HIGH COURT OF ORISSA: CUTTACK

Advertisement No. 03 of 2026

DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO THE POSTS IN THE CADRE OF DISTRICT JUDGE, 2026

On-line Applications are invited from eligible candidates from **10:00 A.M. of 09.11.2026 till 11:59 P.M. of 25.11.2026** for direct recruitment to the posts in the cadre of District Judge for the year, 2026. The recruitment shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of O.S.J.S. and O.J.S. Rules, 2007 and subsequent amendments made thereto.

2. VACANCY POSITION:- 38 (Thirty eight)

The category wise vacancy position along with reservation thereof is given below.

Sl. No.	Category	No. of Posts
1.	Unreserved	19 (Women -07)
2.	S.E.B.C.	04 (Woman -01)
3.	Scheduled Caste	06 (Women -02)
4.	Scheduled Tribe	09 (Women -03)
	TOTAL:	**38 (Women -13)**

N.B: Out of the above, 03 posts shall be filled up by following the principle of horizontal reservation for Persons with Benchmark Disabilities having physical disability as specified in the Schedule to the Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 (49 of 2016) excluding cerebral palsy.

(a) In the event of non-availability or availability of insufficient number of eligible women candidates belonging to any particular category, the vacancies or, as the case may be, the remaining vacancies shall be filled up by eligible male candidates of that category.

(b) In the case of non-availability or availability of insufficient number of candidates of any reserved category of S.C., S.T. and S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) the vacancy shall be filled up by the eligible candidates of the unreserved category.

(c) The reservation for different categories in the Direct recruitment to the posts in the cadre of District Judge shall be in accordance with the

provisions made under relevant Acts, Rules, Orders or Instructions issued by the State Government from time to time.

(d) The number of vacancies to be filled up on the basis of this recruitment is subject to change at the discretion of the Court.

(e) The Court reserves the right to cancel the entire recruitment process or any part of it at any stage without assigning any reason and the decision of the Court in that regard shall be final.

3. SCALE OF PAY:-

₹ 1,44,840 – ₹ 1,94,660 with usual D.A. and other allowances as admissible from time to time.

4. ELIGIBILITY:-

A candidate in order to be eligible for direct recruitment to the posts in the cadre of District Judge must:-

a) be a graduate in Law from a recognized University or an Institution recognized by the Government.

b) be an advocate in continuous practice for not less than seven years as on the date of application; **or**

be an advocate who have previously served in the judicial service and possesses a combined experience of not less than seven years as judicial officer and as an advocate, as on the date of application; **or**

be a Judicial Officer who has completed seven years of continuous practice as an advocate before joining the judicial service; **or**

be a Judicial Officer who possesses a combined experience of not less than seven years as an advocate and as a judicial officer, as on the date of application.

c) not be below 35 years of age and above 45 years of age as on the date of application.

Provided that, 1 (one) year relaxation in upper age limit shall be given to all candidates for the recruitment year 2026 as the vacancies in the cadre of District Judge for the year 2025 could not be notified.

Provided that the maximum age limit shall be relaxed by 5 (Five) years in case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe, S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) and Women and by 10 (Ten) years in case of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD). Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) belonging to S.C./S.T./S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) category are eligible for cumulative age relaxation benefit.

Provided further that, a candidate who comes under more than one category, will be eligible for only one age relaxation benefit, which would be considered most beneficial to him/her.

d) be able to speak, read and write Odia fluently and must have passed an examination in Odia Language equivalent to that of Middle English School standard.

5. **EXPLANATION:-**

(a) **Name and Date of Birth entered in the Matriculation/High School Certificate or equivalent certificate issued by the concerned Board/Council will only be accepted.**

(b) A candidate who claims change in his/her name/ surname after having passed the High School Certificate Examination or equivalent thereto, is required to furnish the copy of publication of the changed name in local leading daily newspaper as well as copy of notification in the Odisha Gazette in support of his/ her change of name/ surname. Further, such candidate shall fill up his/ her changed name in the application form.

Addition, omission, alteration, replacement of letter(s) and discrepancy in terms of space in the name and/or middle name and/or surname in certificates in comparison to High School Certificate and vice-versa shall be considered as change in name.

