

Reply for the postponed calling Attention by Aleixo Sequeria MLA

“Fear and Anxiety in the minds of contract workers in the Power Department that they would lose an opportunity to get regularize as Department has been continuously going ahead with new recruitment. These contract workers have been working for almost 12 years and have given their best of their lives to the department in services of the people of Goa. Many of the contract workers belong from ST community and are totally dependent on job for their livelihood a relaxation in minimum age recruitment may be considered as a one-time measure and be made permanent in the Department.”

Reply: - Presently Department is having 341 contract Line Helpers and 119 contract Meter Readers. The Government does not have any such policy so as to regularize the services of contract employees. Therefore, the Contract Workers have been asked to apply for the post upon advertisement for the same. The selection is being done on Merit by following the prescribed procedure.

In case of these contract staff who apply for the Direct Recruitment posts, the Department implements the Circular issued by Personnel Department dated 27/08/2013 wherein age relaxation for a maximum period of Five Years is being given to the Contract Workers subject to the condition stipulated therein. The relevant content of the circular is reproduced here as below:-

“ Since the appointment of such contract employees is done by following proper recruitment procedure such as advertisement, interview, etc., the Cabinet has resolved to relax age limit of contract employees working in various Government Departments to the extent of their total contractual service subject to a maximum of five years to enable them to apply for the posts advertised for direct recruitment subject to the condition that their initial contractual appointment is done through a process of

advertisement, adhering to conditions of the Recruitment rules, etc”.

Since the procedure while employing the above contract staff was not followed from the year 2006 onwards, the content of the said circular will not be applicable regarding relaxation of age, hence, age relaxation shall not be possible for the above contract staff.

It is also to inform that till date the Department has appointed 108 Contract Line Helpers/Contract Meter Readers to the various posts such as Line Helpers Assistant Lineman and Wireman and Meter Readers.