

The written examination shall be on the following two papers each carrying 75 marks with a duration of 2 hours for each papers as follows:-

Paper-1

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------------|
| (1) | The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 | ...25 Marks |
| (2) | Personal laws | ...25 Marks |
| (3) | The Transfer of Property Act, The Specific Relief Act, The Limitation Act, The Law of Contract, The Odisha Consolidation of Holding and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act., The Odisha Estate Abolition Act, The Odisha Land Reforms Act, The Law relating to Motor Accident and Claims, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, The Commercial Courts Act, 2015. | ...25 Marks |

TOTAL

...75 Marks

Paper-2

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------------|
| (1) | The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. | ...20 Marks |
| (2) | The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 | ...20 Marks |
| (3) | The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023. | ...20 Marks |
| (4) | The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, The Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006, The Prevention of Corruption Act, The Essential Commodities Act, The Environment Protection Act, The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and any other relevant topics in Law(s), as the High Court of Orissa, may specify from time to time. | ...15 Marks |

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

TOTAL**...75 Marks****B. Viva-Voce:****30 Marks**

Viva-voce test shall carry 30 marks. The performance of a Judicial Officer shall also be evaluated based on their general perception, awareness, and communication skills.

Candidates securing minimum of 50 per centum of marks in aggregate in both the written papers but not less than 45 per centum of marks in individual written paper shall be called for viva-voce test.

C. Evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs:**20 Marks**

Candidates' CCRs/PARs/ACRs for five years(5) immediately preceding the year of examination shall be evaluated, which shall carry twenty (20) marks in the following order:-

<u>CCRs/PARs/ACRs</u>	<u>Grading Marks</u>
Outstanding	...04
Very Good	...03
Good	...02
Average	...01
Poor	...00

D. Disposal Rate for preceding five years:**10 Marks**

The modalities for assessing a candidate's suitability based on disposal rate shall be prescribed by the High Court from time to time.

E. Assessments of quality of judgments:-**20 Marks**

The candidates shall be required to submit (2) two judgments of their choice, along with a list of 10 contested judgments delivered by them in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division), specifying the name of the Court, case number, names of the parties, and the date of delivery. From the submitted list, three additional judgments shall be selected at random. In total, five judgments shall be placed before the appropriate Committee for evaluation, which shall be conducted in such manner as may be prescribed by the High Court from time to time.

F. Merit List:

The final selection shall be made on the basis of total marks obtained in the written test, viva-voce test, assessment of quality of judgments, evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs, and disposal rate for preceding five years.

Provided that a candidate shall not be selected unless such candidate secures 40% of marks in viva-voce test.

¹APPENDIX A-1

[See Rule 6(2)]

[Usual Promotion to the cadre of District Judge from Civil Judge (Senior Division)]

A. Viva-Voce: 30 Marks

Viva-voce test shall carry 30 marks. The performance of a Judicial Officer shall also be evaluated based on their updated knowledge of law, general perception, awareness, and communication skills.

B. Evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs: 25 Marks

Candidates' CCRs/PARs/ACRs for five years (5) immediately preceding the year of examination shall be evaluated, which shall carry twenty-five (25) marks in the following order:-

<u>CCRs/PARs/ACRs</u>	Grading Marks
Outstanding	...05
Very Good	...04
Good	...03
Average	...02
Poor	...00

C. Disposal rate for preceding five years: 15 Marks

The modalities for assessing a candidate's suitability based on disposal rate shall be prescribed by the High Court from time to time.

D. Assessments of quality of judgments: 25 Marks

The candidate shall be required to submit (2) two judgments of their choice, along with a list of 10 contested judgments delivered by them in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division), specifying the name of the Court, case number, names of the parties, and the date of delivery. From the submitted list, three additional judgments shall be selected at random. In total, five judgments shall be placed before the appropriate Committee for evaluation, which shall be conducted in such manner as may be prescribed by the High Court from time to time.

