



ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪತ್ರ

ಅಧಿಕೃತವಾಗಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾದುದು
ವಿಶೇಷ ರಾಜ್ಯ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆ

ಭಾಗ - ೪ಎ Part - IVA	ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು, ಸೋಮವಾರ, ೨೪, ಆಗಸ್ಟ್, ೨೦೨೬ (ಭಾದ್ರಪದ, ೦೨, ಶಕವರ್ಷ, ೧೯೪೮) BENGALURU, MONDAY, 24, AUGUST, 2026 (BHADRAPADA, 02, SHAKAVARSHA, 1948)	ನಂ. ೭೬೧ No. 761
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GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA

NO: HD 83 COD 2023

Karnataka Government Secretariat,
M.S. Building,
Dr. B.R. Ambedkar Veedhi,
Bengaluru, Dated:24.08.2026

NOTIFICATION

The draft of the Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for prevention of corruption and unfair means in recruitment) Rules, 2026 which the Government of Karnataka proposes to make in exercise of the powers conferred by section 23 of the Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for prevention of corruption and unfair means in recruitment) (Karnataka Act 45 of 2024) is hereby published as required by sub-section (1) of the section 23 of the said Act, for the information of all persons likely to be affected thereby and notice is hereby given that the said draft will be taken into consideration after the expiry of fifteen days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Any objections and suggestions, which may be received by the State Government from any person with respect to the said draft before the expiry of the period specified above, will be considered by the State Government. Objections and

suggestions may be addressed to the Principal Secretary to Government (PCAS), Home Department, Vidhana Soudha, Dr.B.R.Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru -560 001.

DRAFT RULES

1. Title and commencement:- (1) These rules may be called the Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Corruption and Unfair Means in Recruitment) Rules, 2026.

(2) They shall come into the force from the date of their publication in the Official Gazette.

2. Definitions:- (1) In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires:

- (a) "Act" means the Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Corruption and Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, 2023, Karnataka Act 45 of 2024);
- (b) "Examination Authority" means an authority specified in Schedule I to the Act and includes the Karnataka Examination Authority and any other Board, Commission, agency, institution or authority notified by the Government for conducting a public examination under the Act.

"In relation to an examination conducted by the Karnataka Examinations Authority, all references to the Examination Authority shall mean the Executive Director, KEA, or an officer specifically authorized by the Executive Director".

- (c) "Authorised Officer" means an officer of the Government, Examination Authority or District Administration, not below such rank as may be prescribed or notified, who is authorized under section 18 of the Act to exercise the powers and perform the functions specified under the Act and these rules.

"Provided that the Examination Authority may appoint different Authorized Officers for State-level coordination, district-level supervision, confidential work, examination-centre operations, transportation, scanning, evaluation and post-examination activities".

- (d) "Examination Centre" means any Government, aided or private educational institution, university, college, school, building or other secured premises identified by the District Administration and approved or notified by the Examination Authority for conducting a public examination, and includes all

rooms, corridors, laboratories, strong rooms, control rooms, entrances, compound areas and other premises connected with the examination.

“No premises shall be treated as an examination centre unless it satisfies the infrastructure, security, accessibility, surveillance and other standards prescribed by the Examination Authority/Government”.

- (e) "Centre head" means the Principal or Head of the School or college in which the examination is being conducted;
- (f) "Custodian" means an officer appointed by the State Government entrusted with the custody, storage, transport, encryption, printing, sealing or handling of examination materials;
- (g) "Designated Personnel" means any person or service provider lawfully engaged by the examination authority;
- (h) "State Government" means the Government of Karnataka;
- (i) "Section" means section of the Act;
- (j) "Chief Superintendent" means the Deputy Commissioner of the district or such other senior officer authorized by the Examination Authority, who shall exercise overall supervision and coordination of the public examination within the district.
- (k) "Deputy Chief Superintendent" means the head of the institution or any other eligible officer appointed by the Deputy Commissioner to manage and supervise the examination centre in accordance with the instructions of the Examination Authority.
- (l) "Confidential Examination Material" includes question papers, master question papers, encryption keys, decryption keys, passwords, access credentials, examination data, candidate data, OMR answer sheets, attendance sheets, barcodes, seals, packets, digital files and any other material declared confidential by the Examination Authority.

