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GOVERNMENT OF ARUNACHAL PRADESH

PART - III

Resolutions, orders, notifications, rules etc., issued by the Government and Heads of Departments.

DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND
PUBLIC RELATIONS
NAHARLAGUN

NOTIFICATION

The 10th February, 2009

No. DIPR (JOUR)-170/2008.— Journalism, particularly the print media, made its presence felt in Arunachal Pradesh decades after the birth of print media in India. While the first newspaper of India, the Bengal Gazette, was published from Calcutta in 1780 by James Augustus Hickey, Echo of Arunachal, the first newspaper of the state was published only in 1988.

Hardly a year after the launch of Echo of Arunachal, The Arunachal Times, the state's first daily newspaper, hit the stands. The Dawnlit Post, the Arunachal Citizens, and a few weeklies including the Arunachal Front followed suit. Again, on August 20, 2007, Arunachal Front became one of the daily newspapers in the state.

With the growth of journalism, especially, the print media, an onerous responsibility has fallen on the part of the State Government in regard to facilitation of a free and fair media so that this fourth pillar of democracy gets a sound foothold in this remote state. The State Government realizes the need of nurturing and supporting of various media organizations to enable them to discharge their services in a most responsible ways by becoming partners in the entire development process. For this to achieve, the issues of welfare and interests of journalists, particularly of private organizations, require attention as on many occasions they have to discharge their services against trying circumstances.

In appreciation of these circumstances and also to facilitate growth of a free and responsible journalism in the State of Arunachal Pradesh, the State Government has considered it expedient to set up a Working Journalists Welfare Fund by granting a corpus fund of Rs. 10 (Ten) lakhs as one time grant.

Now, therefore, the Government of Arunachal Pradesh is pleased to make the following rules for regulating the administration of the said fund including the procedure to be adopted for providing financial assistance as under:

1. **Short title and commencement**— These rules may be called the Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalists Welfare Fund Rules, 2009.

(ii) They shall come into force from the date of their publication in the Arunachal Pradesh Gazette.

2. **Definitions:**

(i) In these rules, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context --

(a) "Committee" means the committee constituted for the administration of the fund under rule 5.

(b) "Fund" means the Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalist Welfare Fund.

(c) "Working" Journalist" means the working Journalist as defined in section 2 (f) of the Working Journalist and other Newspaper Employees (Conditions of Service) and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1955.

3. **Source and Fund:** There shall be constituted a fund called the "Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalists Welfare Fund" which shall consist of the one time financial grant of Rs. 10 (Rupees Ten lakhs) of the State Government in addition to contributions from members of working Journalists towards the fund and the committee shall also solicit such sources of funds by way of donations and contributions from the well-wishers, Public and Organizations.

Reviewed with
DIPR/FAO. today
12/1/20

4. **Mode of Operation of the Fund :** Financial assistance under these rules shall be given out of the interest accrued to the corpus of the Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalists Welfare Fund to the eligible members of working journalists and their immediate dependants as applicable under these provisions. The capital amount of Rs. Ten Laks shall be deposited in a fixed deposit account in a nationalized bank while its interests and other supplementary deposit shall be deposited in a savings bank account. The assistance under this fund to members of working journalists shall be ex-gratia in nature and shall be for only one time to a particular member. Both of these accounts shall be maintained by DIPR and this departmental Drawing and Disbursing Officer in a joint Account. The accounts shall be produced for auditing by the Treasurer (DDO) to the committee at least once in a year in its meeting.

5. **Constitution and Administration of the Fund :** (i) The Constitution of Fund and its Administration of Fund shall be constituted under the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Arunachal Pradesh and such other members as shown below :

- | | |
|--|--------------------|
| 1. Secretary, IPR Government of Arunachal Pradesh | : Chairman |
| 2. Director, Information and Public Relations | : Member Secretary |
| 3. President, Itanagar Press Club | : Nominated Member |
| 4. President, Arunachal Pradesh Union of Working Journalists | : Nominated Member |
| 5. DDO of DIPR | : Treasurer. |

(ii) The State Government shall have the powers to appoint/nominate such additional members to the committee as it thinks fit.

6. **Powers and Functions of Committee :**

1. **Chairman :** (i) The Commissioner/Secretary of the IPR Department shall be the Chairman of the committee constituted for the administration of the fund under the said schemes.

(ii) He shall preside over all such meeting, conferences of the Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalist Welfare Fund.

(iii) He shall be the sanctioning authority of all financial transactions.

(iv) He will sanction an amount not above Rs. 50,000.00 (Rs. Fifty thousand) at a time in respect of a particular purpose. He/She will approve proposals for assistance as unanimously endorsed by members of the committee.