(c) **Application having difference/ discrepancy with respect to name/ surname appearing in the certificates furnished by the candidate if not supported by the documents as mentioned under 5 (b) shall be rejected and no correspondence shall be entertained in this regard.**

(d) **Certificate of legal practice** shall be certified either by the Principal Judicial Officer of a Court or by an advocate of that Court having a minimum standing of 10 years, duly endorsed by the Principal Judicial officer of such a District or a Principal Judicial officer at such a station. ('Principal Judicial Officer of a Court' shall mean the District Judge in the Headquarters; the Senior-most Judicial Officer when the station is an outlying one & contains more than one officer; the Judicial Officer when he/ she is the only officer in the outlying station).

In so far as the candidates who are practising before the High Courts or Supreme Court, they shall produce certificate certified by an advocate who has a minimum standing of 10 years, duly endorsed by the Registrar (Judicial) of this Court and such other equivalent posts of other High Courts or Supreme Court. The number of years of practice completed shall be calculated from the date of provisional enrolment or registration with the concerned State Bar Council.

(e) **Certificate pertaining to Judicial Service-** The judicial officers can obtain their experience certificates from the Registrar (Administration) so far as the High Court of Orissa is concerned and such other officer of the equivalent rank in case of other High Courts.

(f) Public Prosecutors are eligible to apply provided that they possess the requisite qualification and experience and also are within the prescribed age-limit of the Advertisement. They must inform their respective Heads of Offices in writing regarding submission of their application for this recruitment and should obtain a "No Objection

Certificate" from their controlling authority and submit the same at appropriate time.

(g) Candidates applying under S.E.B.C. category must furnish S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) Certificate which should not be **more than 3 (three) years old** by the **closing/last** date of submission of online application form.

(h) Women candidates belonging to S.C./ S.T./ S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) categories are required to submit Caste Certificates by birth showing "Daughter of .....". **Caste Certificate by virtue of marriage (i.e. showing "Wife of .....") is not acceptable.**

(i) O.B.C. CERTIFICATE WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN LIEU OF S.E.B.C. CERTIFICATE.

6. DISQUALIFICATION FOR APPOINTMENT:-

No person shall be eligible for appointment to the service:-

(a) Unless he or she is a citizen of India.

(b) If he or she is dismissed from service by any High Court, Government or Statutory or Local Authority.

(c) If he or she has been convicted of an offence involving moral turpitude, or has been permanently debarred or disqualified by any High Court or the Union Public Service Commission or any State Public Service Commission from appearing in any examination or selection conducted by it.

(d) If he or she directly or indirectly influences the recruiting authority by any means for his or her candidature.

(e) If married, a Candidate must not have more than one spouse living;
Provided that the Government may, if satisfied that such marriage is permissible under the personal law applicable to such person or there are other grounds for doing so, exempt any person from the operation of this rule.

(f) Unless he or she is able to speak, read and write Odia.

(g) Unless he or she has passed a test in Odia equivalent to Middle School Standard.

7. APPLICATION FEE:-

A candidate is required to pay a non-refundable and non-adjustable fee of **Rs. 750/- (Rupees Seven hundred fifty) only** through online by using Net Banking/ Debit card/ Credit card/ UPI.

Candidates belonging to Scheduled Caste, Scheduled Tribe and Persons with Benchmark Disabilities are exempted from payment of application fee at their option.

8. CERTIFICATES / DOCUMENTS TO BE UPLOADED:-

A candidate must upload **clear and legible** scanned copies of the following original documents.

(a) Aadhaar card.
(b) Matriculation/ High School Certificate Examination or equivalent Certificate in support of his / her name and date of birth.
(c) Certificate from the competent authority in proof of passing Odia of Middle School Standard.
(d) Bachelor's Degree in Law.
(e) Certificate of legal practice **(Annexure-I)** showing no. of years of practice as a member of the BAR, wherever applicable.
(f) Certificate of Judicial Service **(Annexure-II)** showing no. of years he/she has served as a Judicial Officer, wherever applicable.
(g) **Applicants having experience of both BAR practice and Judicial Service shall submit Annexure-I & II both.**
(h) Applicants in the cadre of Public Prosecutor are to submit the appointment letter containing date of joining or appointment letter along with the notification containing date of joining.
(i) Recent passport size colour photograph.
[The photograph must be clearly visible with proper orientation]
(j) Full signature of the candidate.
[The signature must be clearly visible with proper orientation and in white background].
(k) The candidates belonging to the category of S.C./S.T./S.E.B.C. (Non-Creamy Layer) shall furnish the certificate from the Competent Authority indicating their respective category.
(l) The candidates with benchmark disabilities having physical disability shall furnish medical certificate or disability certificate from the Competent Medical Board or Authority indicating their benchmark disability.
(m) Gazette notification in support of his/ her change of name/ surname as explained under 5(b). (Wherever applicable)
(n) No Objection Certificate/ Standing Order of NOC in case of government servant or Undertaking to this effect. (Wherever applicable)