- (m) "Service Provider" means any person, agency, vendor, institution, contractor or sub-contractor, technology provider, printing press, logistics agency, security agency, scanning agency, software provider, data-processing agency or other entity engaged for any activity connected with the conduct of public examination;
- "Every Service Provider and its personnel shall be bound by confidentiality, security, data-protection, audit and accountability conditions prescribed by the Examination Authority".
- (n) "Route Officer" means an officer appointed for the secure transportation and delivery of confidential examination material to one or more examination centre's on an approved route and for its return after the examination.
- (o) "Observer" means an officer deputed by the Examination Authority or Deputy Commissioner to independently observe, supervise and report on compliance with the Act, these rules and examination instructions.
- (p) "Scanning Centre" means a secured premises approved by the Examination Authority for scanning, verification, encryption, transmission, storage or processing of OMR answer sheets or other examination records.
- (q) "Nodal Officer" means and includes a designated official appointed by the respective examination authority who shall be responsible for coordinating tasks, managing communication and serving as the primary point of contact for a specific program, department or grievance system relating to conduct of public examination.

(2) All the words and expressions used but not defined in these rules shall have the same meaning as assigned to them in the Karnataka Public Examination (Measures for Prevention of Corruption and Unfair Means in Recruitment) Act, 2023 (Karnataka Act 45 of 2024), the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023 (Central Act 45 of 2023), the Karnataka Education Act, 1983 (Karnataka Act 01 of 1995) and the Karnataka State Universities Act, 2000 (Karnataka Act 29 of 2001).

3. Appointment of authorised officer.- (1) Every examination authority shall appoint the Deputy Commissioner of the concerned district as the Chief Superintendent who shall be the authorised officer to conduct the examinations. The authorised officer shall,-

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- (a) be in-charge of matters relating to the conduct of the public examination and responsible for all pre- and post-examination activities pertaining to their District;
 - (b) co-ordinate arrangements for secure conduct of the examination;
 - (c) ensure compliance with the Act, these rules and State Government directions;
 - (d) maintain records of all persons engaged in examination work;
 - (e) report suspected use of unfair means, leakage, impersonation or tampering; and
 - (f) responsible for evidence and assist investigation.

(2) The name, designation and contact details of the nodal officer shall be communicated to the State Government and the jurisdictional police authority before commencement of the examination process;

(3) The Deputy Commissioner shall, in consultation with the Examination Authority, appoint a District Nodal Officer and such other officers, committees and teams as may be necessary for the secure conduct of the examination.

(4) The Chief Superintendent shall coordinate the Police Department, Treasury, Education Department, Transport Department, examination centre's and other agencies connected with the examination.

(5) The appointment of the Deputy Commissioner as Chief Superintendent shall not authorize alteration of the examination schedule, candidate eligibility, question-paper procedure, evaluation process, result processing or other matters reserved for the Examination Authority.

(6) The duties and responsibilities of every officer appointed under this rule shall be governed by the Act, these rules and the instructions or Standard Operating Procedures issued by the Examination Authority.

(7) No officer shall delegate confidential or security-sensitive duties except with the prior written approval of the competent authority.

(8) Every officer appointed for examination duty shall submit a declaration regarding confidentiality, impartiality, absence of conflict of interest and relationship with candidates, in such form as may be prescribed by the Examination Authority.

(9) The Examination Authority/the Deputy Commissioner within his or her jurisdiction, may, by order, requisition any educational institution for the conduct of examinations or any examination-related activity under these Rules.

“Every educational institution so requisitioned shall comply with such order and provide the necessary infrastructure, facilities and cooperation.

Failure to comply, without sufficient cause, shall attract such action as may be provided under these Rules or under the applicable law”.

4. Duties of examination authority.- (1) Every examination authority shall ensure,-

- (a) to appoint an Authorised Officer of all the concerned district for the examination to be conducted;
- (b) a detailed examination security plan is prepared before every public examination;
- (c) duties of officers, invigilators, supervisors, centre heads, custodians, evaluators and service providers are assigned in writing;
- (d) access to question papers, answer sheets, OMR sheets, question banks and digital systems is restricted on a need-to-know basis;
- (e) CCTV, video-graphy, biometric attendance, frisking, jammers or other security measures are used wherever considered necessary;
- (f) a complaint and incident reporting mechanism is established;
- (g) all sensitive material is stored, transported and handled in accordance with these rules;
- (h) The Examination Authority may conduct periodic security audits of the systems, premises, printing facilities and service providers involved in question paper preparation; and
- (i) The Examination Authority may issue examination-specific Standard Operating Procedures, manuals, security protocols, circulars and instructions consistent with the Act and these Rules, and such instructions shall be binding on all officers, service providers and persons engaged in the conduct of public examinations.

