

Bihar Govt Didn't Open Counselling Centres for 0.5 Million who Applied for 166 Gr D Vacancies

The various opposition parties, including Congress, have been targeting the BJP-JD(U)-led state government in Bihar when nearly 0.5 million applicants, which include graduates, post-graduates, B Tech, M Phil, MBA and MCA degree possessors, applied for 166 Gr D vacancies in the Bihar Vidhan Sabha where only a 10th pass qualification is needed. Around 1,500 to 1,600 candidates are appearing in the interview on a daily basis since September 2019 and the process shall continue till January 2020.

The controversy – people who are overqualified applying for Group-D posts in the state – gets bigger. Such people are willing to serve as peons, gardeners, guards and cleaners in Bihar Vidhan Sabha.



'Failed can Pass' says a hoarding at Hazratganj in Lucknow

The Bihar minister of rural development and parliamentary affairs, Shrawan Kumar of Janata Dal (United) dismissed it. He

said, "What can a government do if people apply for jobs? People apply for jobs on their own accord. It's not like the government tells them to apply for a particular job. The only thing the government can do is to ensure the meritorious applicants are selected," Kumar told media persons.

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Kumar, however, recognised that development is a matter of serious concern. He swiftly blamed the "increasing competition" around the world for the same. "While it is worrisome, the entire world is going through a phase of tough competition," he said.

What to do when 0.5 million people have applied for 166 Gr D vacancies:

The Bihar government did not show any pro-active intent to address the issue of unemployment. Its security department, namely, the police force is faced with severe manpower crunch. Bihar is among the most populous regions in the world, it requires enough number of police personnel to secure its various establishments, highways, and railways apart from VIP security. It is an irony that while the departments cry for more manpower, thousands of the state's citizens have to continuously search for jobs.

When it saw 0.5 million people have applied for 166 Gr D vacancies, the Bihar government did not open any counselling centre to speak to its citizens. Such an initiative would have required nearly 15 counsellors working in a 24-hr shift to counsel about 2000 people a day. The government could have empanelled such candidates and prepared a database for any future job consideration. Unfortunately, the government didn't make any use of this opportunity.



What should a government do

Many candidates who applied for these posts have said that unemployment was the major reason for filing these applications. They feel that a higher education degree doesn't guarantee a basic salary of Rs 10,000 in the private sector. As such, the youth prefer government jobs over private jobs.

The government could have tried to see the reasons and solutions. By counselling the candidates and considering their strengths, weaknesses, aspirations and family backgrounds the government could have averted such a situation. It could have advised the candidates other means of livelihood.

Opposition leaders from the Rashtriya Janata Dal (RJD) and the Congress have blamed the BJP-JDU government for the current scenario of rising unemployment in the state.

They have said, "There is a job crisis and a state of unemployment in Bihar. Hence 0.5 million young men and women from neighbouring states have also applied for 166 Gr D vacancies. This includes people holding MBA, BCA degrees and higher qualifications who are applying for Group D jobs.

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The situation is mainly due to the education policy the country has been following. In its New Education Policy, the government has clearly mentioned that until now the country was in a grip of a flawed education system. It has produced products which are mostly unemployable in the industry. The country has seen ages of indoctrination by the Indian middle-class fathers and mothers, who influence their kids that their

prosperity, self-merit, and marriage prospects are directly linked to the college they have attended and the job they do.

This situation shows that unemployment in the state is at an alarming level. Youths with higher qualifications are ready to work as peons. Nothing can be more unfortunate than this. People from other states like Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand are also coming here for jobs, which means that even these states are reeling under unemployment.