

## **15k graduates, post-graduates vie for sweepers' jobs in Agra civic body**

Agra: As many as 15,000, including graduates, post-graduates and BEd degree holders have applied for posts of 'safai karmachari' (sweeper) on contractual basis in Agra Municipal Corporation.

On August 1, the civic authority issued a notification for filling up 1,778 posts in class IV category. AMC specified that only a literate candidate could apply for the post, but officials have received an overwhelming response from candidates who are very highly qualified, considering the job.

Manoj Prabhat, executive engineer, who is coordinating the hiring process said, "Nearly 30% of applicants applied for posts of contractual sweepers are graduates, post-graduates and BEd degree holders. Wednesday is the last day for the submission of forms. We expect that the percentage of very highly qualified applicants will rise."

Ram Singh Gautam, deputy commissioner of AMC said, "Till now we have received nearly 50,000 applications for the post of sweepers. We expect to receive 30,000 more. When it comes to government jobs, we understand that the youth look for what they consider a safe career, but it is astonishing to see graduates and post-graduates applying for class IV category posts at salaries of nearly Rs 17,000 per month each."

On Monday, a report stated that Kanpur Municipal Corporation received nearly 5 lakh applications for 3,275 posts of 'safai karmachari'. A similar case was reported in January when around 17,000 youths applied for 114 posts of sweepers in Uttar Pradesh's Amroha district. In Bhatinda district of Punjab, as many as 8,500 applications were received for 19 class IV posts. The applicants included MBAs and MCAs.