2. **Member Secretary :** (i) The Director of the IPR Department shall be the Member Secretary of the committee constituted for the administration of the fund under the said schemes.

(ii) He shall be an ex-officio member and shall convene meetings from time to time, guide Treasurer in matters of accounts maintenance, and supervise all matter in regard to the administration of the scheme in a proper manner.

3. **Treasurer :** (i) The Treasurer shall be responsible for maintaining all records of all the accounts of Arunachal Pradesh Working Journalists Welfare Fund.

(ii) He /She shall produce records and cash books as and when required and shall get them audited annually.

4. **Members :** (i) The President of Itanagar Press Club and the President of Arunachal Pradesh Union of Working Journalists shall be its ex-officio members of the committee during its whole tenure.

(ii) They shall help run the fund properly and attend meetings conducted by the committee from time to time.

(iii) They shall also liaise with other organizations and other well-wishers towards the fund.

7. **Tenure :** By virtue of their posts the Chairman, Member Secretary and the Treasurer shall continue to retain their respective posts. The tenure of the nominated members shall be for a period three years from the date of their appointment to the committee. On completion of their terms of office, the said members shall be eligible for re-nomination or be replaced by other members of working journalists as per the said criteria.

8. **Objective of the Fund and Criteria for Grant of Assistant :** The Objective of the fund is as follows :

- (i) To provide financial assistance to members of working journalists and their immediate dependants on acute medical cases such as major operations and treatment for cases like cancer, heart problems, other critical illnesses which require large monetary support, and
- (ii) To grant monetary aid in cases of serious accident or disease leading to physical incapacitation or death caused due to accident or serious illness to members of working journalists and their immediate dependants.
- (iii) The committee may also call for production of medical certificates in support of the members' applications for assistance if desired and approve necessary financial grant subject to the availability of fund for the said objective.
- (iv) The one time assistance, in all cases will, however, not be above Rs. 50,000.00 (Rs. Fifty thousand) for a beneficiary.
- (v) A member is eligible for only one assistance under the scheme. Similarly, there shall be only one time assistance in respect of dependents of the members.

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- (iv) The Committee, however, shall take into consideration the financial status of the corpus fund while granting applications of members for financial assistance.

9. Procedure for grant of assistance :

- (i) Application for grant of assistance under these rule shall be submitted by member or their dependents in the form Schedule-I as prescribed to the Director of Information and Public relations, Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Naharlagun.
- (ii) The application must invariably be accompanied by from Schedule-II duly countersigned by the President of Arunachal Pradesh Union of Working Journalist/Itanagar Press Club who shall examine and recommend all cases for consideration of applications for the grant of assistance.
- (iii) On receipt of applications submitted as prescribed under these rules, the Director shall process them for approval of grant by the Chairman of the committee duly constituted at such meeting called for the purpose.

10. **Maintenance of accounts :** The Committee as constituted under rule 5 shall cause to be maintained all financial transactions in respect of the operation and utilization of the said fund and get the same audited once in every 12 months and a copy of such audited accounts shall be submitted to the government.

Belatee Pertin, IAS,
Information and Public Relations,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,
Itanagar.

Schedule-I
[See rule 8 (a)]

Application Form for Grant of Financial Assistance

To

The Director of Information and Public Relations,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh, Naharlagun.

Sub : **Proposal for grant of financial assistance under Arunachal Working Journalist fund.**

1. Name (In capital letter) :
2. Date of birth :
3. Permanent Address :
4. Present Address :
5. Annual income :
6. In the case of living Journalists :
 - (a) Service background of applicant :
 - (b) Purpose for assistance :
 - (c) Relevant documents in support of the application :
7. In the case of dependant :
 - (a) Name (in capital letters) :
 - (b) Date of birth :
 - (c) Present Address :
 - (d) Purpose for assistance (whether for himself/herself or the deceased member) :
 - (e) Details of the deceased journalist :
 - (f) Applicant's relationship with the deceased :
 - (g) Details of any other financial grant received for the same purpose :
 - (f) Annual income :

I certify that the information furnished above is true to the best of my knowledge.

Place :

Date :

Signature of applicant

Schedule-II
[See rule 8 (b)]

Certificate of eligibility of assistance

The application submitted by Mr/Mrs/Miss has
been examined by me and found to be genuine. His/her case may be considered for grant of assistance by
the Chairman. (Any other remark)

Name and signature of member :

Designation :

Place :

Date :

Secretary,
Information and Public Relations,
Government of Arunachal Pradesh,
Itanagar.