GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

**General Administration (Special-E) Department**

NOTIFICATION

G.O.(P)No. ...../2026/GAD. *Dated, Thiruvananthapuram .....2026,*

.....1201

**S.R.O. No. ..../2026.-** In exercise of the powers conferred by sub section (1) of section 2 of the Kerala Public Services Act, 1968 (19 of 1968), read with section 3 thereof, the Government of Kerala hereby make the following rules further to amend the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Rules, 2018 issued under G.O.(P) No.12/2017/P&ARD dated 29th December, 2017 and published as S.R.O.No.861/2017 in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No. 2888 dated 29th December, 2017, namely:-

RULES

1. *Short title and commencement.* – (1) These rules may be called the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Amendment Rules, 2026.

(2) Item in sub-rule (6) and items (i), (ii) and (iii) of sub-rule (8) of rule 2 shall come into force at once and the remaining provisions shall be deemed to have come into force on the 1st day of January, 2018.

2. *Amendment of the Rules.* - In the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Rules 2018, -

(1) Throughout the rules, except in the proviso to sub-rule (b) of rule 6 inserted by rule 4 of Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Amendment Rules, 2026, for the letters, words and brackets "KAS Officers (Junior Time Scale) Trainee" wherever they occur the letters, words and brackets "KAS Officers (Junior Time Scale)" shall be substituted;

(2) in rule 1, for sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(a) These rules may be called the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Special Rules, 2018.";

(3) in the rule 2,-

(i) for the sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(a) To provide for uniform standards of administration in important Government departments and other implementing agencies requiring supervision of middle level management.";

(ii) for the sub-rule (b), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(b) To be the State Civil Service Cadre for Kerala w.r.t. 2(j) of the Indian Administrative Service (Appointment by Promotion) Regulations, 1955 under the All India Service Act, 1951";

(iii) for the sub-rule (c), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(c) To discharge any other managerial or supervisory functions in Government or other implementing agencies in the Government may assign from time to time.";

(4) in rule 4,-

(i) in sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"(a) The government shall determine the posts to be filled in the departments from the KAS from time to time. The prescribed cadre strength shall be notified periodically after a cadre review or otherwise.";

(ii) sub-rule (b) shall be omitted;

(iii) sub-rule (c) shall be re lettered as sub-rule (b) and in the sub-rule (b) so re lettered shall be substituted, namely:-

"(b) A training reserve of 5% of overall cadre strength and 15% Deputation Reserve shall be permitted on the total of cadre posts whenever notified by Government.

Provided that, upon any officer being appointed to a cadre post of KAS or their post in deputation in public interest, the State Service Officer on such post shall automatically vacate and those shall be offered separate posting by the respective Appointing Authority.";

(iv) sub-rule (d) shall be re lettered as sub-rule (c) and in the sub-rule (c) so re lettered shall be substituted, namely:-

"(c) A cadre review shall be conducted every five years or whenever decided by Government.";

(v) sub-rule (e) shall be re lettered as sub-rule (d);

(5) in rule 6,

(i) sub-rule (c) shall be omitted;

(ii) sub-rule (d) shall be re lettered as sub-rule (c);

(6) rule 7 shall be omitted;

(7) in rule 8:-

(i) for sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :-

"(a) The scale of pay of KAS including that of Kerala Administrative Service Officer (Junior Time Scale), shall be as fixed by the Government, upon recommendation of the Pay Revision Commission or otherwise, from time to time.";

(ii) sub-rule (b) shall be omitted;

(iii) sub-rule (c) shall be omitted;

(8) in rule 9, -

(i) sub-rule (a) shall be substituted, namely:-

"Appointments and promotions to KAS cadre shall be made by Government following procedure in Kerala State and Subordinate Services Rules, 1958, periodically";

(ii) sub-rule (b), (c), (d), (e), (f) & (g) shall be omitted;

(9) in rule 10,-

(i) sub-rule (a) shall be substituted, namely:-

"Training for 18 months or other durations shall be imparted for freshly recruited probationers to be specified by the Government through detailed executive orders from time to time.";

(ii) sub-rule (b) shall be omitted;

(iii) sub-rule (c) shall be re lettered as sub-rule (b);

(iv) sub-rule (d), (e) & (f) shall be omitted;

(10) in the Table under sub-rule (a) of rule 12,-

(i) against the entry STREAM - 1 under Category (1) after item (2) in column (3), the following note shall be inserted, namely:-

"Note:- Character and antecedents specified under item (iii) of sub-rule (b) of rule 10 of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1958 of an approved candidate shall be verified prior to appointment to KAS as instructed in G.O.(P) No.77/2024/Home dated 5/11/2024 and its modifications from time to time:

Provided that if the candidate has a service under Government of Kerala, which is regularized under the said rule, he shall be exempted from such prior verification.

