

# HIGH COURT OF GUJARAT

SOLA, AHMEDABAD – 380 060

Website: <https://gujarathighcourt.nic.in> AND <https://hc-ojas.gujarat.gov.in>

## DIRECT RECRUITMENT OF DISTRICT JUDGE (25%) Advertisement No. RC/1250/2024-25

Starting date for submission of Online Application	28/07/2025 (12:00 Noon)
Closing date for submission of Online Application	17/08/2025 (23:59 Hours)

### TENTATIVE SCHEDULE OF THE EXAMINATIONS/TESTS

- Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) - Test of Gujarati Language [For those Candidates, who have not passed Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati]	14/09/2025 (Sunday)
Main Written Examination (Descriptive Type)	08/11/2025 & 09/11/2025
Viva-voce Test (Oral Interview)	December 2025/ January 2026

### 1. VACANCY AND PAY SCALE

- (i) The High Court of Gujarat, in view of the guidelines of the Hon'ble Supreme Court in the case of **Malik Mazhar Sultan & Anr. V/s. U.P.Public Service Commission & Ors.**, reported in (2008) 17 SCC 703 and 'The Gujarat State Judicial Service Rules, 2005 (as amended from time to time)', invites **Online Applications** from the eligible Practicing Advocates, for filling up, **by Competitive Examination**, approximately **113 (107+6) revised vacancies** for the Year 2024-25 (existing and future), in the cadre of District Judge, in the Pay-Scale of **₹1,44,840 - ₹1,94,660 + allowances**, as admissible under the Rules. The Category-wise breakup of the vacancies is as under :

Regular vacancies	Category-wise vacancies					Reserved for Women out of Category-wise vacancies					Out of total vacancies Reserved for Persons with Benchmark Disability
	General	SC	ST	SEBC	EWS	General	SC	ST	SEBC	EWS	PwBD
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
113	46	08	17	31	11	15	03	06	10	04	05

- (ii) If suitable Candidates, belonging to the Reserved Categories are not available for selection in the Final Select List, the posts would be filled-up, as may be decided by the High Court.
- (iii) The High Court reserves its right to alter the number of vacancies notified.
- (iv) While filling Online Application Form, Candidates shall specifically indicate, if they have passed their Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati. If the information so furnished by the Candidates is found to be false at any stage of the Recruitment Process, their Candidature shall be liable to be rejected.
- (v) **For Persons with Benchmark Disabilities (PwBD) :**

Looking to the responsibilities and nature of duties to be performed by the Judicial Officers, following categories of PwBD Candidates shall be allowed to apply:

- a) Low-vision and Visually impaired
- b) Hard of Hearing
- c) Locomotor disability including Acid Attack victim of not less than 40 percent, leprosy cured, dwarfism and muscular dystrophy but excluding cerebral palsy.
- d) multiple disabilities from and amongst persons under clauses (a) to (c).

## 2. ESSENTIAL QUALIFICATION

- (i) Candidate must possess a **Degree in Law** from the University recognized by law in India.  
- Will have to pass the vernacular (Gujarati) language proficiency test.  
[See instruction No.5(I)(iv)]  
Provided that, those candidates who have cleared their Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati shall not be required to pass aforementioned Examination.
- (ii) Candidate must be a **practicing Advocate** in Courts of Civil and/or Criminal Jurisdiction on the last date fixed for submission of Online Applications and must have so practiced continuously for a **period not less than Seven Years**, immediately preceding as on the last date fixed for submission of the Online Application.
- (iii) Must possess Certificate(s), certifying to be possessing **Basic Knowledge of Computer Application / Operation**.

### 3. AGE LIMIT

A candidate must have attained the **age of 35 years** and must not have attained the **age of 48 years** in the case of candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) or Scheduled Tribes (ST) or Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (SEBC) or Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD) or Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) and **45 years** in the case of others, as on the **last date fixed for submission of the Online Application**.

### 4. FEES AND MODE OF PAYMENT

- (i) The candidates belonging to General Category are required to pay Examination Fees of **₹3000/-** plus Bank Charges whereas **₹1500/-** plus Bank Charges are required to be paid by the Candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Socially & Educationally Backward Classes, Persons with Benchmark Disability and Economically Weaker Sections Categories via "Print Application / Pay Fee" Menu option through SBI e-Pay, provided on HC-OJAS Portal.
- (ii) Please refer "**How to Pay Examination Fees**" available on the HC-OJAS Portal.

