

GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Amendment - Rules for the administration of the Distress Relief Fund - Discontinuance of loan assistance - Procedure for sanctioning grant - Orders Issued.

REVENUE ("B") DEPARTMENT

G.O.(MS)NO.1210/72/R.D. Dated, Trivandrum, 8th Dec., 1972.

Read:- (1) Order No.LR5-10045/54/RD dated 11-6-1954.
(2) G.O.(Rt.)No.2692/Revenue, dated 30-12-1963.
(3) G.O.(MS)No.3/70/Revenue, dated 6-1-1970.
(4) G.O.(MS)No.510/71/Revenue, dated 13-10-1971.
& (5) Minutes of the meeting of the Committee for the administration of the Distress Relief Fund held on 12-9-1972.

O R D E R

Rule 10 (ii), the Note thereunder and Rule 10 (a) of the Rules for administration of the Distress Relief Fund provide for loan assistance in respect of the cases coming within the purview of the rules. In the meeting of the Committee for the Administration of Distress Relief Fund on 12-9-1972 it was decided that the system of granting loans from the Distress Relief Fund will be discontinued. It was also decided at the above meeting that all routine cases for financial assistance coming within the rules need be seen only by the Revenue Secretary, Finance Secretary, Minister (Revenue) and the Chief Minister. Cases which involve relaxation of rules should be seen by the Chief Secretary before circulation to the Minister (Revenue) and the Chief Minister. All other cases may be sanctioned by the Full Committee.

2. The following amendments are, therefore, made in the rules for the administration of the Distress Relief Funds:-

Rule 10 (ii), the Note thereunder and the rule 10 (a) of the rules are deleted.

After rule 11 the following rule shall be inserted as rule 12:-

"Rule 12: All routine cases for financial assistance coming within the rules need be seen only by the Revenue Secretary, Finance Secretary, Minister (Revenue), and the Chief Minister. Cases which involve relaxation of rules should be seen by the Chief Secretary also before circulating them to the Minister (Revenue) and the Chief Minister. All other cases will be sanctioned by the Full Committee".

(P.T.O.)

3. A copy of the rules as amended is enclosed.

A.K.K.Nambiar,
Secretary to Government.

The Secretary, Board of Revenue, Trivandrum.
All District Collectors.
The Private Secretary to the Chief Minister.
The Private Secretary to the Minister (Revenue).
The Private Secretary to the Minister (Finance).
The Personal Clerk to the Chief Secretary.
The Personal Clerk to the Finance Secretary.
The Personal Clerk to the Revenue Secretary.
The Third Member, Board of Revenue.
The Examiner of Local Fund Accounts.
The Finance Department.

SECTION OFFICER.

M. 8.

RULES FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRESS RELIEF FUND.

Name of the Fund:

1. The Fund may be known by the name "Distress Relief Fund".

Object of the Fund:

2. The Fund is constituted for the purpose of giving relief in cases of privation and also to those affected by fire, flood, cyclone, sea erosion and similar other calamities, Educational, Cultural and Charitable Institutions of a public nature, which are affected by such calamities and whose financial position does not enable them to repair the damage caused to their property and bring it to a normal condition are also eligible for financial assistance from the Fund. The cases where there is stoppage of regular income among the labourers due to closure of factories, etc., due to factors beyond the control of workers, will also be a sufficient cause for affording relief from Distress Relief Fund especially with regard to traditional industries which face a crisis periodically. Financial assistance from this Fund will be restricted to cases not covered by other special relief programme of Government.

Explanation:

The term 'Privation' does not refer to ordinary cases of poverty, but refers only to exceptional cases of real hardship due to sudden loss of income where the District Collector is satisfied that financial assistance would be necessary.

Constitution of the Fund:

3. The Fund shall be made up of the balance of the amounts left over after affording relief to Coir Workers on account of the slump in coir industry and also of contributions by Government, District and Taluk Committees, and by the Public, Associations, Clubs, etc.