9. <u>SCHEME OF EXAMINATION:-</u>

The Examination shall be conducted in accordance with the provisions of the Orissa Superior Judicial Service and Orissa Judicial Service Rules, 2007 and Subsequent amendments made thereto.

The Examination consists of two parts viz:
A. Written Examination
B. Interview.

(A) Written Examination

The Written examination shall be on the following three papers each carrying 100 Marks with a duration of 2 (Two) hours for each paper as follows:-

PAPER-1

(1)	The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908	30 marks
(2)	Personal Laws	30 marks
(3)	The Transfer of Property Act, The Specific Relief Act, The Limitation Act, The Law of Contract, The Odisha Consolidation of Holding and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, The Odisha Estate Abolition Act, The Odisha Land Reforms Act, The Law relating to Motor Accident and Claims, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996, The Commercial Courts Act, 2015	40 marks
	Total	**100 Marks**

PAPER-2

(1)	The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023	30 marks
(2)	The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023	30 marks
(3)	The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023	30 marks
(4)	The Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substance Act, The Food Safety and Standard Act, 2006, The Prevention of Corruption Act, The Essential Commodities Act, The Environment Protection Act, The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974, The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989, The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012, The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015	10 marks
	Total	**100 Marks**

PAPER-3

General English: [Qualifying Paper]

(1)	Translation from Odia to English (ten lines)	10 marks
(2)	Re-translation from English to Odia (ten lines)	10 marks
(3)	A short Essay of about 150 words	30 marks
(4)	Précis writing consisting of 300 words	30 marks
(5)	1 (one) passage of maximum 500 words with 5 questions	20 marks
	Total	**100 Marks**

The candidates are required to secure minimum 45% mark in Paper -3 (General English)

(B) Interview: -

(1) Interview shall carry thirty (30) marks.

(2) Candidates shall be called for interview in the proportion of 1:10, provided that such candidates have obtained at least forty five (45) percent of marks in each of the written papers and fifty (50) percent of marks in aggregate.

(3) Candidates with benchmark disabilities shall be called for interview in the proportion of 1:10, provided that such candidate have at least forty (40) per cent marks in each paper and at least forty five (45) per cent marks in aggregate

(C) Merit List:-

The final merit list shall be prepared on the basis of marks obtained in Paper-1 and Paper-2 of the Written Examination and Interview:

Provided that a candidate shall not be included in the merit list unless such candidate secures a minimum of forty (40) percent of marks in interview.

10. MEDICAL BOARD:-

The selected candidates must be physically fit and shall be required to appear before the State Medical Board before final appointment.

11. PERIOD OF TRAINING & PROBATION: -

Every candidate recruited to the post in the cadre of District Judge by Direct Recruitment shall undergo a course of training under Rule-30-A and all these appointees shall be on probation as per Rule-33 of O.S.J.S & O.J.S Rules 2007.

12. MISCELLANEOUS:-

(a) Before filling-up of online application form, applicants must go through the details of this Advertisement available in the Court's website and ***"INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES FOR FILLING UP OF ONLINE APPLICATION FORM"***.

(b) The candidates are advised to submit the Online Application Form well in advance without waiting for the closing date to avoid last minute rush.

(c) Applications should be submitted through ONLINE mode only by logging into the website of High Court of Orissa i.e. www.orissahighcourt.nic.in **(Recruitment Corner → Examination Portal →*DIRECT RECRUITMENT TO THE POSTS IN THE CADRE OF DISTRICT JUDGE, 2026).***

Candidates are advised to correctly identify themselves to the category to which they belong as mentioned at **4(b)** of this advertisement and fill up the application form accordingly.

