

Telangana Govt Provide weightage to in-service candidates for AEOs

HYDERABAD: In a setback to the Telangana government, a division bench of the High Court has ordered the authorities concerned not to go ahead with the final process of recruiting more than 1,000 agricultural extension officers (AEOs) until further orders.

The HC bench passed this order while dealing with a plea filed by E Suresh and 11 others challenging the order of the AP Administrative Tribunal refusing to stay the selection process.

Special counsel for TS S Sharat Kumar submitted that the state had issued recruitment notifications in 2015 and 2016 for filling the above posts through the TSPSC. Following the notification, several contract employees who have been working as AEOs urged the government to fill the said posts by giving weightage to in-service candidates and some relaxation in respect of academic qualifications. Aggrieved at the government's decision not to grant any concession, some in-service candidates approached the AP Administrative Tribunal seeking a stay on the selection process. When the tribunal refused to grant stay, petitioners moved the HC. The bench directed the state to give weightage to in-service candidates but not to declare the final results until further orders of the court.