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TNPSC gives 7 more days to submit form for Group 4

Trichy: The Tamil Nadu Public Service Commission's (TNPSC) website slowed down "almost to a halt" on Thursday, which was the last day for submission of online applications for group-4 examination. Following the issue, TNPSC has extended the last date by a week .

This is not the first time that this incident has occurred. It happened last February too when TNPSC invited applications for the post of village administrative officers (VAOs). "Technical problem caused by overwhelming traffic to the server" was cited as the reason for the site becoming inaccessible.

On August 8, TNPSC invited applications to fill 5,451 vacancies for type-writing and clerical posts in several government departments. While aspirants were given 30 days to apply, there was a heightened rush from Monday onwards to submit the applications.

Sources from TNPSC said that eight lakh aspirants applied on Monday alone, followed by two lakh in the next two days. Thursday being the last day, many aspirants faced problems in accessing the site from Wednesday itself.

Binoy Karan, who runs a website for writers said that the server could not handle such an enormous traffic at one go. "It would not have been a problem if the traffic was less, but the server needs to be upgraded to handle huge data. Otherwise the website cannot be accessed when there is big traffic."

"TNPSC cannot be fully blamed for this technical snag," contend S Ramamoorthy, who runs Viswa IAS academy in Trichy. "As 10th pass is the minimum qualification required for TNPSC group-4 category personnel, a large number of aspirants apply to take the test. The majority of aspirants among the 13 lakh who had applied for VAO examination started applying only three days before the last date," he said.

Saying that extension is given every time aspirants face such technical issues, S Paneerselvam, one among the 13 members of the TNPSC, said works are under way to upgrade the TNPSC servers so that the website can handle more traffic.