

U.O. Circular letter No. 2751-GII-58, dated the 3rd July, 1958, from the Additional Chief Secretary to Government, Punjab, to all Administrative Secretaries to Government, Punjab.

Subject :—Qualifications of age for recruitment to Services/posts under the State-Provision in Service Rules.

In a number of service rules for recruitment the maximum age limit is determined from the date of appointment to the service concerned, with the result that cases have arisen where a candidate, who at the time of applying for a post, was well within the age limit had to be ignored as age-barred at the time of actually appointing him. Such a provision, in such cases causes, undue hardship to candidates. It has been considered necessary, therefore, to evolve a uniform procedure for the choice of a reference date on which a candidate for services should be considered to be within age limits, unmindful of the actual date of appointment.

2. Government, have in view of the above, decided that all Rules of Recruitment to services under the State should be so modified as to provide for the *date of examination/interview/selection* as, the case may be, as the date of reference with regard to the qualifications of age required of candidates. All Administrative Departments are requested to take immediate necessary steps in this direction. As the examination is not held on exactly the same date every year the rules may have a fixed date which should be in the vicinity of the approximate dates of the examination. Thus if the examination is normally held in January early or late, or in the early February there would be no harm in fixing the 1st January, as the date of reference.

3. It would not be necessary to refer draft amendments in this behalf to the undersigned for scrutiny as required by instructions embodied in U.O. reference No. 4886-G-52, dated the 21st July, 1952, since they are being incorporated in the relevant rules, already had the approval of this Department.