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No. 8-297-2016/STE-DIR/27

Date:- 11/04/2016

NOTIFICATION

Government of Goa is pleased to frame the following scheme to provide financial assistance to such select rural Government and Government aided High Schools to assist them in upgrading their available science and related infrastructure/resources, so as to enable these institutions to avail and realize the benefit of the projects by Goa Information Technology professionals (GITP) for promotion of IT education in rural institutions..

(2) Short title and commencement:-

- (i) This scheme shall be called as “*Scheme for promotion of Information Technology and Science Education in Rural areas in the State of Goa, 2015*” (herein after called as “the scheme”).
- (ii) The scheme which provides financial assistance shall be initially applicable for the financial year 2016-17.
- (iii) The scheme shall be implemented through the Department of Science, Technology & Environment (DSTE).

(3) Objectives of the scheme:-

- (i) to provide support to the Institutions in rural areas to upgrade their available science and IT related resources;
- (ii) to encourage rural Institutions to take up such science, IT and robotics related programmes which will form part of the educational co-curricular activities;
- (iii) to help promote development of IT / Digital skills among school children as well as promotion of science education in schools;
- (iv) to help establish foundational platform for imparting IT training in rural areas with science and technology related experiential learning; and
- (v) to assist the Institutions identified for implementation of the promotion of IT education in schools project by GITP; with appropriate infrastructure to meet the training needs of this school project.

(4) Scope of the Scheme:-

(i) The scheme envisages optimum resource utilization and laboratory equipments essential for providing laboratories facilities to facilitate conduct of programmes is basic computer programming, science & technology related experiential learning, robotics, etc. Under this scheme, the Institution shall upgrade its existing facilities in its computer laboratory as well as science laboratory, besides, provide for new need based scientific and computer related equipments in these laboratories.

(ii) Each selected Institution, in consultation with GITP, shall be eligible to procure science laboratory and computer related equipments viz. —

- (a) Desktop / Laptop personal computer,
- (b) Printer, Scanner, UPS / Inverter, web camera, etc.
- (c) Color LCD projector,
- (d) Digital camera,
- (e) Robotics micro computer, and
- (f) Science laboratory related equipments

(iii) The select Institution will also be eligible to reimburse the cost of broadband internet facilities, training remuneration / honorarium and travelling allowances of experts / trainers etc.

(5) Quantum of Financial Assistance under the Scheme:-

(i) Ten selected Government / Government Aided Secondary Schools (Institutions) shall be eligible to avail one time financial assistance in the form of grant-in-aid for upgrading the infrastructure as per Clause 4 (ii) above, to the extent of ₹50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) without any further recurring liability to the Government on this account.

(ii) The select Institutions will also be eligible to reimburse the amount spent towards the provision of Clause 4 (iii) above, to the extent of ₹ 10,000/- (Rupees ten thousand only) per year for the first two years of this Scheme.

(6) Eligibility and Selection of the Institutions under the scheme:-

(i) A Committee headed by the Director / ex-officio Jt. Secretary (S & T) and comprising of Dy. Director of Education (Academics), two (02) members of GITP (to be nominated by the GITP) and two (02) experts in the field of science and computer engineering (to be nominated by the Government); shall examine the recommendations made by the GITP on the applications made by the Headmasters of the Institutions under this scheme.

(ii) The Committee shall select 10 schools for each year, during the period of the scheme.

(iii) The selection shall be based upon the criteria to be designed and evaluation carried out by the GITP members in consultation with the Committee constituted for the purpose. The Committee may frame its own procedure in this regard.

(iv) The Committee shall review the progress of the project in the Institution concerned and shall make recommendation for reimbursing the cost as per provision of Clause 4 (iii) of the scheme subject to maximum amount of ₹ 10,000/-,

(v) The Committee shall periodically review the scheme implementation in the Institution concerned and submit its recommendations to the Government for continuation of the scheme beyond two financial years and / or continuing the scheme in a particular Institution concerned for the second or subsequent year (in the event scheme is extended for a further period of time)

(7) *Pattern of Assistance of the Scheme:-*

The following shall be the Pattern of Assistance governing the grant under the scheme:-

(i) An amount of ₹ 50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand only) shall be sanctioned as per the terms and condition of the Scheme, to the Institution concerned, upon recommendation of the Committee constituted under Clause (6) above. An amount of ₹ 10,000/- shall be sanctioned to reimburse the cost as per Clause 4 (iii) above, based upon recommendation made by the Committee in this regard.

(ii) The grants shall be utilized exclusively for creating infrastructure and upgradation of existing science laboratory and Computer Laboratory facility / resources and for the purpose for which it is sanctioned.