### 5. SCHEME OF EXAMINATION AND SYLLABUS

#### (I) Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test)

- (i) The Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) shall be of 100 Marks, the duration whereof will be 90 Minutes, consisting of Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs) each of 01 Mark with Negative Marking of 0.33 Mark for each Wrong / Multiple Answer and would be based on the following Syllabus :

#### Paper -I:

#### **Syllabus :**

- Legal and Analytical Skills
  - English Language
  - General Knowledge related to Legal field
- (a) The Constitution of India
  - (b) The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, The Transfer of Property Act, 1882, The Specific Relief Act, 1963, The Indian Partnership Act, 1932, The Indian Contract Act, 1872, The Sale of Goods Act, 1930, The Limitation Act, 1963, The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996.

- (c) The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023 (BNS), The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS), The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (BSA), The Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, The Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012, The Schedule Castes and Schedule Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989
  - (d) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
  - (e) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
  - (f) The Information Technology Act, 2000
  - (g) Commercial Courts Act, 2015
  - (h) Family Law (Hindu Succession Act 1956, Special Marriage Act 1954, Muslim Laws, Hindu Marriage Act 1955, Hindu Adoption & Maintenance Act 1956, Guardian and Wards Act, 1890)
  - (i) The Electricity Act, 2003
  - (j) The Gujarat Control of Terrorism and Organized Crime Act, 2015
  - (k) The Gujarat Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 2020
- (ii) The language of **Paper-I** of the Preliminary Examination, shall be English only.
- (iii) Preliminary Examination Papers (Objective Type) shall be assessed / evaluated by the Computer, as per entries made on OMR Sheet. As the evaluation is being done on the Computer by Scanning, there is no human intervention and hence, queries relating to rechecking of the OMR Sheets, subsequent to the Preliminary Examination, will not be entertained by the High Court. High Court reserves right to hold examination by any other mode also and if it so held, then also rechecking / re-evaluation request(s) will not be entertained by the High Court.
- (iv) Candidates who have not passed Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati are required to pass the vernacular (Gujarati) Language Proficiency Test as prescribed below and to secure Minimum 40% Marks for being eligible for being called for Main Written Examination.

### **Paper -II : Test of Gujarati Language**

[For those Candidates, who have not passed Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati]

**Total Marks : 50, Duration : 1½ Hours (90 Minutes)**

**Syllabus :**

- (૧) ગુજરાતી નિબંધ લેખન
- (૨) ફક્ત ઉપરથી પ્રશ્નોના જવાબ
- (૩) સમાનાર્થી શબ્દો
- (૪) વિરુદ્ધાર્થી શબ્દો
- (૫) પત્રલેખન
- (૬) ભાષાંતર - અનુવાદ (ગુજરાતી - અંગ્રેજી અને અંગ્રેજી - ગુજરાતી)
- (૭) ટૂંકનોંધ (કોઈપણ વિષય પર)
- (૮) ગુજરાતી વ્યાકરણ

(v) **To become eligible for the Main Written Examination, the Candidate -**

has to secure **50% or more Marks for unreserved category** and **45% or more Marks for reserved categories** (SC, ST, SEBC, EWS, PwBD), in the Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) and must have also passed their Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati.

**OR**

has to secure **50% or more Marks for unreserved category** and **45% or more Marks for reserved categories** (SC, ST, SEBC, EWS, PwBD), in the Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) and 40% or more Marks in the Test of Gujarati Language, in case they have not passed their Secondary (SSC) or Higher Secondary (HSC) Examination with subject of Gujarati.

- (vi) **For Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD)**, candidates upto 20 (twenty) times of the total number of vacancies reserved for such candidates will be eligible to take the Main Written Examination from amongst the Candidates who have secured the qualifying marks.
- (vii) The Marks obtained by the Candidates in the Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) as well as the Test of Gujarati Language shall not be taken into consideration for preparing the Final Merit of the candidates.

