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Government of Tripura
Directorate of Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism

No. F.65(284) - ICAT/99/Advt.

Dated, Agartala the 29th Augth 2002.

To
The General Secretary,
Tripura Journalists union,
Agartala.

Subject :- Nomination of members in the Working Journalists Welfare Scheme Committee.

Sir,

I am refer to the recent amendment of Tripura Working Journalists Welfare Scheme 2000. According to the said amendment the composition of the above committee is as below :-

A) Ex-officio Members :-

- | | | |
|------|---------------------------------------------------|------------|
| i) | Secretary, ICAT Deptt. Govt. of Tripura | Chairman. |
| ii) | Director, health service, Govt. of Tripura | Member. |
| iii) | Labour Commissioner, Govt. of Tripura | Member. |
| iv) | Director, Small Savings, Govt. of Tripura | Member. |
| v) | Director, ICAT Deptt. Govt. of Tripura | Secretary. |

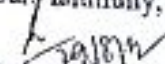
B) Nominated Members :-

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|------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| i) | One representative from owners of the Newspapers to be nominated by the state Govt. | Member |
| ii) | Two representative form the Journalists Organisation/Union to be nominated by the State Govt. | Member. |
| iii) | Secretary to Press Club, Agartala | Member. |

Two representative from the Journalists Organisation/Union will have to be nominated for inclusion in the committee.

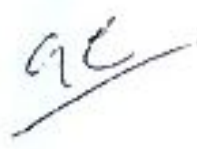
I would, therefore, request you to recommend a name for inclusion in the committee.

Yours faithfully,


(Santanu Das)

Director,

Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism
Government of Tripura



Sub.- The Tripura Working Journalist Welfare Scheme, 2000.

The State Government hereby makes the following Schemes to provide for the establishment of a fund for promoting activities connected with the Welfare of Working Journalists in Tripura and for matters connected therewith, namely -

Short title 1. (1) These Schemes may be called the Tripura Working Journalists Welfare Scheme, 2000.
(2) They shall extend to the whole of the State of Tripura.
(3) They shall come into force on the date of their publication in the Tripura Gazette.

Definition 2. In these Schemes, unless the context otherwise requires -

(a) "Accident" means an unexpected event causing injury, damage to any part of the body or death and includes any fatal disease which is contracted by a Working Journalist within or outside the Working hours ;

(b) "Committee" means the Working Journalists Welfare Scheme Committee constituted under paragraph 3 of the Scheme ;

(c) "Director" means the Director of Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism, Government of Tripura;

(d) "Member" means a Working Journalist admitted as a member of the Scheme and subscribes to the fund;

(e) "Member-Secretary" means the Member-Secretary of the Committee constituted under paragraph-3 of the Scheme ;

(f) "Newspaper Establishment" means an Establishment under the control of any person or body of persons, whether incorporated or not for the production or publication of one or more newspapers, News Magazines or for conducting any News Agency or News Syndicates within the State ;

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- (g) "Fund" means the working Journalists Welfare Fund established under these Schemes ;
- (h) "Scheme" means working Journalists Welfare Scheme;
- (i) "State Government" means the Government of Tripura ;
- (j) "Working Journalist" means a person whose principal avocation is that of Journalism and who is employed as such in or in relation to any Newspaper establishment and includes an Editor, Sub-Editor, Feature Writer, Copy Tester, Reporter, Correspondent, Cartoonist, News Photographer and Proof Reader but does not include any such person who-
- (1i) is employed mainly in a managerial or administrative capacity, or
- (1k) Being employed in a supervisory capacity perform, either by the nature of duties attached to his office or by reason of the power vested in him, functions mainly of a managerial nature and who has got recognition of the Department of Information, Cultural Affairs & Tourism, Government of Tripura.

Commi- 3. (1) The State Government may, by notification in
ttee the Official Gazette, constitute a Committee to be known as the Working Journalists Welfare Scheme Committee.

(2) The Head Office of the Committee shall be at Agartala.

(3) The Committee shall consist of the following :-

(A) Ex-Officio members:

(i) Secretary, Information, Cultural Affairs and Tourism Department, Government of Tripura. -Chairman.

- (ii) Joint Secretary, Law,
Govt. of Tripura -Member.
- (iii) Director, Health Services,
Govt. of Tripura -Member.
- (iv) Labour Commissioner,
Govt. of Tripura -Member.
- (v) Director, Small Savings,
Govt. of Tripura -Member.
- (vi) Director, Information, Cultural
Affairs & Tourism Department,
Government of Tripura. -Member
Secretary

(B) Nominated Members :

- (i) One representative from owners of the
Newspapers to be nominated by the State
Government. -Member.
- (ii) One representative from the Journalist
Organisation, Union to be nominated by
the State Government. Member
- (iii) Secretary, Press Club, Agartala -Member

Term of Office 4. (1) The term of Office of the committee members nominated under clause (B) of paragraph 3 shall be 2 (two) years and they shall be eligible for renomination.

Provided that State Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, extend the term of Office of any or all of the nominated committee members for such period not exceeding six months at a time as may be specified in the notification, so, however, that the total period of such extension shall not exceed one year (after the expiry of two years as aforesaid) .

(2) A Committee member nominated under clause (B) of paragraph 3 may be removed by the State Government, if -

- (i) he fails, without sufficient cause, to attend three consecutive meetings of the Committee ; or
- (ii) has been adjudged insolvent ; or
- (iii) has been convicted of an offence which in opinion of the State Government involves moral turpitude ; or
- (iv) has become physically or mentally incapable of acting as a member ; or

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(v) has so abused his position as to render his continuance in the Committee prejudicial to the interest of public.