E. Seniority in cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division): 05 Marks

For the purpose of computing marks for seniority, besides five years of substantive service in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division), one mark shall be awarded for each completed year of service thereafter.

¹ Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025..

F. Merit List:

The merit list of all candidates who have passed in the suitability test shall be prepared on the basis of mark obtained in the (i) assessment of the CCRs/PARs/ACRs, (ii) disposal rate of preceding five years (iii) evaluation of quality of judgments, (iv) performance in the viva-voce test, (v) seniority in the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division).

Provided that a candidate shall not be selected unless such candidate secures 40% of marks in evaluation of judgments and viva-voce test.

However, the High Court may fix any other modalities/criteria from time to time for filling up of posts of District Judge through usual promotion.

¹**APPENDIX-B**

(See Rule 10)

(Direct recruitment to the post of District Judge)

A. Written examination:

The written examination shall be on the following three papers each carrying 100 marks with a duration of 2 hours for each paper as follows:-

Paper-1

- | | | |
|--------------|---|---------------------|
| (1) | The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 | ...30 marks |
| (2) | Personal laws | ...30 marks |
| (3) | The Transfer of Property Act, The Specific Relief Act., The Limitation Act, The Law of Contract, The Odisha Consolidation of Holding and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act., The Odisha Estate Abolition Act, The Odisha Land Reforms Act, The Law relating to Motor Accident and Claims, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, The Commercial Courts Act, 2015 | ...40 marks |
| Total | | ...100 marks |

Paper-2

- | | | |
|-----|--|-------------|
| (1) | The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 | ...30 marks |
| (2) | The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 | ...30 marks |
| (3) | The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 | ...30 marks |
| (4) | The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, The Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006, The Prevention of Corruption Act, The Essential Commodities Act, The Environment Protection Act, The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015, and any other relevant topics in Law(s), as the High Court of Orissa, may specify | ...10 marks |

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

from time to time.

Total

...100 marks

Paper-3

General English: [Qualifying Paper]

- | | | |
|-----|---|-------------|
| (1) | Translation from Odia to English (ten lines) | ...10 marks |
| (2) | Re-translation from English to Odia (ten lines) | ...10 marks |
| (3) | A short Essay of about 150 words | ...30 marks |
| (4) | Précis writing consisting of 300 words | ...30 marks |
| (5) | 1 (one) passage of maximum 500 words with 5 questions | ...20 marks |

Total

...100 marks

The candidates are required to secure minimum 45% mark in Paper-3 (General English)

B. Interview

- (1) Interview shall carry thirty (30) Marks
- (2) Candidates shall be called for interview in the proportion of 1:10 provided that such candidates have obtained at least forty five (45) per cent of marks in each of the written papers and fifty (50) per cent of marks in aggregate.
- ¹[(3) Candidates with benchmark disabilities who have secured a minimum of forty per cent marks in each paper and at least forty five per cent marks in aggregate shall be eligible to be called for the interview in proportion of 1:10.]

C. Merit List

The final merit list shall be prepared on the basis of marks obtained Paper-1 & Paper-2 of the Written Test and Interview:

Provided that a candidate shall not be included in the merit list unless such candidate secures a minimum of forty (40) per cent of marks in interview.

¹ Inserted vide Gazette Notification No. 509 dated 10.02.2026.

¹**APPENDIX-C**

(See Rule 13)

[4 Point roster governing inter-se seniority of District Judges, in repeating sequence]

1.	Usual Promotion
2.	Usual Promotion
3.	Promotion through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination (LDCE)
4.	Direct Recruit

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1481 dated 20.04.2026.

¹APPENDIX-D

(See Rule 15)

Recruitment of Civil Judge (Junior Division)

I. Preliminary Written Examination.

The preliminary written examination shall be of one paper carrying 100 marks with duration of one and half hours of examinations with objective type questions of multiple choice 100 questions of one mark each with negative marks of twenty-five percent for every wrong answer allotted to that particular question on the following subjects and the answer sheets may be scrutinized by Computer, if possible.