**(II) Main Written Examination (Descriptive Type) :**

- (i) The Main Written Examination (Descriptive Type) shall consist of **Two Papers** (each of **100 Marks & 04 Hours' duration**), based on the **Syllabus** given below:

**PAPER - I (CRIMINAL)**

(Total Marks: 100 Marks, Duration : 04 Hours)

**Part-A** - 50 Marks, Duration : 120 Minutes

**Part-B** - 50 Marks, Duration : 120 Minutes

- (a) The Indian Penal Code, 1860 and The Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, 2023 (BNS)
- (b) The Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973 and The Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 (BNSS)
- (c) The Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and The Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam, 2023 (BSA)
- (d) The Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988
- (e) The Narcotic Drugs & Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985
- (f) The Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989
- (g) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act, 2012
- (h) The Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015
- (i) The Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005
- (j) The Information Technology Act, 2000
- (k) The Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881
- (l) The Gujarat Control of Terrorism and Organized Crime Act, 2015
- (m) The Gujarat Land Grabbing (Prohibition) Act, 2020

## **PAPER – II (CIVIL)**

(Total Marks: 100 Marks, Duration : 04 Hours)

**Part-A** - 50 Marks, Duration : 120 Minutes

**Part-B** - 50 Marks, Duration : 120 Minutes

- (a) The Constitution of India
  - (b) The Code of Civil Procedure, 1908
  - (c) The Indian Contract Act, 1872
  - (d) The Specific Relief Act, 1963
  - (e) The Indian Partnership Act, 1932
  - (f) The Sale of Goods Act, 1930
  - (g) The Limitation Act, 1963
  - (h) The Transfer of Property Act, 1882
  - (i) Family Law (Hindu Succession Act 1956, Special Marriage Act 1954, Muslim Laws, Hindu Marriage Act 1955, Hindu Adoption & Maintenance Act 1956, Guardian and Wards Act, 1890)
  - (j) The Intellectual Property Laws
  - (k) The Motor Vehicles Act, 1988
  - (l) The Commercial Courts Act, 2015
  - (m) The Arbitration and Conciliation Act, 1996
  - (n) The Electricity Act, 2003
  - (o) The Family Courts Act, 1984
  - (p) Labour Laws (Industrial Dispute Act, 1947, The Bombay Industrial Relations Act, 1946)
- (ii) **Paper Style for Main Written Examination:**  
Paper-I (Criminal) & Paper-II (Civil), each shall consist of Two Parts as under :-

<b>Paper – I (Criminal) :</b>	
Part - A (50 Marks) :	Any type of Question that may be decided by the High Court, as per the Syllabus prescribed.
Part - B (50 Marks) :	
<b>Paper – II (Civil) :</b>	
Part - A (50 Marks) :	Any type of Question that may be decided by the High Court, as per the Syllabus prescribed.
Part - B (50 Marks) :	

- (iii) Language of the Question Papers of the Main Written Examination shall be English, and Answers to each Question shall be given in English, if not instructed otherwise.
- (iv) The Candidates belonging to reserved categories (SC, ST, SEBC, EWS, PwBD) must secure minimum 45% Marks in aggregate and all other Candidates must secure minimum 50% Marks in aggregate in the Main Written Examination for being eligible to be called for Viva-voce Test (Oral Interview), provided that the Candidate has secured minimum 40% Marks in each paper (Paper-I & Paper-II) cumulative of two parts (Part-A & Part-B).
- (v) For the Candidates belonging to **Persons with Benchmark Disability (PwBD)** upto 05 times the number of vacancies of such candidates shall be called for Viva-Voce Test from amongst the Candidates who have secured the qualifying marks in the Main Written Examination.

### (III) Viva-voce Test (Oral Interview) :

- (i) Viva-voce Test (Oral Interview) shall be of **50 Marks**.
- (ii) The **object of the Viva-voce Test (Oral Interview)** is to assess the suitability of the candidate for the cadre, by judging the mental alertness, knowledge of law, clear and logical exposition, balance of judgment, skills, attitude, ethics, power of assimilation, power of communication, character and intellectual depth and the like of the candidate.
- (iii) For being **eligible** to be included in the Select List, the PwBD Candidate shall have to obtain Minimum 35% Marks and all other Candidates shall have to obtain Minimum 40% Marks in the Viva-Voce Test (Oral Interview).
- (iv) In view of the amended Rules viz. Since 'Character' and 'Suitability' of a Candidate holds an important and paramount place for being considered for Appointment to the State Judicial

Service, therefore, kindly note that, these aspects can be inquired into, by the Competent Authority, prior to the Viva-voce (Oral Interview) as prescribed in Annexure -'A' to the Sub Rule (1)(i) of Rule-11 of "The Gujarat State Judicial Service (Amendment) Rules, 2014".