5. Secure preparation of question papers.- (1) Every examination authority shall ensure that,-

- (a) question paper setting and moderation shall be carried out only by persons approved by the examination authority;
- (b) the identity of paper setters, moderators, translators and reviewers shall be kept confidential.
- (c) question papers shall be prepared in a secure environment and transmitted only through encrypted or sealed means approved by the examination authority.
- (d) every stage of preparation, moderation, translation, printing, encryption and storage shall be recorded in a confidential register or secure digital log;
- (e) no draft, copy, rough sheet, soft copy or electronic trail of question papers shall be retained except in the manner authorised by the examination authority; and
- (f) Breach of confidentiality shall, without prejudice to prosecution under the Act or any other law, render the person liable to removal from examination duty, blacklisting, contractual action, departmental proceedings and recovery of loss caused to the Examination Authority.

6. Printing and storage of question papers.- (1) Printing of question papers shall be undertaken only in a secure facility approved by the examination authority.

(2) The printing facility shall maintain,-

- (a) personnel register - Names, identification details and duties of persons present;
- (b) material register - Quantity of paper, printed copies, rejected copies and destroyed copies;
- (c) access register - Entry and exit time of all persons;
- (d) seal register- Details of packets, seals, barcodes or other identifiers; and
- (e) where printing is done through a security press, an MOU shall be made incorporating confidentiality protocols; confidentiality is the sole

responsibility of the security press and any breach is answerable to the Investigating agency.

“ a register shall be maintained to mark all the process of printing and storage of question papers.....”

(3) Spoiled, excess, rejected or trial copies shall be destroyed immediately in the presence of authorised officers and a destruction certificate shall be prepared.

(4) Question paper packets shall be sealed, numbered and recorded before dispatch and the persons dispatching the said question paper packets shall also be recorded by the authorised officer appointed by the State Government/Examination Authority.

(5) CCTV footage of the printing and packing area shall be preserved for a period specified by the examination authority, which shall not be less than six months or until the completion of examination process or whichever is later.

7. Strong room and custody of examination material.- (1) The examination authority shall store confidential material at the respective district Treasury under supervision of the concerned Deputy Commissioner, operated as per State Government Treasury Rules.

(2) Question papers and other confidential material shall be kept in a strong room or secure storage facility. The strong room shall have,-

- (a) double-lock system or equivalent higher security;
- (b) restricted access;
- (c) CCTV surveillance wherever practicable;
- (d) entry and exit register;
- (e) inventory register; and
- (f) seal verification procedure.

(3) The keys, passwords, tokens or access credentials shall be held by separate authorised officers, as determined by the examination authority.

(4) No person shall enter the strong room except with written Authorization given from the state Government or Examination Authority.

(5) The Examination Authority shall maintain a documented chain of custody for all confidential examination materials from preparation to final preservation or destruction and every transfer shall be recorded with date, time, signatures and identification of the officers concerned.

8. Transportation of confidential material.- (1) Transportation of question papers, OMR sheets, answer scripts or other confidential material shall be done only through authorised officers or approved secured logistics.

(2) Every consignment shall be accompanied by a dispatch memo containing,-

- (a) consignment number- Unique packet or box number
- (b) origin and destination - Dispatch point and receiving point
- (c) date and time - Time of dispatch and receipt
- (d) seal details - Seal number, barcode or security identifier; and
- (e) escort details - Names and designations of responsible officers

(3) The receiving officer shall verify the seal, quantity and packet details before acknowledging receipt.

(4) Any broken seal, mismatch, delay, unauthorized halt or suspicious circumstance shall be immediately reported to the nodal officer and jurisdictional police.

9. Examination centre security.- (1) The Deputy Commissioner shall be responsible for all examination centres in the District. All necessary security arrangements shall be provided by the Commissioner or Superintendent of Police of the district. The District Commissioner shall appoint any officer working under him as the Deputy Chief Superintendents. He can also appoint the Principal or Head Master of any school or college as the centre head for that particular college or school in which the examination is being conducted. He may also appoint any person or persons as Observers, Squads, Custodians and other officers, and deploy videography or technical teams if required, within his jurisdiction or district.

