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**PART I - NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT, HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS
AND OTHER OFFICERS**

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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT
AGRICULTURE & COOPERATION DEPARTMENT
(H&S)

DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT DIRECTOR OF
HORTICULTURE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF HORTICULTURE - ABOLITION.

[G.O.Ms.No.9, Agriculture & Cooperation (H&S), 3rd March, 2023.]

Read the following:-

1. From the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, Letter No.Estt.I(1) 145/2008, dt:01.10.2019, 26.06.2020, 08.07.2020, 03.08.2021 & 14.11.2022.
- 2.From the President, A.P. Horticultural Officers Association, representation, dt:30.06.2020, dt.13.04.2022 and dt.05.05.2022.
- 4.From the Secretary, APPSC, Vijayawada, lr.No.GAD03-APPSORR/4/2023-PRS, dt:24.02.2023.

ORDER:-

The Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur in the letters 1st and 2nd read above has stated that, during the year 1982, separate Department of Horticulture was established duly bifurcating staff of Agriculture Department, the Department Manual and Service rules of Horticulture Department are framed on the basis of Agriculture Department only. He is also informed that in the Agriculture Department and Animal Husbandry Department have abolished direct recruitment to the second level post i.e., Assistant Director cadre.

2. The Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has also informed that the Department has a large number of well qualified and experienced Horticulture Officers, who could get an opportunity for promotion to the higher cadre. Out of (176) Horticulture Officers working, (93) Horticulture Officers are post graduates in M.Sc. (Horticulture) and (83) Horticulture Officers are graduates with B.Sc. (Horticulture) and have gained practiced knowledge and field experience. Some of the Horticulture Officers have 20 years of experience without promotions to encourage and to enhance carrier progression to Horticulture Officers.

3. Therefore, the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur has requested the Government to take necessary action for abolition of direct recruitment of Assistant Director of Horticulture in the Department of Horticulture.

4. The A.P. Horticultural Officers Association, Guntur vide reference 3rd read above has also represented to issue orders on abolishing the direct recruitment in the cadre of 2nd level Gazetted Officers i.e. Assistant Director of Horticulture to boost the morale of the Horticulture officers who are fully qualified, experienced and eligible for promotion as Assistant Director of Horticulture.

5. In view of the circumstances reported by the Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur, the matter has been carefully examined by the Government and in view of the very concept and intention that no special purpose is being served by the direct recruitment to the post of Assistant Director of Horticulture, as most of the Horticulture Officers working in the Horticulture Department are post-graduates having practical knowledge and field experience. Therefore, the Government hereby decided to dispense with direct recruitment of Assistant Director of Horticulture (Category 5 of APHS) in the Horticulture Department in the State with immediate effect and in future the post of Assistant Director of Horticulture shall be filled up only by promotion to Horticulture Officers.

6. Necessary action is being taken for the amendment and re-issue of Andhra Pradesh Horticulture Service Rules for dispensing with the provision of direct recruitment of Assistant Director of Horticulture in the Department of Horticulture in the State.

7. The Commissioner of Horticulture, A.P., Guntur shall take necessary action to implement these orders with immediate effect.

GOPAL KRISHNA DWIVEDI,
*Chief Commissioner RBKs &
Principal Secretary to Government.*

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