The Government of India has announced a special programme in 78 districts to assist the district administration.

**Eligibility Criteria**

- Must be a graduate in Law/Engineering/Medicine
- Must be a postgraduate in Social Science/Science/Management or other related fields
- Must be 21-30 years old
- Knowledge of Hindi and a local language used in an IAP district is desirable.
- Work experience is preferred.

**Selection Process**

The selection process for 156 PMRD Fellows was managed by an external agency (TISS). Applicants were required to submit essays and biodata. Shortlisting of candidates was done based on written applications, followed by group discussions and personal interviews.

**Selection of Fellows**

On 13th of September, 2011, Union Minister of Rural Development announced the Prime Minister's Rural Development Fellows Programme (PMRDF).

**Role of PMRDF**

The PMRDF is designed to develop a cadre of young practitioners from across the country who can work at the grassroots level to ensure delivery of development interventions. Fellows will help in implementing the schemes and programmes such as MGNEREGA scheme, NRLM, NRDWP, IWMP and IAP.

**Placement**

The fellows will be deployed in the 78 IAP districts, with at least one fellow per block.

**PMRDF Fellows Statistics**

- Total Applications: 8560
- Selected for Training: 156
- Fellows by Field of Study:
  - Social Sciences: 40
  - B.Sc./Medicine: 116
  - B.A./B.Com: 816
- Fellows by Number of Years of Work Experience:
  - Freshers: 18
  - 1 year: 47
  - 2 years: 98
  - 3 years: 17
  - >3 years: 17

**PMRDF Fellows: A Snapshot**

- 45% of the fellows were women.
- One in four fellows is a lady.
- 10 among the 156 are freshers.
- 41 have a work experience of 1 year, 98 have 2 years of experience and 17 fellows have 3 years of experience.
- 18, 47, 98 and 17 fellows have 1, 2, 3 and >3 years of experience, respectively.

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