- (a) The Constitution of India
- (b) The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908
- (c) The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023
- (d) The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023
- (e) The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023
- (f) The Limitation Act
- (g) The Transfer of Property Act
- (h) The Law of Contract
- (i) The Law of Succession (Indian Succession Act & Hindu Succession Act)
- (j) The Specific Relief Act
- (k) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, and any other relevant topics in law(s), as the High Court of Orissa may specify from time to time.

II. Main Written Examination

The main written examination shall be on the following two compulsory papers and three optional papers. Each of the compulsory subjects shall carry 150 marks with duration of two and half hours of examination and each of the optional subjects shall carry 150 marks with duration of three hours.

1. Compulsory Papers.

Paper-1 : General English

...150 marks

- (a) Translation and retranslation of ten lines each
- (b) A short essay of about 150 words

¹ Substituted vide Gazette No. 1908 dtd.08.10.2024

- (c) Précis writing consisting of 300 words.
- (d) 1(one) passage of about 500 words with 5 questions.

Paper-2 : Procedural Laws

...150 marks

- (a) The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023
- (b) The Code of Civil Procedure , 1908
- (c) The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023

2. Optional Papers.

A candidate may choose any of the three subjects among the following:

- (1) **Law of Crime & Law of Torts** **...150 marks**

- (2) **Personal Laws** **...150 marks**

- (a) Hindu Law
- (b) Mohammedan Law

- (3) **Law of Property** **...150 marks**

- (a) The Transfer of property Act, 1882
- (b) The Specific Relief Act, 1963
- (c) The Indian Limitation Act, 1963

- (4) **Law of Contract** **...150 marks**

- (a) The Indian Contract Act, 1872
- (b) The Sales of Goods Act, 1930
- (c) The Partnership Act, 1932
- (d) The Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881

- (5) **Jurisprudence and The Constitution of India** **...150 marks**

Notes: (a) A candidate shall answer the papers in English unless otherwise directed.

(b) The standard of papers shall be that of L.L.B. Course and in respect of compulsory paper-1, it shall be of a degree course.

III. Interview

Interview shall carry 100 (one hundred) marks. Questions to be asked in the interview may not ordinarily be outside the syllabus prescribed for the main written examination. In the interview question covering broad national and international issues and matters of common interest in the field of Arts and Science may also be asked.

APPENDIX-E

(See Rule-30)

Training for ¹Civil Judge (Junior Division)

1. A ²Civil Judge (Junior Division) should be given as much experience as possible of judicial (civil and criminal) and revenue work and also of the management and control of an office. They should also master the books which are prescribed for the departmental examination and should study closely the leading legal works, the codes and the authorized law reports.
2. It shall be the duty of the District Judge to arrange for the practical training of probationary ³Civil Judge (Junior Division) placed under him.
3. ⁴The ⁵Civil Judge (Junior Division) (on probation) shall undergo training as per programmes specified in the table below and during such Institutional training, Evaluation and training and evaluation and correctional training, the ⁶Civil Judge (Junior Division) (on probation) shall visit the institutions mentioned under column (c) of Part II of the said Table.

Part - I

Sl. No.	Training	Duration of training
(a)	(b)	(c)
(i)	Institutional training at Odisha Judicial Academy	2.5 Months
(ii)	SDJM including police station training 1 week	1.5 Month
(iii)	Training under Civil Judge(Junior Division)	1 Month
(iv)	Evaluation and training at Odisha Judicial Academy	1 Month
(v)	Training under Civil Judge(Senior Division)	1 Month
(vi)	Training under Registrar, Civil courts	0.5 Month
(vii)	Training under Chief Judicial Magistrate	0.5 Month
(viii)	Training under District & Sessions Judge	0.5 Month
(ix)	Evaluation and correctional training at Odisha Judicial Academy	1.5 Month
(x)	Accounts training	1 Month

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.1047 dated 28.06.2018.