(2) Every examination centre shall have a centre head responsible for implementing these rules. The centre head shall ensure that,-

- (a) only authorised persons and examinees enter the examination centre;
- (b) identity verification of examinees is completed before entry;
- (c) prohibited articles are not allowed inside the examination hall;

- (d) question paper packets shall be opened only in the examination centre and only at such time as specified by the examination Authority;
- (e) invigilators maintain continuous supervision and do not use any transmissible device or mobile in the examination hall;
- (f) incidents are recorded in the centre incident register;
- (g) unused question papers, answer sheets and OMR sheets are returned or accounted for; and
- (h) the invigilators shall not carry any device or mobile phones to the examination hall.

(3) The examination authority may deploy observers, flying squads, videography teams or technical teams at any examination centre.

10. Prohibited articles.- (1) Unless specifically permitted, no examinee shall carry into the examination centre,-

- (a) mobile phone, smart watch, Bluetooth device or communication device;
- (b) calculator (wherever applicable), electronic storage device, camera, scanner or recording device;
- (c) printed, written or copied material;
- (d) unauthorized blank paper;
- (e) weapon or any object capable of disrupting the examination; and
- (f) any other article notified by the examination authority.

(2) Possession of any prohibited article may be treated as use or attempted use of unfair means, subject to the facts of the case.

11. Identity verification and prevention of impersonation.- (1) Every examinee shall produce admit card and valid identity proof as specified by the examination authority/State Government.

(2) The examination authority may require biometric verification, facial recognition, photograph matching, signature matching or any other identity verification method of the examinees, at any stage of the examination.

(3) If impersonation is suspected, the centre head shall,-

- (a) prevent the suspected person from leaving, subject to law;
- (b) inform the police, observers and nodal officer immediately;
- (c) record statements of available witnesses;

(d) preserve admit card, identity proof, attendance sheet, biometric record and CCTV footage; and

(e) prepare an incident report.

12. Opening of question paper packets.- (1) Question paper packets shall be opened only at the time and place specified by the examination authority.

(2) Opening of the main boxes of the question papers shall be done in the presence of the centre head appointed by Government/Deputy Commissioner or Examination Authority, in presence of at least two authorised witnesses.

(3) Before opening, the seal number and packet number shall be verified and recorded.

(4) Any discrepancy in seal, packet number, subject, date or centre code shall be reported immediately to the nodal officer.

13. Procedure for Handling of answer sheets and OMR sheets.- (1) Answer sheets and OMR sheets shall be serially numbered or coded;

(2) The centre head shall maintain an account of,-

(a) received sheets- Number received before examination

(b) used sheets - Number distributed and collected

(c) unused sheets - Number returned unused

(d) damaged sheets - Number cancelled or replaced

(e) missing sheets - Details and explanation

(3) After the examination, answer sheets and OMR sheets shall be sealed and dispatched in the prescribed manner.

(4) No answer sheet or OMR sheet shall be opened, altered, inserted, substituted, destroyed or removed except as authorised.

13(A) Scanning Centre Security- Scanning centres shall be secured premises approved by the Examination Authority. Access shall be restricted to authorised personnel, all activities shall be monitored through CCTV, digital audit logs shall be maintained, and scanned examination data shall be encrypted and securely transmitted.

14. Digital and Computer-based examinations.- (1) Where a public examination is conducted through computer-based mode, the examination authority shall ensure secure systems for,-

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- (a) encryption of question papers;
 - (b) authentication of examinees;
 - (c) secure login credentials;
 - (d) audit logs;
 - (e) prevention of remote access or screen sharing;
 - (f) disabling unauthorised ports, applications and communication channels;
and
 - (g) backup and disaster recovery.

(2) Servers, systems and networks used for examination shall be tested and certified before examination.

(3) Audit logs, CCTV footage, seating data, login records, response data and network logs shall be preserved for the period specified by the examination authority or until declaration of result of such examination whichever is later.

(4) Any service provider engaged for computer-based- examination shall abide by the MOU entered with the service provider duly complying the security standards and such other instructions specified by the examination authority and National Recruitment Agency from time to time.

15. Duties of service providers.- (1) No service provider shall be engaged unless it executes an agreement containing confidentiality, data security, audit, liability and cooperation clauses.

(2) The service provider shall disclose details of its directors, partners, key managerial persons, employees, sub-contractors and persons deployed for examination work.

(3) The service provider shall not sub-contract any work without prior written permission of the examination authority.

(4) The service provider shall be liable to cooperate with inspection, audit, inquiry and investigation; and

(5) Any breach by a service provider may result in blacklisting, forfeiture of security deposit, recovery of costs and initiation of proceedings under the Act or any other law.

