



NASHIK ZILLA PARISHAD, NASHIK
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
 Zilla Parishad Bhavan, Trambak Naka, GPO Road, Nashik 422001
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Recruitment of Aspirational Block Fellow

Advertisement No. 1/2023

Date : 09/10/2023

Introduction :

Aspirational Blocks Program (ABP) was launched by Hon. Prime Minister on 7th January 2023 during 2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries. This transformational program focuses on improving governance to enhance the quality of life of citizens in the most difficult and underdeveloped blocks of India. The program is being implemented in 500 blocks in 328 districts across the country. Surgana is one of the aspirational block in Nashik district selected for the said program.

The deployment of Aspirational Blocks Fellows is a strategic move to bolster the impact of the Aspirational Blocks Program by harnessing the energy, talent, and passion of young fellows from reputed institutions towards achieving its goals of inclusive growth, community empowerment, and building a prosperous India for all.

The AB Fellow will work closely with Block level Officials and under the overall guidance of District Collector and CEO – Zilla Parishad to develop strategies for accelerated implementation of ABP thematic areas, facilitate effective monitoring and planning, and conduct field visits to ensure that the interventions are responsive to people's needs and demands. To support and enhance the effectiveness of the AB Fellows, a dedicated Project Management Unit (PMU) will be set up at NITI Ayog. The PMU will be responsible for monitoring the progress of the fellows, providing regular coordination, and ensuring they receive timely and relevant training to remain well-equipped for their responsibilities. Additionally, the AB Fellows will also report to the District Magistrates (DMs) of their respective districts, with regular reviews conducted to assess their performance and contributions towards the development objectives of the Aspirational Blocks.

Objectives:

- 1) Assist Block level Officials in designing and implementing strategies for accelerated development across ABP thematic areas
- 2) Facilitate data-driven planning to ensure optimal resource allocation and utilization.
- 3) Strengthen monitoring and evaluation mechanisms to track progress effectively.
- 4) Foster greater community engagement and participation in developmental initiatives.
- 5) Empower local stakeholders with knowledge, skills, and capacity building.

Qualifications and requirements:

- 1) Must hold Graduate degree in any discipline from a reputed institution, with at least 60 %
- 2) Must be domicile of Nashik district
- 3) Should possess data analysis and presentation skills
- 4) Should be conversant with use of social media
- 5) Should possess Project Management Skills
- 6) Experience of working/internship with a Development Organization
- 7) Self-driven with good communication skills
- 8) Knowing the local language of the respective Aspirational Block

Selection and Training:

1. Procedure for selection of fellows will constitute:
 - Stage I –Submission of Application form
 - Stage II – MCQ-based Objective type written exam in physical mode
 - Stage II - Walk-in interview for short-listed candidates
- Marking scheme for selection of candidates is as follows :

Sr. No.	Particular	Marks assigned
1	MCQ-based Objective type written exam	200 marks
2	Personal interview	50 marks
	Total	250 marks

Note: Preference will be given to candidates who have completed their higher education in the development/rural stream.

2. 10 % candidates based on performance in Stage II – MCQ-based written Exam will be called for Stage III – Walk-in Interview
3. The selection criteria will prioritize individuals with a passion for community development, innovative problem-solving skills, and a strong commitment to driving positive change.

NITI Aayog, in collaboration with State Governments, will design and implement an extensive training program, encompassing vital areas such as project management, data analysis, community engagement, and the ability to navigate and thrive in diverse cultural contexts. This comprehensive training will prepare the fellows before they are commissioned to work closely with Block-level officials.

District administration believes recruitment process to be inclusive, and encourages females, PWDs and persons from LGBTQ community to apply.

Application form :

Application Form will constitute Basic details, educational qualifications, work experience, Essay type questions for Statement of Purpose and uploading photographs/documents.

Essay type questions are not part of evaluation, but will help district administration to know the candidate comprehensively; hence candidates are advised to answer them genuinely.

Link for application form is provided on last page of this document.