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

⁶ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

(xi)	Performance assessment and correctional training	1 Month
	Total	12 months

Part-II

Sl. No.	Training	Duration of training
(a)	(b)	(c)
(i)	Institutional training at Odisha Judicial Academy	Sharing of best practices in Judicial Courts - 7 days
(ii)	Evaluation & training at Odisha Judicial Academy	1. Visit of Jail - 2 days
		2. Visit of State Forensic Science Laboratory - 2 days
		3. Visit to medical college - 1 day
		4. Visit to Legal Aid Cell - 1 day
		5. Grassroot level experience Programme - 3 days
		6. Visit to State Secretariat - 1 day
		7. Visit to State Legislative Assembly - 1 Day
(iii)	Evaluation & correctional training at Odisha Judicial Academy	Survey & settlement training at Revenue Officer Training Institute - 7 days

4. The details of training in the branches specified in paragraph 3 shall be as follows:-

- ¹(i) **Training under the Registrar, Civil Court** - The Civil Judge (Junior Division) shall get practical experience of administrative work in the office of the Registrar, Civil Courts. They should thoroughly acquaint themselves with the work of different departments namely - Process Establishment Section, Accounts, Record Room and copying department, maintenance of registers in these departments, preparation of monthly, quarterly and annual statement, etc. They should make careful study of the High Court's General Rules and Circular Orders (Civil and Criminal), the Accounts Rules, The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.1908 dated 08.10.2024.

Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023, The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, The Transfer of Property Act, 1882 and The Indian Contract Act, 1872.

- (ii) **Training in survey and settlement**-The training in survey and settlement under a Settlement Officer shall be in traverse and cadastral survey and in attestation of recess work. The aim is to secure for the ¹[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] and insight into agrarian life and interest and acquaintance with the preparation of record-of-rights.
- (iii) **Training in Accounts**- The ²[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] shall receive accounts training in the Accounts Training School, Bhubaneswar so that he or she may be thoroughly acquainted in the Service Code, Traveling Allowance Rules, General Provident Fund Rules, etc.
- (iv) **³Training in the Court of Civil Judge (Junior Division) and the Court of Civil Judge (Senior Division)** - The aim shall be to give the ⁴[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] under training practical experience in handling trial of cases, dealing with interlocutory matters and in office work such as preparation of decree, classification and arrangement of papers and records of suits and cases, procedure in execution cases, etc. They should sit with the Presiding Officers of the concerned Courts and watch the examination of witnesses, hear arguments and prepare synopsis of judgments.
- ⁵(v) **Training in Sub-Divisional Judicial Magistrate's Court**- The Civil Judge (Junior Division) should receive training in magisterial work, so that they may acquire sound insight into the law and procedure in criminal trials. During this period they should study The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 and take special notes of procedure in respect of directing prosecution of offences under Chapter XIII and XVIII of The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and Chapter XVIII of The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023. They should also read the important provisions of The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023, High Court's General Letter, etc. They should sit with the Presiding Officers of the Concerned Courts and watch the examination of witnesses, hear arguments and prepare synopsis of judgments. They shall also be posted for training with the Circle Inspector of Police where they can get an opportunity to study the general working of the Police Department with special

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

³ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

⁵ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 1908 dated 08.10.2024

reference to the investigation and prosecution of cases. During this period opportunity may also be afforded to the Civil Judge (Junior Division) to get acquainted with the Investigation of offences under The Forest Act, The Excise Act and other local Acts.

(vi) **Training in Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court-** The ¹[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] should be given opportunities and become familiar with the practical working of the rules and procedure in the administrative and judicial departments of the office of the Chief Judicial Magistrate. They should also sit in Court with the Chief Judicial Magistrate in order to acquaint with the procedure of trial.

5. Thereafter the ²[Civil Judge (Junior Division)] will be posted as Magistrates of Second Class for a period of at least three months.
6. ³[If a ⁴{Civil Judge (Junior Division)} does not meet the requisite standard, Odisha Judicial Academy may recommend extension of training for a further period of maximum six months within which such Officer shall have to attain such standard.]