(iii) The grant shall be disbursed / sanctioned in one installment to the Institutions concerned.

(iv) The entire amount of the grants should be utilized within a period of six months from the date of sanction order and only for the purpose for which it is sanctioned. Any portion of the grant, which is not ultimately required, will be refunded to the Government. After ‘utilizing / refunding’ the above sanctioned amount, an Utilization Certificate should be furnished to the sanctioning authority as required under form GFR-19A.

(v) The equipments purchased with the aid of the grant will vest with the Government. The Grantee Institution shall maintain a register of the permanent and semi-permanent assets created out of the grants. The register shall be maintained separately in respect of the grants sanctioned and an extract from the register shall be furnished to the Government annually with the audited accounts after the close of the financial year. A Register shall be maintained in terms of form GFR – 40 and form GFR – 41. Such assets shall not be disposed off, encumbered or utilized for purposes other than those for which the grant was given, without prior approval of the Government. Should the Grantee Institution cease to exist at any time, such assets/properties shall revert to the Government.

- (vi) The account of the Grantee Institution in respect of this grant should be audited by a Government approved Auditor / Chartered Accountant concerned immediately after the end of the financial year or on completion of six months for which the grant is sanctioned. The accounts of the grant shall be maintained separately and properly apart from its normal activities and submitted as and when required. They shall be open to a test check by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India at his discretion. In case of Government Institutions, the Headmasters of the Institution shall provide the statement of expenditure for Utilization of the amount sanctioned.
- (vii) The Audited statement of accounts showing the expenditure incurred by the Grantee from the grants should be furnished to the Committee constituted as per clause (6) of the scheme and Government as soon as possible after the close of the financial year / on completion of six months for which the grant is sanctioned together with a certificate from the Auditor to the effect that the grant was utilized for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. In case of Government Institutions, the Headmaster of the Institution shall provide the statement of expenditure for Utilisation of the amount sanctioned.
- (viii) A performance-cum-achievement report specifying in detail the achievements made by the Grantee with the Government grants / amount sanctioned should be furnished to the Department of Science, Technology and Environment (DSTE) as soon as possible.
- (ix) No grant shall be allowed to be paid to any other institutions/voluntary organizations out of this grant sanctioned by the Government.
- (x) The Grantee Institution must exercise reasonable economy, observe all financial propriety and the financial rules as issued by the Government from time to time while incurring the expenditure.
- (xi) In case of misutilisation of grants, the amount so misutilised shall be recovered from the Grantee Institution.
- (xii) The amount remaining unspent out of this one time grant shall be refunded back to the Government Treasury by challan within 03 (three) months from the close of the financial year concerned.
- (xiii) The amount shall be drawn from the Directorate of Accounts on presentation of the bill in form GAR - 32 duly counter signed by the Drawing and Disbursing Officer, Department of Science, Technology and Environment.
- (xiv) In case of the Government Aided Institution, the expenditure shall be debit to the Budget Head: 3425 – Other Scientific Research, 60 – Others, 800 – Other Expenditure, 03 – Promotion of Information System in Science & Technology (Plan), 31 – Grant-in-aid and in case of the Government Institution, the amount shall be sanctioned and allotted to the Headmaster / DDO of the concerned Institutions under the Budget Head: 3425 – Other Scientific Research, 60 – Others, 800 – Other Expenditure, 03 - Promotion of Information System in Science and Technology (Plan), 50 – Other Charges.

(8) Relaxation of the provision of the Scheme:-

The Government shall be empowered to relax any or all clauses or conditions of the scheme in genuine cases for sanction of the grant.

Provided that such relaxation shall be granted upon the recommendation made by the Committee constituted under Clause (6) of this scheme, with prior concurrence of Finance (Expenditure) Department.

(9) Interpretation of the provision of this Scheme:-

If any question arises regarding the interpretation of any clause, word, expression of the scheme, the decision about the interpretation shall lie with the Government and the decision in this regard shall be final and binding on all concerned.

(10) Redressal of Grievances and Dispute:-

Grievances or any dispute if any, arising out of implementation of this Scheme shall be addressed to the Secretary to the Government in charge of Science & Technology, who shall hear and decide such matters and the decision of the Secretary to the Government in this regards shall be final and binding on all concerned.

This issues with the administrative approval of the Government vide U.O. No. 337 dated 8/10/2015 and concurrence of the Finance (Exp) Department vide U.O. No.1400021195 dated 2/2/2016

**By Order and in the name of
the Governor of Goa**

sd/-

(Levinson J. Martins)

**Director (S&T) and ex-Officio,
Jt. Secretary to Government**

(Published in Series I No.2 dated 15/04/2016)