## 6. PREPARATION OF SELECT LIST

Selection of candidates shall be made on the basis of **Total Marks** obtained by the candidates in the Main Written Examination and Viva-voce Test (Interview). However, the Marks obtained in Preliminary Examination (Elimination Test) as well as in the Test of Gujarati Language **shall not be taken into consideration while preparing the Final Merit List of the candidates.**

## 7. PRODUCTION OF BOND

The candidates upon eventual regular appointment, he/she is required to execute a '**Bond**' for a sum of **Rupees Five lac**, on the condition that, after joining service he/she will serve for a **minimum period of three years**, after completion of the training and in case, if he/she **resigns** from service or **leaves** service in any other manner, before the above mentioned period, the entire amount of the Bond, would be liable to be forfeited.

## 8. DISQUALIFICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

**No person shall be eligible for appointment to the Judicial Service :**

- (i) unless he/she is a **citizen** of India
- (ii) if he/she is **dismissed** from Service by the Central Government or any State Government or U.Ts. or any High Court or Statutory or Local Authority.
- (iii) if he/she has been **convicted** of an offence or who is or has been permanently **debarred** or disqualified by the High Court or the Union/State Public Service Commission(s) or by any Recruiting or Examination Conducting Authority from appearing in Examinations or Selections.
- (iv) if he/she directly or indirectly **influences** the Recruiting Authority by any means, for his/her candidature.
- (v) if he is a man, has **more than one wife** living, and if a woman has married a **man** already having **another wife**.



## 9. PROCEDURE FOR A CONCERNED CANDIDATE, TO KNOW THE MARKS OBTAINED IN THE EXAMINATIONS/TESTS CONDUCTED BY THE HIGH COURT

- (i) The Results (Marks) obtained shall be made available to the Candidates, except the Candidates disqualified at either of the examination stage, by providing a link to a web-page on the HC-OJAS Portal - <https://hc-ojas.gujarat.gov.in> with individual password (OTP - One Time Password), via SMS on his/her Registered Mobile Number, after the conclusion of the Recruitment Process.
- (ii) Please refer [“Know Your Marks - RTI User Manual”](#) on HC-OJAS Portal.

## 10. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) The Candidates who have **successfully submitted Online Applications**, shall only be eligible for appearing at the Preliminary Examination, Main Written Examination and/or Viva-voce Test, subject to their qualifying therein.
- (2) The **decision of the High Court** as to the **eligibility** or otherwise of a candidate for admission to the Preliminary Examination, Main Written Examination and/or Viva-voce Test, shall be final. No candidate, to whom a Certificate of Admission viz. '**e-Call-Letter-cum-Admission Slip**' has not been issued by the Recruiting Authority, shall be admitted for the Examination concerned. The e-Call-Letter-cum-Admission Slip will be made available for download on HC-OJAS Portal, one week prior to the Examination.
- (3) The candidates shall have to appear **at their own expenses** for the Preliminary Examination/Main Written Examination and Viva-voce Test, (if called for), at the place and time, that may be decided by the High Court.
- (4) For any exigency arising in the interregnum phases between the Recruitment Process, **no request** by e-mail or otherwise, will be entertained for conducting re-test, under any circumstances.
- (5) **Mere success** in the Test/Examination, shall not confer any **right to Appointment**, and no candidate shall be appointed to the post unless the Recruiting Authority and/or Government is satisfied, after such **inquiries**, as may be considered necessary, that the candidate is **suitable** in all respects for Appointment to the post.
- (6) Candidate should obtain the requisite **Practice / Experience Certificate** from the Competent Authority **after publication of result of Main Written Examination**.

