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**FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR THE CANDIDATES BELONGING TO
ECONOMICALLY WEAKER SECTION (EWS)**

Q.1 Are EWS category candidates required to pay application fee?

Ans. The candidates of EWS category are required to make payment towards application fee.

Q.2 Whether an EWS candidate selected on his/her own merit adjusted against reserved vacancy or unreserved vacancy?

Ans. A candidate of EWS category, selected on his/her own merit, without availing of any of the concessions or relaxations to which such candidates are entitled to, is recommended against unreserved vacancies. If any concessions or relaxed standards of selection is applied at any stage of selection process, such candidates will be considered against vacancy reserved for the EWS category only.

Q.3 Whether change of category is allowed in case of EWS category candidates?

Ans. If the category indicated by a candidate in the application form for any Examination of the Commission is Unreserved/General category but the candidate subsequently writes to the Commission to change the category to a reserved one i.e. EWS, such request is not entertained by the Commission. Further, once a candidate has chosen a reserved category (EWS), no request is entertained for change to other reserved category.

Q.4 Whether change of category to Unreserved/General category is allowed in case of EWS category candidates?

Ans. No, the EWS candidate, other than those recommended on General Merit, shall not be allowed to change their category from EWS to Unreserved/General or claim the vacancies (Service/Cadre) for Unreserved/General category after the declaration of final result by the APSC.

Q.5 The financial year of income on the basis of EWS category candidate is to be issued?

Ans. I & AC(to be produced by the EWS category candidates) should be based on the income for the financial year prior to the year of application.

Example: In case an EWS category candidate applying for the any Examination and closing date of application for that Examination is 31.03.2021, the candidate should be in possession of EWS certificate in the prescribed format dated on/before 30.03.2021, based on income for the Financial Year 2019-20 in support of his/her claims for availing reservation.

Q.6 What precautions must be taken by the candidates for claiming EWS reservation before applying for an Examination?

Ans. Candidates seeking reservation/ relaxation benefits available for EWS must ensure that they are entitled to such reservation/ relaxation in accordance with the eligibility prescribed in the Examination Rules issued by the Government/Examination Notice issued by the APSC.

Q7. What should EWS candidate check before applying for an Examination concerning their certificates?

Ans. An EWS candidate should ensure that she/he fulfils all the criteria applicable to her/him before applying for an Examination, failing which her/his **candidature will be liable to be cancelled**. The details of these criteria are as under:

- (i) I&AC should be dated prior to closing date of application or the cut-off date as may be prescribed in the Notification for the Examination concerned.
- (ii) I&AC should be in prescribed format.
- (iii) I &AC should be issued by competent authority. **(For details refer to Govt. OM No.ABP.07/2019/4, Dated Dispur, the 10th April, 2019)**
- (iv) I&AC should contain the Signature, Stamp/Office Seal of issuing authority. However, in case of digital certificate, where a declaration dispensing any of the above requirement i.e. Physical Signature/Stamp/Office Seal, has been made in the certificate, the requisition to the extent of declaration will be dispensed with.

Q8. Can the EWS candidate be considered against the vacancies reserved for them even though Income & Asset Certificate (I & AC) is not available?

Ans. No. An EWS candidate is considered against EWS vacancies only if he/she possesses a valid I & AC.

Q9. How much age relaxation could be allowed to the candidates of EWS categories?

Ans. No age relaxation is admissible for EWS category.

Q.10 What is the cut-off date for acceptance of I & AC?

Ans. The I & AC should be dated prior to closing date of application of an Examination or the cut-off date as may be prescribed in the Notification for that Examination concerned. Example: In case a candidate applying for the Civil Services Examination and closing date of application for the Preliminary Examination is 31.03.2022, the candidate should be in possession of requisite I & AC in the prescribed format in support of his/her claim for availing reservation, **dated on/before 30.03.2022**.

Q11. Where to find prescribed format of I & AC?

Ans. The prescribed format is available on the Commission's website (www.apsc.nic.in) under section "Forms & Download". The candidates may download the requisite format from there.