

Method of Selection and Syllabus for the Direct Recruitment to the Post of Junior Rural Development Officer (JRDO)

Section I: Method of selection

- A. **Prelims/Screening Test:** Candidates who meet the qualification and experience criteria outlined in the advertisement will be screened through a multiple-choice based exam on **topics related to community & rural development.**

Subject	Marks	Duration
Community & Rural Development	100	2 hours

- B. **Mains Examination:** Shortlisted candidates based on the marks obtained in the prelims/screening examination will undergo a mains examination consisting of a written paper comprising the following topics:

S.No.	Subject	Section	Maximum Marks	Percentage of pass marks	Duration
1.	Technical knowledge of concepts and programs across community & rural development, health, social welfare, education and others	A	100	40%	3 hours
2.	Problem-solving scenarios	B	100		

C. Personal Interview

Only those candidates who are declared to have passed the Prelims/Screening Test and Mains (written) Examination shall be eligible to appear for the Personal Interview. Ratio to be called for Personal Interview will be declared by the Meghalaya Rural Development Services Recruitment Board. Emphasis shall be on the aptitude of the candidate on community & rural development matters and their personality and role as a Junior Rural Development Officer.

NOTE: Only candidates who have produced the required documents in original relating to their educational qualifications, experience, date of birth, caste/community and other certificates, wherever required and prescribed, will be deemed qualified to be called for the Personal Interview.

Section II: Syllabi for examination

1. Prelims/Screening Test: Community & Rural Development (100 marks)

- **Legislations and Policies related to Community & Rural Development**
 - Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), 2005
 - Meghalaya Community Participation and Public Services Social Audit Act, 2017
 - MOTHER – Meghalaya’s State Health Policy
 - Meghalaya Youth Policy
 - Meghalaya Early Childhood Development Policy
 - Meghalaya State Education Policy and Meghalaya School Education Act, 1981

- **Community and Rural Development Programs and Projects**
 - Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
 - Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin (PMAY-G) or Housing for All Mission
 - National Rural Livelihood Mission (NRLM)
 - Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojana (DDU-GKY)
 - National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP)
 - Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana (SAGY)
 - Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM)
 - Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) and Gram Panchayat Development Plans (GPDP)
 - Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) - Gramin
 - Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM)
 - **State Schemes**
 - Special Rural Works Programme (SRWP)
 - Chief Minister’s Special Rural Development Fund (CMSRDF)
 - Normal C.D. Schemes

- **Community Institutions and their Role**
 - Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs)
 - Village Employment Council (VEC)
 - Village Natural Resource Management Committee (VNRMC)
 - Village Organization (VO)
 - Village Health Council (VHC)

- **Concepts of Rural Development**
 - Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)
 - Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)
 - Sustainable development and SDGs
 - Poverty, in particular multidimensional poverty
 - Human Development and HDI
 - Unemployment
 - Gender equality and empowerment
 - Social Audits
 - Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)
 - Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)

- **Meghalaya profile**
 - Demographic profile
 - Geography
 - Administrative and governance structure

- **Current Affairs:** Latest events and policies of local, national and international importance, particularly related to science and technology, economy and employment.

2. Mains Examination (200 marks)

The Mains Examination is intended to assess the overall intellectual traits and depth of understanding of candidates in matters relating to community and rural development rather than merely the range of their information and memory. The candidates must give relevant, meaningful and succinct answers.

The syllabus is given as follows:

PART A: Technical knowledge of concepts and programs across community & rural development, health, social welfare, education and others (10 marks x 10 questions = 100 marks)

- **Socio-economic Concepts**
 - Bottom up approach
 - Rural unemployment and livelihood creation
 - Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA)
 - Participatory Learning and Action (PLA)
 - Sustainable development and SDGs
 - Poverty, in particular multidimensional poverty
 - Human Development and HDI
 - Unemployment
 - Women leadership and gender norms
 - Financial inclusion and credit linkage

- **Community & Rural Development**
 - Rural development programs and projects particularly being implemented in Meghalaya - their objective, functioning, workflow, monitoring and challenges
 - Central Programs - e.g., MGNREGA, NRLM, PMAY-G, NSAP, DDU-GKY, SAGY, SPMRM, RGSA and VLDP etc.
 - State Programs - SRWP, CMSRDF, C D Schemes
 - Community institutions in Meghalaya - their role and need for strengthening - VEC, VO, VHC, VNRM, VWSC etc.
 - Role of the Community & Rural Development Blocks in Meghalaya
 - Governance structure in Meghalaya at the State, District, Block, Cluster and Village level
 - Successful models of rural development across India - e.g., SARAS Aajivika mela, Kudumbashree in Kerala etc.

- **Other Human Development Programs** - their objective, functioning and challenges (in the context of Meghalaya):
 - Health - e.g., MOTHER – Meghalaya’s State Health Policy, NHM, Rescue Mission, MHIS etc.
 - Social welfare - ICDS, Meghalaya Early Childhood Development Mission, ICPS, DREAM Mission etc.
 - Education - SSA, Mid-day Meal Scheme, Meghalaya State Education Policy etc.

- Skill development, entrepreneurship and youth development programs in Meghalaya - Meghalaya Youth Policy, MPOWER, PRIME, FOCUS, CM-ELEVATE, Meghalaya Industrial Development and Investment Policy, Invest Meghalaya etc.
- Infrastructure development - safe drinking water, sanitation, road connectivity, power etc.
- Social Audits
- **Rural Economy**
 - Meghalaya Organic and Natural Farming Policy
 - Rural entrepreneurship
 - Modern agriculture - HYV, farming mechanization, natural and organic farming, agriculture extension services
 - Meghalaya's vision of doubling farmers' income
 - Sustainable agriculture
 - Tourism, particularly eco-tourism
 - Social forestry - SALT, Miyaki cultivation
- **Data-driven Decision-making:** Understanding of various open data sources and reports, drawing inferences and preparing strategies using data:
 - NFHS
 - SECC
 - Mother (Health) Dashboard
 - NITI Aayog's Report on MDP and SDI; NITI for States
 - Meghalaya One Portal
- **Meghalaya Profile**
 - Demographic profile of rural Meghalaya
 - Geography of Meghalaya
 - Administrative and governance structure of Meghalaya
 - Problems in rural Meghalaya
- **New areas of work** of local, national and international importance - for example, school-to-work transition, migration, AI, economy, employment and livelihood.

PART B: Problem-solving scenarios (20 marks x 5 questions = 100 marks)

- Ethics
- Relationship or team management, negotiation and conflict management
- Law and order
- Disaster management - process, awareness and monitoring
- Cross-department collaboration and its importance
- Case studies on topics around community management and mobilisation, human development challenges and problems in rural Meghalaya