16. Reporting of offences and incidents.- (1) Any person who has knowledge of leakage, attempted leakage, impersonation, tampering, possession of question paper,

unauthorized disclosure or use of unfair means shall immediately report it to the centre head, nodal officer, examination authority or police.

- (2) The centre head or nodal officer shall prepare an incident report containing, -
 - (a) date, time, place and nature of incident - When and where the incident occurred etc.,
 - (b) persons involved - Names, roll numbers, designations or identifiers
 - (c) nature of incident — Leakage, impersonation, possession, tampering or other act
 - (d) material seized - Documents, devices, papers or digital evidence
 - (e) witnesses - Names and contact details; and
 - (f) action taken - Reporting, seizure, police intimation or other steps

(3) The report shall be forwarded to the examination authority and jurisdictional police without delay.

(4) That, the investigation agency shall submit the report after investigation within three months to the designated courts.

16(A) Incident Response/emergency Protocol-Any person who has knowledge of leakage, attempted leakage, impersonation, tampering , possession of question paper, unauthorized disclosure or use of unfair means shall immediately report it to the centre head , nodal officer, examination authority or police and upon receipt of such incident the concerned authority shall immediately take necessary action for immediate incident response/emergency protocol.

17. Seizure and preservation of material.- (1) Where any material appears to be connected with an offence/malpractice under the Act, the authorised officer or centre head shall secure and preserve such material until it is handed over to the investigating officer as appointed by the State Government.

(2) Digital evidence shall be preserved in a manner that maintains integrity, including hash value, device identification, chain of custody and access logs wherever practicable, in non-editable/non-deletable format.

(3) A seizure or custody memo shall be prepared and signed by available witnesses.

18. Preliminary inquiry by examination authority.- (1) The examination authority or the authorised officer may conduct a preliminary inquiry for administrative

purposes, including cancellation of candidature, debarment, withholding of result or cancellation of examination.

(2) Such inquiry shall not prejudice criminal investigation under the Act.

(3) Where action is proposed against an examinee, reasonable opportunity of representation may be given, except where immediate action is necessary to protect the integrity of the examination.

19. Debarment procedure.- (1) A preliminary enquiry shall be conducted by the Authorised Officer of the Centre as to whether any offence or an incident has occurred. If no prima facie material is found therein, the Authorised Officer shall record the same in writing and allow the examinee to complete the examination on the same day.

(2) If Prima facie material is found with respect to commission of the offence, the examination authority shall issue a notice stating the allegations and proposed action.

(3) The examinee may submit a written representation within the time specified in the notice.

(4) The examination authority may consider examination records, CCTV footage, invigilator reports, seized material, biometric records, expert reports and police reports.

(5) The order of debarment shall be reasoned and communicated to the examinee.

(6) A register of debarred examinees shall be maintained by the examination authority and the Candidates debarred by one examination authority or board of the state shall be debarred from admission to any examination or appearance at any interview held by the examination authority and other examination authorities provided under the Schedule-1.

(7) The examination authority or board who passes such order of debarment should communicate the list of debarred candidates to all examination authority or board of the state as provided under the schedule-1 of the Act. Every examination authority or board before publishing any result should also verify about the debarred candidates from all other examination authority or board as provided under the schedule -1 of the Act.

20. Cancellation or withholding of result.- (1) The examination authority may withhold or cancel the result of an examinee where there is prima facie material showing use of unfair means, impersonation, tampering or fraud.

(2) The examination authority may cancel the examination at a centre or across centres where the integrity of the examination is materially compromised.

(3) Reasons for such decision shall be recorded in writing and shall be notified.

21. Recovery of costs and expenditure.- (1) Where management, institution, limited liability partnership, service provider or others are found liable under the Act, the examination authority shall submit a statement of costs and expenditure before the Designated Court.

(2) Costs may include,-

- (a) cost of conducting the examination;
- (b) cost of re-examination;
- (c) printing, logistics and centre expenses;
- (d) technology and service provider expenses;
- (e) administrative and investigation support expenses;
- (f) compensation or refund ordered by competent authority; and
- (g) any other expenditure directly related to the affected examination.

22. Blacklisting and permanent ban.- (1) Where any management, institution, limited liability partnership, service provider or other entity is banned forever under section 13, the examination authority may maintain and publish, in such manner as the State Government may direct, a list of such banned entities.

(2) No examination authority shall engage such banned entity for any public examination.

