

special messenger.



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Finance Department-CMDRF-Forming of VIDYAKIRANAM (Chief Minister's Education Empowerment Fund)- Guidelines Issued-reg.

FINANCE (FUNDS) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(P)No.133/2021/Fin

Dated,Thiruvananthapuram,07/10/2021

Read:

- 1.G.O.(Ms)No.1210/72/RD dated, 08.12.1972
- 2.G.O (Ms) No.857/83/RD dated, 30.08.1983
- 3.G.O (Rt) No.3609/2021/Gen.Edn Dated, 10.08.2021

ORDER

As per GO at reference 1 and 2 above, Government have set up the Chief Minister's Distress Relief Fund(CMDRF), for giving emergency assistance release mechanism granting immediate relief to families and individuals distressed by calamity, loss of life due to accidents and chronic diseases.

The Covid-19 pandemic has had severe adverse effects on the economy and the society at large. Educational institutions have been forced to shut down in-person learning and adopt online modes of instruction. It has come to the notice of the Government that some students belonging to poor and vulnerable social categories are finding it difficult to meet the expenditure on Laptops/Mobiles data charges etc, thus impeding their access to learning . In order to meet this critical social requirement vide reference 3rd cited, Government has decided, to constitute a scheme with a sub-fund under CMDRF for providing access to online education for students of poor families and Educational institutions in which poor students are studying. The scheme named VIDYAKIRANAM (Chief Minister's Education Empowerment Fund) seeks to empower young students without the economic means to be a part of the new wave of education powered by digital technology by urging the participation of individuals , groups, associations, or organizations alike to enable these students with quality Laptops/Tablets to put them on the same starting line as the rest of the students in the world.

The source of the fund is voluntary contributions from all sources. A separate account (Accountant No.3) of CMDRF has been opened in all major banks dealing with CMDRF to ensure transparency, visibility and proper accounting, while

accepting and utilizing contributions for this purpose. **Kerala Infrastructure and Technology for Education (KITE)** will be the implementing agency for the scheme and would set up a separate account under this scheme for the same.

The laptops will be purchased and distributed by the IT Department using the CSR Fund received by KITE. Contributions received in CMDRF-CMEEF under this scheme will be also used for the purchase and distribution of the laptops by IT department and the same will be distributed through General Education Department.

The contributions to the CMDRF-CMEEF (Account No.3, specifically set up for the digital education scheme) is eligible for 100% income tax exemption, under 80 (G) of the IT Act. The funds shall be subjected to audit and should be reconciled on monthly basis by KITE and furnished to Finance (Funds) Department and IT Department.

By Order of the Governor
Rajesh Kumar Singh I A S
ADDITIONAL Chief SECRETARY(FINANCE)

To

The Principal Accountant General (A & E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Principal Accountant General (G &SSA), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Higher Education / General Education/Technical Education / IT
Department/Revenue Department
Chairman , KITE
The Registrar, C-Dit
O/o Honble Chief Minister, Kerala
Chief Principal Secretary to Honble Chief Minister, Kerala
All Major banks dealing with CMDRF-CMEEF
I & PRD Department
The Finance (Accts.A)Department
Nodal Office, WWW.finance.kerala.gov.in
The Stock File/Office Copy
✓ Fin (CTFM) Dept

Forwarded by order


Accounts Officer