(d) ***Incomplete / Incorrect online application(s) and applications received through modes other than the prescribed online format will not be entertained and will be summarily rejected without assigning any reason.***

(e) Admission to any stage of the Recruitment process will be provisional. If on verification at any stage of the Recruitment process, it is found that a candidate does not fulfil the eligibility conditions then his/her candidature will be liable for rejection.

(f) During the document verification prior to the interview, the candidates are required to produce the Original Certificates, Aadhaar Card, Photograph (same as uploaded), self-attested copy of the Online Application form, self-attested copies of certificates uploaded during submission of the Online Application, failing which they shall be debarred from appearing the interview.

(g) If one candidate furnishes more than one application, only information/data of the latest application having higher Acknowledgement Number will be considered.

(h) Notice regarding date and time of each stage of examination will be published in the website of the High Court of Orissa.

(i) If a candidate fails to attend any stage of the examination and/or document verification, his/her candidature shall be rejected.

(j) No Admission Letter for the recruitment test at any stage shall be sent by post. The candidates are therefore advised to visit the court's website www.orissahighcourt.nic.in regularly for updates regarding the date of examination, downloading of e-Admit Card etc.

(k) No T.A. /D.A. will be paid for appearing in the Examination.

(l) List of eligible applicants shall be published in the Court's Website/ Notice Board.

(m) Canvassing in any form will be a disqualification.

13. PENALTY FOR MISCONDUCT IN THE EXAMINATION:-

An applicant, who is or has been declared guilty of impersonation or of submitting fabricated document or documents specified in Clause-8 mentioned above, which has been tampered with or of making statements which are incorrect or false or of suppressing material information or of using or attempting to support his/her candidature, may in addition to the liability for criminal prosecution, be debarred either permanently or for a specified period from appearing Written Examination or Interview at the discretion of the Court.

In case of any guidance/information relating to submission of online application, applicants may contact Recruitment Cell of the Court during the period from the date of opening and date of closing of submission of application form over Mobile number- 9437498780 or E-mail at ohcrecruitment1948@gmail.com on working days between 10:30 A.M. to 04:30 P.M.

Date: 04.11.2026 **Sd/- S. K. Dash Ray**
Place: Cuttack **REGISTRAR, EXAMINATION**

Memo No. 16706 (5) / Date: 04.11.2026

Copy forwarded to:

1) The Notice Board.
2) Principal Secretary to Government, Home Department, Government of Odisha, for information.
3) Principal Secretary to Government, Law Department, Government of Odisha, for information.
4) Superintendent, Computer Section to upload the advertisement in the Court's website.
5) Superintendent, Appointment Section for information.

04/11/2026

REGISTRAR, EXAMINATION

ANNEXURE-I

CERTIFICATE OF LEGAL PRACTICE

(For Direct Recruitment, 2026)

This is to certify that Mr./ Ms. _____, S/o / D/o / W/o _____, Address _____ is/was an advocate enrolled with the State Bar Council of _____ under Enrollment No. _____ dated _____ and has been/ was in practice for a period of ..... years/..... months/..... days i.e. from _____ to _____.

[Full signature] .....

[Designation with Seal].....
Principal Judicial officer of the Court /
Advocate having minimum standing of 10 years in the court of .....
Enrollment No. _____

Judicial Endorsement ***(Required only if issuer is an Advocate having minimum standing of 10 years)***

I have verified the details of Mr./ Ms. _____ having Enrollment No. _____, dated ..... from the BAR association of ..... and he/she has minimum standing of 10 years of practice at Supreme Court/ High Court of ...../ District and Sessions Court of ...../ ..... station.

.....

Signature & Official Seal of Principal Judicial Officer/Registrar (Judicial) or such other equivalent posts

Date: _____

ANNEXURE – II

CERTIFICATE PERTAINING TO JUDICIAL SERVICE

(For Direct Recruitment, 2026)

This is to certify that Mr./ Ms. _____, S/o / D/o / W/o _____, joined the Odisha Judicial Service on _____ and **is presently serving / last served** as _____ in the court of _____ under the _____ Judgeship. So, he/she has rendered service as a Judicial Officer for a period of ..... years/..... months/..... days i.e from _____ to _____.

.....

(Seal and Signature with date)

Registrar (Administration),

High Court of Orissa, Cuttack