Provided further that the candidates who are exempted from such prior verification, shall be appointed as per the proviso to item (iii) of sub-rule (b) of rule 10 of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1958.";

(ii) against the entry STREAM - 2 under Category (1) for item (3) in column (3), the following item shall be substituted, namely:-

"(3) Must be a full member or an approved probationer in any Government Department and must not be a 1st Gazetted officer or above eligible to apply under STREAM 3.";

(iii) against the entry STREAM - 3 under Category (1) for the entry in column (2), the following entry shall be substituted, namely:-

"By Direct Recruitment among candidates holding 1st Gazetted post or above where such post or its immediate promotion post is earmarked for posting KAS officers from time to time:

Provided that appointments once effected shall not be affected by any subsequent changes made in the posts earmarked for posting KAS Officers.";

(11) in rule 14,-

(i) for sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :-

"The scheme of competitive examination for appointment of KAS officers shall be specified by Government, issued as executive orders consulted with the Kerala Public Service Commission from time to time.";

(ii) sub-rule (b), (c) shall be omitted;

(12) in rule 15,-

(i) for sub-rule (a), the following sub-rule shall be substituted, namely :-

"Departmental Tests to be completed by the probationers in KAS shall be prescribed by Government from time to time.";

(ii) sub-rule (b), (c) shall be omitted;

(13) in rule 19,-

(i) in sub-rule (b), for the words " above said category" the figures, symbols and words "officers who have joined Government service prior to the date of effect of these Rules and to whom the Kerala Civil Service (Executive) Special Rules, 1963 applies," shall be substituted;

(14) for rule 21, the following rule shall be substituted, namely:-

"21. The service and other conditions of Officers of KAS, for which no express provisions are provided in these rules, shall be governed by such rules and regulations as applicable to an officer in the Kerala Government Service of an equivalent status.";

**Explanatory Note**

(This does not form part of the notification but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

As per notification issued under G.O.(P)No.12/2017/P&ARD dated 29th December, 2017 and published as S.R.O.No. 861/2017 in the Kerala Gazette Extraordinary No. 2888 dated 29th December, 2017, the Government has issued the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Rules, 2018. Later as per G.O.(P) No.8/2025/P&ARD dated 12th June, 2025 and published as S. R. O. No. 680/2025, the Government has added Kerala Administrative Service in the list of Kerala State Services as item No. 34. Hence Kerala Administrative Service Rules are to be made part of Part III of Kerala State and Subordinate Service Rules, 1958, and the short title is formally amended to the Kerala Administrative Service (KAS) Special Rules, 2018.

There arises a necessity to restructure the cadre framework of Kerala Administrative Service to ensure unhindered eligibility for IAS induction. Hence Schedule I under Rule 4 shall be streamlined by restricting encadred KAS posts strictly to major field managerial positions where direct sub-divisional administrative and revenue field exposure is guaranteed. To address the issue with the Department-Wise Fixed Post Allocation which is currently prescribed, substituting annual rolling vacancy calculations with fixed, department-wise post earmarking is suggested. For that, the Schedules in the Rules are omitted and the Government shall prescribe the departments and cadre strength of the KAS, periodically, through Executive orders.

Provisions specifying fixed pay scale tables and grade pay are excluded. Pay and allowances of KAS officers shall henceforth be regulated flexibly by the Government, upon recommendation of the Pay Revision Commission or otherwise, from time to time, ensuring the existing Time Scales.

Also, in the interest of Public Exchequer, the character and antecedents of the candidate selected to Kerala Administrative Service through Stream 1 need to be verified prior to the appointment. Hence a Note is added to Rule 12(a) requiring mandatory prior verification of character and antecedents under G.O.(P) No. 77/2024/Home, dated 05.11.2024 for Stream 1 direct recruits prior to appointment (exempting candidates with regularized prior Kerala Government service).

Kerala Administrative Service has been established by reserving existing posts from various departments that would otherwise have been occupied by employees by promotion from lower categories. To address the issue of losing promotional opportunities to the existing employees, appointments through Stream 3 were introduced. But there have been instances where candidates from services outside the legislative intention were selected to Kerala Administrative Service. Hence, it was decided to limit Stream 3 appointments to those services which are directly affected by the absorption of posts to Kerala Administrative Service.

Therefore, it is necessary to rectify the errors crept into the Kerala Administrative Service Rules.

Hence, the Government has decided to amend the Kerala Administrative Service Rules suitably.

The notification is intended to achieve the above object.