(7) At present, Candidates shall not send copies of any testimonials/ documents to the High Court. They shall produce, **'Print out' of the Online Application**, along with following **original Testimonials / Certificates** as well as one set of self attested photo copies thereof, and **recent passport size photograph**, at the time of Viva-voce Test, to be conducted by the High Court, i.e. :-

- (i) Print out of the duly filled-in **'Online Application'**.
- (ii) **School Leaving Certificate / Birth Certificate** issued under Birth & Death Registration Act.
- (iii) Educational qualifications i.e. **Mark-sheet and Certificates** of SSCE, HSCE, Final Year of Graduation, LL.B., Post Graduation/ Post Graduation in law etc., as may be applicable.
- (iv) **Sanad** issued by the Bar Council.
- (v) Certificates indicating to be possessing **'Basic Knowledge of Computer Application / Operation'**.
- (vi) **Certificate/s** issued by the Competent Authority of the State of Gujarat, in respect of candidates belonging to **Reserved Category (SC/ST/SEBC/EWS)**, as may be applicable, and also **'Non-creamy layer Certificate'** of the **current financial year**, in case of those belonging to **Socially & Educationally Backward Classes**.
- (vii) Economically Weaker Section (EWS) Eligibility Certificate issued by the Competent Authority of the State of Gujarat, in case the Candidate has applied under EWS Category. The validity of the said Certificate will be in accordance with the provisions prescribed by the State Government.
- (viii) In case of **Persons with Benchmark Disability** : (a) a Certificate from a Competent Authority regarding Benchmark Disability and (b) a Certificate from the Standing Medical Board at Ahmedabad, to the effect that he/she would be able to perform the duties of the post in question.
- (ix) **Government Gazette**, showing change in name/surname etc, if any.
- (x) **Two Original** Character Certificates given, not more than **06 months prior to the date fixed for Viva-voce Test**, from two respectable persons being Professionals / Dignitaries like Doctor, Engineer, M.L.A., M.Ps., with Seal and/or Signature unconnected with his/her College or University and not related to him/her, certifying his/her character.
- (xi) **'Income Tax Returns'** of the last Three Financial years.

(8) **Practice/Experience Certificate**, in **original**, issued by :-

- (i) the **Secretary General of the Supreme Court of India** or any other Officer, authorized by him in case of Advocates practicing in the Supreme Court of India;

- (ii) the **Registrar General or equivalent authority** of the respective High Courts, in case of the Advocates practicing in the Courts outside the State of Gujarat;
- (iii) the **Registrar General, High Court of Gujarat**, in case of Advocates practicing in the High Court of Gujarat;
- (iv) the concerned **Principal District Judge of the District**, in case of Advocates practicing in District Court and/or Taluka Courts of the District concerned, in case of the Advocates practicing in the Courts in the State of Gujarat and;
- (v) the concerned **Principal Judicial Officers of the Courts in the City of Ahmedabad**, in case of Advocates practicing in the City Courts at Ahmedabad, as may be applicable;
- (vi) in case of **Assistant Public Prosecutor or Public Prosecutor / Assistant Government Pleader**, the Certificate shall be issued by the Authority being the **Principal Judicial Officer** heading the establishment / institution concerned, in consultation with the authority of the respective establishment as the case may be;

**Practice / Experience Certificate** must be in the following manner:-

## CERTIFICATE

This is to certify that Mr./Ms (mention name), has been continuously Practicing Advocate since (mention date). As such he/she has completed (mention No. of year) years practice, immediately preceding the last date fixed for submission of Online Application.

This certificate is issued on the basis of the record available with the office of the undersigned for producing before the High Court for recruitment to the cadre of District Judge pursuant to the Advertisement.

Date :



Signature of Competent Authority  
Name of the Court: \_\_\_\_\_

**NOTE** : The Competent Authority, before issuing Certificate shall verify from Court Matters about the actual Practice period.

- (9) Candidates are advised to read “Common General Instructions” given on the HC-OJAS Portal.

## 11. HOW TO APPLY

Please Refer "How to Apply – User Manual" on HC-OJAS Portal.

## 12. FINAL AUTHORITY

Decision of the High Court of Gujarat in respect of all matters pertaining to this Recruitment Process would be final and binding, on all the Candidates.

High Court of Gujarat,  
Sola, Ahmedabad.  
Date : 25/07/2025

Sd/-  
Registrar (Recruitment)