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UP set to make computer course must for govt jobs

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LUCKNOW: The Samajwadi Party government is planning to make a computer certificate course mandatory for government jobs. The programme is being run by state labour department through employment exchanges in select district offices. If the proposal is approved then a candidate can apply for a government job only after obtaining this certificate. Sources said the proposal has already been cleared by the state finance office and is pending with the department of personnel affairs.

Confirming this, a senior official of labour department said: "The decision is backed by the need to have a uniform course and level of understanding for all the new recruits. The content has been standardised and approved by the government." Sources added that it has been found that many candidates who have done computer training programmes often fail to perform when selected. "We are in a phase of transition. To be able to join the computer age, we need real understanding of computers. The course is one way to achieve the aim," said an officer.

"The programme, Course on Computer Concepts (CCC), is of three months duration. Employment offices conduct the course in five shifts between 8am and 6pm. A single batch can have up to 170 students who are taught basics of computer science, networking, making presentation and excel fact or data sheet, browsing, e-mailing, printing and storing documents systematically. Minimum qualification for applying for the course is high school. Candidates are charged Rs 2,860 as tuition and examination fees. The examination is an online test which candidates cannot pass till they have understood the concepts," said employment officer, Lucknow, PK Pundhir.

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The UP Public Service Commission has already validated the course by making it a qualifying condition for those applying for section officers in the state government. The State Hydel Corporation too has made the said course compulsory for all selected candidates. The Corporation, in fact, gives conditional appointment to successful candidates saying that they should obtain the certificate course within three months to be able to join the service.

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