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

³ Inserted Vide Gazette Notification No.1605 dated 20.08.2013.

⁴ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No.2013 dated 22.08.2023.

¹**Appendix –F**

(See Rule 31)

1. All District Judges directly recruited from Bar and Civil Judges (Junior Division) on probation shall have to pass the Departmental Examination consisting of the following papers comprising of subjects mentioned under each such paper;

Paper-I

100 marks

1. General Rules and Circular Orders (Civil) 40 marks
2. General Rules and Circular Orders (Criminal) 40 marks
3. Rules of High Court of Orissa, 1948 20 marks

Paper-II

100 marks

1. Odisha Service Code 30 marks
2. ORV Act and Rules 15 marks
3. The Odisha Government Servants' Conduct Rules 15 marks
4. The Odisha Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1962 15 marks
5. Odisha Civil Courts Act, 1984 15 marks
6. The Odisha Leave Rules, 1966 10 marks

Paper-III

100 marks

1. The Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 and Odisha Victim Compensation Scheme 20 marks
2. The General Clauses Act, 1897 and the Odisha General Clauses Act, 1937 10 marks
3. The Right to Information Act & Rules 10 marks
4. Gram Nyayalaya Act, 2008 10 marks
5. Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 10 marks
6. Protection Of Children From Sexual Offences Act, 2012 10 marks
7. Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989 10 marks
8. Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985 10 marks
9. The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013 10 marks

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

2. The departmental examination will be held at regular intervals as may be decided by the Odisha Judicial Academy.
3. The examination will test in particular the extent to which an examinee has acquired facility in applying the rules & provisions of law.
4. Each paper of the examination as mentioned in para-1 shall carry 100 marks having two-hours duration, and the minimum pass mark for each such paper shall be fifty percent. Subject wise distribution of marks for each such paper shall be as has been mentioned in Para 1. The duration of the examination for each paper, for physically handicapped examinees having benchmark disabilities, shall be enhanced by including the compensatory time in accordance with the rules, circulars and notifications of the State Government, for the time being in force.
5. Bare Acts of the subjects mentioned in para-1 may be permitted to be used by the examinees in the departmental examination.

¹**Appendix-G**
(See Rule 30-A)

1. Every person appointed as District Judge by direct recruitment shall undergo training:-
 - (i) For a period not exceeding one month being given for the court work of JMFC.
 - (ii) For a period not exceeding one month being given for the court work of Civil Judge (Junior Division).
 - (iii) For a period not exceeding two months being given for the court work of Civil Judge (Senior Division).
 - (iv) For a period not exceeding one month being Registrar of Civil Courts during which he will acquire knowledge in budgeting, accounts, projects, e-Court project and other allied administrative matters.
 - (v) For a period not exceeding three months being given for the court work of Assistant Sessions Judge-cum- Chief Judicial Magistrate during which he has also to make inspection of sub-ordinate courts and prepare report by himself; and
 - (vi) For a period not exceeding one month in forensic science.
- ²2. Every person appointed as a District Judge by direct recruitment shall, during the period of their training be given institutional training in the subjects as may be decided by the High Court for a period not exceeding three months and the said period of three months shall also include practical training of 12 days to the following effect;
 - (i) 6 days training at Madhusudan Das Regional Academy of Financial Management (MDRAFM), Bhubaneswar,
 - (ii) 5 days training at Revenue Officers' Training Institute (ROTI), Bhubaneswar, and
 - (iii) 1 day field exposure training at Department of FMT of any Medical College & Hospital on human anatomy.]

¹ Inserted Vide Gazette Notification No.1605 dated 20.08.2013.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

3. During the period of training, the trainee direct recruit District Judges should take initiative to learn procedural rules of sub-ordinate Courts and District Courts with special reference to GRCO (Civil), GRCO (Criminal), maintenance of registers, working of e-Court projects and shall equip themselves with working knowledge on computers. The Odisha Judicial Academy will provide such subjects also in their curriculum accordingly.