(3) The State Government may communicate the details of such banned entity to other departments, authorities, boards, corporations and public sector undertakings.

(4) The State Government shall appoint an Appropriate Appellate Authority not less than a Group-‘ A’ officer wherein an appeal can be filed by the said banned entity.

23. Assistance to investigation.- (1) Every examination authority, centre head, service provider, custodian and officer engaged in examination work shall assist the investigating officer.

(2) Such assistance may include production of,-

- (a) registers and records;
- (b) CCTV footage;

- (c) digital logs;
- (d) question paper custody records;
- (e) seating plans;
- (f) attendance sheets;
- (g) biometric data;
- (h) contracts and vendor records; and
- (i) communication records relating to examination work.

24. Designated Courts.- (1) The State Government may, by notification, designate Courts of Sessions for trial of offences under the Act.

(2) A copy of every notification designating a court shall be communicated to the High Court of Karnataka, Director General and Inspector General of Police, examination authorities and Department of Prosecution and Government Litigation.

(3) The investigating agency incharge of investigation of such offence / malpractices shall complete the investigation within three months and should submit its report to the Jurisdictional Court. The investigation has to be conducted by an officer of the rank of Additional Superintendent of Police (Addl. SP) / Deputy Superintendent of Police (DySP). The Supervision of investigation shall be carried out by Senior Officers not below the rank of IGP/DIGP.

(4) The trial of the offence should Commence within Six months after the submission of the investigation report.

25. Registers to be maintained.- Every examination authority shall maintain the following registers, which shall be paginated and sealed with the signature of the institution and these registers can be maintained either physically or electronically: -

- (a) confidential personnel register - Details of persons engaged in confidential work
- (b) question paper custody register - Movement and custody of question papers
- (c) strong room register - Entry, exit and inventory of confidential material
- (d) centre incident register - Incidents occurring at examination centres
- (e) seizure and evidence register - Material seized or preserved

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- (f) debarment register - Details of examinees debarred
 - (g) service provider register - Details of vendors and contractors; and
 - (h) complaint register - Complaints received and action taken

26. Preservation of records.- (1) Examination records shall be preserved for the following minimum periods, unless a longer period is directed by the State Government, court or investigating agency:-

- (a) master question paper custody records - 5 years from the date of declaration of final result or six months from the final disposal of litigation or enquiry or any order of court whichever is later
- (b) answer sheets and OMR sheets - 5 years from the date of declaration of final result or six months from the final disposal of litigation or enquiry or any order of court whichever is later
- (c) CCTV footage of sensitive facilities – minimum of 1 Year after declaration of results
- (d) CCTV footage relating to reported incident - Until final disposal of proceedings and expiry of the period for appeal or judicial review
- (e) digital audit logs -5 years
- (f) debarment records - Duration of debarment plus 3 years
- (g) records relating to criminal case - Until final disposal of case and for 3 years thereafter

(2) No record relevant to any complaint, inquiry, investigation, trial or court proceeding shall be destroyed until such proceeding is finally concluded.

27. Complaints and whistle blower protection.- (1) The examination authority may establish a helpline, email address, portal or other mechanism for receiving complaints regarding unfair means, leakage, impersonation or corruption.

(2) Identity of a complainant may be kept confidential where disclosure may endanger the complainant or affect inquiry.

(3) No person acting in good faith by reporting an offence or suspected offence shall be subjected to victimization by any examination authority or service provider.

28. Use of technology.- (1) The examination authority may use technology for secure conduct of public examinations, including,-

- (a) biometric verification;
- (b) QR code or barcode-based packet tracking;
- (c) GPS tracking of consignments;
- (d) CCTV surveillance;
- (e) artificial intelligence-based anomaly detection;
- (f) secure encrypted transmission;
- (g) digital attendance;
- (h) computer-based testing controls.

(2) Use of technology shall be subject to applicable law relating to privacy, data protection and evidence.

29. Power of Government to issue directions.-The Government may, by general or special order, issue such directions to any examination authority, institution, service provider, officer, or any other person as it may consider necessary for the effective implementation and enforcement of the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder. Every such authority, institution, service provider, officer, or person shall comply with such directions. Every examination authority shall submit to the Government, in such form, manner, and within such time as may be prescribed, an Annual Security Review Report containing such particulars as may be required to assess compliance with the provisions of this Act and the rules made thereunder.

By order and in the name of the
Governor of Karnataka,

(S.AMBIKA)
Under Secretary to Government,
Home Department (Crimes)