Investments of the Fund:

4. The Fund shall be deposited in the P.D. Account "Distress Relief Fund" in the District Treasury, Trivandrum in the name of the Finance Secretary to Government. It may also be invested in such manner as may be prescribed by the Committee from time to time. An advance of Rs. 5,000/- from this Fund will be placed at the disposal of each of the District Collectors and they shall be the Ex-Officio Co-Treasurers of the Fund. The District Collector shall open a Savings Bank Account with the State Bank of Travancore or State Bank of India with the initial deposit given to him.

Central Committees:

5. The Fund shall be administered by a Committee consisting of the following members:-

(P.T.O.)

- (1) The Chief Minister - Ex-Officio Chairman.
- (2) The Finance Minister - Ex-Officio Vice-Chairman.
- (3) The Minister for Revenue - Ex-Officio Member.
- (4) The Chief Secretary to Government - Ex-Officio Member.
- (5) The Secretary to Government (Revenue) - Ex-Officio Member, -Secretary & Convener.
- (6) The Finance Secretary to Government - Ex-Officio Member & Treasurer.
- (7) The Third Member, Board of Revenue - Ex-Officio Member.

Secretary & Convener:

6. The Secretary to Government, Revenue Department shall be the Secretary and Convener of the Committee and the Committee shall meet as ~~xxx~~ often as necessary but at least once in three months.

Quorum:

7. The quorum of the Committee shall be four.

President of the Committee:-

8. The Chairman shall preside over all meetings of the Committee and in his absence by the Vice-Chairman. When both of them are absent the members present shall elect a Chairman for the transaction of the meeting of the Committee for the day.

Procedure:

9. In the event of the occurrence of any of the calamities referred to in Rule 2 above, the Tahsildar in whose territorial jurisdiction the calamity has occurred shall report the matter to the District Collector within 24 hours with suitable recommendation for financial assistance according to the merits of each case. The Collector shall after immediate enquiry apprise the Committee suggesting suitable relief measures. The Convener shall immediately sanction the assistance with approval of the Committee either by holding the meeting or by circulating the papers. Such sanction shall be communicated to the Treasurer and the District Collector concerned then and there. On receipt of Government Orders sanctioning assistance from the Fund, the District Collector shall pay the amount to the parties from the advance placed at his disposal. The distributing authority may consult the local body concerned also while distributing the amount to the distressed people.

Maximum assistance:

10. The maximum amount of financial aid shall not ordinarily exceed Rs.500/- in the case of a family and Rs.1,000/- in the case of an institution;

(Continued)

Provided financial aid exceeding the above limits may be sanctioned to an individual or an institution in deserving cases with reference to the financial position of the individual or the institution and the extent of the damages suffered.

11. Persons whose family income is Rs.150/- or less per month will be eligible for financial assistance from the Fund.

12. All routine cases for financial assistance coming within the purview of the rules for the Administration of Distress Relief Fund shall be seen only by the Revenue Secretary, Finance Secretary, Minister (Revenue), and the Chief Minister. Cases which involve relaxation of rules shall be seen by the Chief Secretary also before circulating them to the Minister (Revenue) and the Chief Minister. All other cases shall be sanctioned by the Full Committee.

Local Committees:

13. In addition to the Central Committee, Taluk, and District Committees shall also be formed in connection with the occurrence of any calamity with the Tahsildar or the Collector as the Convener and collection and distribution of aid shall be made both in the form of money and materials according to the resolutions of the Committees. In such cases the cash collections shall be remitted to the credit of the Fund and disbursement therefrom shall be made only from the proceeds of cheques drawn by the Treasurer. The Convener of the Local Committees shall submit regular accounts of all distributions either in the form of money or materials to the Central Committee.

Annual Accounts:

14. The Secretary and Convener shall prepare and place before the Committee a statement of receipts and disbursements made out of the Fund for each year for the acceptance of the Committee with a certificate of the Bank balances.

.....

Jacob Sebastian
SECTION OFFICER