¹**[Appendix-H]**
(See Rule-30-A)

- ²1. Every person appointed as District Judge by way of promotion or Limited Departmental Competitive Examination shall undergo following training:—
- (a) Institutional training for a period not exceeding 3 (three) weeks, which shall also include 3-days training at MDRAFM, and one day field exposure training at department of FMT of any Medical College & Hospital on human anatomy.
 - (b) practical training at ROTI, Bhubaneswar and State Forensic Science Laboratory, State Fingerprint Bureau and State Handwriting Bureau, Bhubaneswar, for a period not exceeding 1 (one) week.]
2. During the training period of District Judges appointed by way of promotion, emphasis to be given on training of specialized legislation stress management, judicial communication and administration.
3. The Odisha Judicial Academy to provide training on such subjects and also make provision in their curriculum accordingly.

¹ Inserted Vide Gazette Notification No.41 dated 05.01.2017.

² Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

¹APPENDIX-J

[See Rule 14]

(Promotion to the post of Civil Judge (Senior Division) through Limited Departmental Competitive Examination)

A. Written Examination:

The written examination shall be on the following two papers each carrying 100 marks with a duration of 2 hours for each papers as follows:-

Paper-1

- | | | |
|-----|--|----------|
| (1) | The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 | 30 Marks |
| (2) | Personal laws | 30 Marks |
| (3) | The Transfer of Property Act, The Specific Relief Act, The Limitation Act, The Law of Contract, The Odisha Consolidation of Holding and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, The Odisha Estate Abolition Act, The Odisha Land Reforms Act, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, The Commercial Courts Act, The Odisha Survey and Settlement Act, The Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act, and The Odisha Hindu Religious Endowments Act. | 40 Marks |

TOTAL

100 Marks

Paper-2

- | | | |
|-----|---|----------|
| (1) | The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023. | 25 Marks |
| (2) | The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 | 25 Marks |
| (3) | The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023. | 25 Marks |
| (4) | The Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006, The Essential Commodities Act, The Environment Protection Act, The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, and any other relevant topics in Law(s), as the High Court of Orissa, may specify from time to time. | 25 Marks |

TOTAL

100 marks

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.

B. Viva-voce:**30 Marks**

Viva-voce test shall carry 30 marks.

Candidates securing minimum of 50 per centum of marks in aggregate in both the written papers but not less than 45 per centum of marks in individual written paper shall be called for viva-voce test.

C. Evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs:**15 Marks**

Candidates' CCRs/PARs/ACRs for three years (3) immediately preceding the year of examination shall be evaluated, which shall carry fifteen (15) marks in the following order:-

<u>CCRs/PARs/ACRs Grading</u>	<u>Marks</u>
Outstanding	...05
Very Good	...04
Good	...03
Average	...01
Poor	...00

D. Merit List

The final selection shall be made on the basis of total marks obtained in the written test, viva-voce test and evaluation of CCRs/PARs/ACRs.

Provided that a candidate shall not be selected unless such candidate secures 40% of marks in viva-voce test.

¹APPENDIX-K

(See Rule 14(6))

[20 Point Roster governing inter-se seniority of Civil Judges (Senior Division)]

1.	Promotion	11.	Promotion
2.	Promotion	12.	Promotion
3.	Promotion	13.	Promotion
4.	Promotion	14.	Promotion
5.	Promotion	15.	Promotion
6.	Promotion	16.	Promotion
7.	Promotion	17.	Promotion
8.	Promotion	18.	Promotion
9.	Promotion	19.	Promotion
10.	Promotion through LDCE	20.	Promotion through LDCE

[No.9555-VJ-6/2007-L]

By order of the Governor
Principal Secretary to Government

¹ Substituted vide Gazette Notification No. 5899 dated 19.12.2025.