

## **Aspirants upset over delay in Group II exams**

HYDERABAD: Thousands of aspirants who have been preparing for the Group II exams are upset as the government is yet to announce fresh dates after postponing the exam, which was scheduled to be held on April 23 and 24, this year. The examination was postponed to add new posts and also to give more time for aspirants to prepare, as new syllabus was being introduced.

But, aspirants from rural areas, who came to Hyderabad for coaching have spent much time and money preparing for the exam are worried as they are not able to support themselves.

“I have been preparing for Group II examination for the past one year and has completely dedicated my time for the purpose. Besides coaching fee, I have spend about `1 lakh for my stay in Hyderabad, books, among other expenditure. I had started my preparation keeping in view the April date for exam. But with the postponement of examination all the planning has gone awry,” rued G Ramu, a post graduate from Wanaparthi in Mahbubnagar district.

While there were 439 posts in the initial Group II notification, about 450 more posts are expected to be added. However more than five lakh youth are eagerly waiting for the examination.

Among the total number of applicants at least two lakh will be seriously preparing for the exam by spending money and foregoing other career options. Most of these applicants hail from poor and middle class families and they are struggling to meet their expenses due to financial crunch. The postponement of exam has burdened these poor aspirants. In this milieu, lack of clarity on the new date of examination has confused the aspirants.

“I had applied for leave keeping in view the earlier date. But with the government postponing the examination without announcing a new date, I am in two minds whether to continue preparation or return to my job. It would do a lot of good for aspirants if the government announces a tentative date for Group II exam,” said Kishore Reddy, an aspirant from Nalgonda, who is also a panchayat secretary.

Posts of excise sub-inspectors, sub-registrar, assistant commercial taxes officer are among the vacancies for which Group II examination is being conducted.

“We are ready to conduct examination anytime. But it is for the government to take a call,” said a senior official at the Telangana State Public Service Commission (TSPSC). The aspirants are urging the government to announce a date and conduct the exam without much delay.