Guidelines for uploading documents in the application form :

Candidate needs to upload following documents while filling the application form :

1. Photo identity Card (Adhar Card/ PAN Card/ Driving License/ Passport/ Voter ID/ Student ID issued by educational institute in current academic year if applicant is student
2. Proof of Date of Birth (Birth certificate/ School Leaving Certificate/ 10th or 12th Grade Passing Certificate
3. Proof of Address (Water bill / electricity bill/ domicile certificate) if Adhar Card/ Voter ID not uploaded in above question
4. Post Graduation/ PG Diploma Certificate/ Statement of Marks
5. Graduation Degree certificate/ Statement of Marks
6. Class 12th Marksheet
7. Class 10th Marksheet
8. CV / Resume
9. Caste Certificate (if applicable)
10. Certificate of Disability (if applicable)
11. Passport-sized photo
12. Signature

All the documents mentioned in point 1 to 8 must be submitted in PDF format, with maximum file size of 10 MB, in portrait mode while documents mentioned in point 9 and 10 (Passport sized Photo and Signature of the candidate) must be submitted in PNG/JPG/JPEG image format with file size of maximum 10 MB.

All the documents mentioned above need to be submitted in hardcopy (Photocopy) along with showcasing original copy while appearing for Stage IV Walk-in Interview.

MCQ-based Objective type written exam :

MCQ-based Objective type written exam will be conducted on 26th October 2023 at District Headquarter, Nashik. Objective of the exam is to assess technical skills, domain-specific knowledge, general awareness and mental ability of the candidate.

The exam will be conducted of 100 questions of 200 marks in Pen and Paper mode. Candidates are advised to be present at location of examination at least 30 minutes before timing of examination. Examination Center will be communicated on official website of Zilla Parishad Nashik 5 days prior the exam.

Syllabus for MCQ-based Objective type written exam:

1. General Studies including Geography, Society, Economics, Science, Environment
2. Current affairs of National and international importance
3. Rural and Tribal Development
4. Data interpretation and Problem Solving
5. General Mental ability

Role of Aspirational Blocks Fellows:

The Aspirational Blocks Fellows will be positioned as a critical link between the Block level Officials and NITI Aayog. Their primary responsibilities will include:

- 1) Collaborating with Block level Officials to design and execute development strategies aligned with ABP thematic areas.
- 2) Conducting regular field visits to assess project implementation, address challenges, and collect ground-level insights.
- 3) Analyzing data and providing evidence-based recommendations to BLOs, District level Officials to optimize developmental initiatives.
- 4) Organizing workshops, awareness campaigns, and skill-building programs to empower the local community.
- 5) Keeping States and NITI abreast with the issues, challenges and need for support.

Benefits and Impact: The deployment of Aspirational Blocks Fellows is expected to yield multiple benefits, namely:

- 1) Strengthening governance and administrative capabilities at the Block level.
- 2) Enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of developmental projects.
- 3) Enabling knowledge transfer and cross-learning between the fellows, officials, and local communities.
- 4) Contributing to data-driven policy formulation and evidence-based decision-making.
- 5) Building a talent pipeline of future leaders committed to social impact and community development.

Tenure of AB Fellows: The tenure of Aspirational Blocks Fellows will initially span one year, during which they will actively engage with Block level Officials to drive developmental initiatives and empower local communities. Recognizing the potential for sustained impact, the program allows for a one-year extension of the fellowship, contingent upon the fellow's satisfactory performance and demonstrated contributions to the program's objectives, as determined by the State Governments.

Compensation:

AB Fellow will receive a monthly stipend of Rs 55,000 as a token of appreciation for his/her dedicated service and valuable contributions to the Aspirational Blocks Program. This compensation package also includes provisions for travel allowances to a maximum of Rupees Five thousand per month and other necessary support to ensure that the fellows can effectively immerse themselves in their assigned Blocks and focus on fostering change and progress in Blocks. By offering a competitive compensation package, the program seeks to attract top talent and empower Aspirational Blocks Fellows to make a meaningful impact in the Blocks they would serve. Digital Notepad (Tablet) will be additionally provided to the AB Fellow, by NITI Ayog

Location – Nashik, Maharashtra

Tenure– 1 year, or as specified by NITI Ayog, upon recommendation by State government

Tentative timeline for recruitment :

Sr no	Details	Timeline
1	Publication of advertisement	09 th October 2023
2	Last date for application for the post	23 rd October 2023
3	MCQ- based Objective type written exam.	26 th October 2023
4	Walk-in interviews for shortlisted candidates	1 st November 2023
5	Declaration of final result	4 th November 2023

Note : The timeline is tentative. Candidates are advised to check official website and registered email ID frequently for updates. All the rights of recruitment are reserved to district administration Nashik.

Submission of Application Form :

Applications can be submitted on online mode only at <https://forms.gle/xuCuoq8NiEzHuseCG7>

In case of further communication/ clarification, write to – abp.surgana.nashik@gmail.com

Date : 09 /10/2023

Place : Nashik



[Ashima Mittal (IAS)]

Chief Executive Officer,
Zilla Parishad Nashik