

Copy of letter No. 4599-P-53/39464, dated 5th June, 1953 from Chief Secretary, Punjab to All Heads of departments etc. etc.

Subject :—Absorption of the retrenched/likely to be retrenched staff of the Civil Supplies Department, Punjab.

I am directed to address you on the subject noted above and to say that consequent upon the recent decision of the Government to de-control wheat and to withdraw monopoly procurement and rationing in the Punjab, over a thousand employees of the Civil Supplies Department are likely to be retrenched shortly and many more a little later. Such persons will include District Food Controllers, Rationing and Ward Rationing Officers of gazetted rank, Assistant Food Controllers, Enquiry officers, Foodgrains Inspectors, Sub-Inspectors and clerical staff of non-gazetted rank. Many of these officers have several years of temporary service to their credit and the impending retrenchment is bound to cause much suffering.

2. Government have been considering ways and means to meet this situation and the decisions which they have now taken in this respect are as follows :—

- (i) These orders will apply to :—
 - (a) every person who is in the temporary employ of the Civil Supplies Department and has at least 4 years continuous service to his credit in the Department ;
 - (b) every retrenched employee of the Civil Supplies Department whose retrenchment took place after the 31st March, 1952, or who may be retrenched hereafter only on the ground that his services are no longer required due to lack of work.
- (ii) Fifty percent of all vacancies existing on the date of this letter or occurring thereafter in each Department shall be reserved for absorption of the staff of the Civil Supplies Department described above after existing reservations in favour of Harijan and backward classes etc. have been made. This will not apply to vacancies to be filled by competitive examination by the Public Service Commission.
- (iii) The age limit for purposes of recruitment shall be waived in favour of the above staff of the Civil Supplies Department for the period for which it has been in the continuous employment of that Department. In the case of employees who were retrenched in 1948, due merely to decontrol and re-employed, this period of break in their service shall be condoned.
- (iv) There will be no relaxation in qualifications for the posts in question in favour of these employees.
- (v) By virtue of these relaxations or concessions no person shall be entitled to consideration for a post, the pay or grade of which is higher than the pay or grade of the last appointment held by him in the Civil Supplies Department.
- (vi) These orders shall remain in force till the 31st May, 1955 only.

3. A list of the staff of the Civil Supplies Department and the retrenched staff eligible for appointment under these orders will be prepared by the Civil Supplies Department and circulated to all other Departments of Government. They will be responsible for seeing that no person with doubtful reputation or who had doubtful reputation is brought on this list. (They will also ensure that no person whose services have been or are retrenched in reality for other reasons is put on the list. The list should be revised from time to time to keep it up-to-date. The recruiting Department will see that no person who is not on the list and whose antecedents etc. have not been properly varified by the Civil Supplies Department is entitled to take advantage of any of these concessions.

4. It is requested that the above orders should be complied with strictly and a quarterly statement in the following form should be submitted to Government for their information punctually :—

The first statement for the quarter ending the 30th September, 1953 should reach Government by the 7th October, 1953 and similarly, the subsequent quarterly statements should be submitted by the last day of the week of the month following the quarter.