(3) A Committee member may, by writing in his hand addressed to the Chairman, resign from the Committee, and on such resignation being accepted by the Committee, the committee member shall deem to have vacated his office.

(4) When a resignation is accepted under subparagraph (3), the Member Secretary shall communicate it to the member of the Committee within 7 days of such acceptance.

(5) If any nominated committee member ceases to be member of the Committee for any reason, the vacancy shall be filled up in the same manner as the original nomination and the person so nominated shall continue to be a member for the remaining term of the Committee member in whose place he is nominated.

Meeting of the Committ
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5. (1) The Committee shall ordinarily meet once in every six months on such date and time and at such place as the Member Secretary may, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee, decide.

(2) The minutes of the proceedings of each meeting shall be truly and faithfully maintained by the Member Secretary and such minutes shall be open to inspection at all reasonable times by the members of the Committee.

(3) The procedure at any meeting of the committee shall be such as the committee may determine.

Quorum.

6. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee shall be six including the Chairman or the member presiding over the meeting.

Working Journal i-sts Welfare Fund.

7. (1) There shall be established a Working Journalists Welfare Fund which shall consist of the amounts received by the Committee as grants from the Government and other organizations, contributions from the Journalists organizations and Newspaper Establishments, money received as donations from any individual or organization, monthly subscriptions of the members and entry fee.

(2) The funds received as grants, subscriptions, contributions, donations etc., shall be invested in suitable schemes of National Savings Organizations.

Operation of Fund Accounts. 8. The Member-Secretary shall operate the fund accounts of the Committee in accordance with direction of the Chairman.

Maintenance of Accounts. 9. The Member-Secretary shall maintain or cause to be maintained true and proper accounts of all receipts and disbursements of the fund.

Submission of Annual Return. 10. The Member-Secretary shall furnish annual return showing the receipts and disbursements of the fund to the State Government.

Application of Fund. 11. The fund shall be spent by the Committee to meet the expenditure in connection with measures which in the opinion of the Committee are necessary or expedient to promote the welfare of the members and in particular for-

(a) providing and improving housing and recreational facilities ;

(b) rendering financial assistance in case of infirmity and disability due to accident or old age ;

(c) rendering financial assistance to the dependent children of a member who dies prematurely due to an accident or otherwise;

(d) such other objects as would in the opinion of the State Government ameliorate the welfare of the members.

Audit of Fund Accounts.

12. The Accounts of the Committee shall be subject to audit by such authority as may be specified by the State Government and any expenditure incurred in connection with such audit shall be paid by the Committee.

Who may apply.

13. (1) A member who becomes disable due to accident or otherwise or becomes infirm due to old age, may apply for grant of financial assistance to the Committee.

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(2) If a member prematurely dies due to an accident or otherwise, the kith & kin of the member who is nominated/authorised by him/her may apply for financial assistance for the dependent children of the deceased member.

Application for Aid.

14. The application for grant of aid may be addressed to the Member-Secretary of the Committee. The application must be supported with the following documents, namely -

- ✓ (11) Disability Certificate from a registered Medical Practitioner (Specialist) or from a Government Hospital.
- ✓ (12) Certificate of Age in case of disability due to old age. ✓

Disposal of Application by Committee.

15. (1) On receipt of an application for aid, the Member-Secretary shall scrutinize the application before placing the same to the Committee to see whether the applicant qualifies for aid in accordance with the provisions of these schemes and for this purpose he may require the applicant to submit further information as may be necessary. The application shall be processed as early as possible and preferably within one week.

(2) The Committee shall consider the application and decide desirability of granting aid and its decision to grant or refuse aid shall be final.

(3) Where it is decided not to give aid to an applicant, the reasons for not doing so shall be entered in the register of applications maintained by the Committee and information in writing to that effect shall be communicated to the applicant.

(4) No application for aid shall be allowed, if the committee is satisfied that -

- (a) the applicant has knowingly made false statement or furnished false information as regards means or place of residence ; or
- (b) the applicant is not entitled to any aid under these schemes ;

(f) having regard to all the circumstances of the case, it is otherwise not reasonable to grant aid.

Eligibility 16. A working Journalist shall be eligible to be a member of the Scheme if he has completed at least 3(three) years of service in the profession of Journalism in recognized Newspaper Establishment, News Agencies.

Membership. 17. A working Journalists may become a member of the Scheme by submitting an application for membership alongwith entry fee.

Application for Membership. 18. (1) Application for membership may be addressed to the Member-Secretary of the Committee.

(2) Application for membership shall be supported with the attested copies of the following documents -

- (i) Nationality Certificate.
- (ii) Certificate of Age.
- (iii) Accreditation Card issued by the State Government .
- (iv) Appointment letter of the Newspaper establishment to which he/she was attached during the last 3(three) years or more.

Entry Fee. 19. Entry fee of rupees fifty only shall be deposited at the time of making application for membership of the Scheme.

Monthly Subscription. 20. (1) The rate of monthly subscription shall be rupees ten only and may be deposited monthly. A member may also pay monthly subscriptions in advance for more than one month at a time.

(2) Receipt of subscriptions from members shall be entered into the Subscription Register.

(3) The amount of monthly subscription shall be paid on or before 10th day of every month.

Deposit of monthly subscription with late fee. 21. If a member fails to pay monthly subscription within due date he may pay the same with late fee of rupee one only for every fortnight or part thereof.

- Ceasing to be member. 22. If a member fails to deposit his monthly subscription consecutively for six months he shall cease to be a member of the Scheme.
- General disqualification for membership. 23. A Working Journalist shall be disqualified for being a member of the Scheme, if -
- (a) he is so disqualified by any competent authority to be a Working Journalist ;
 - (b) he has been adjudged by a competent court to be of unsound mind ;
 - (c) he has been convicted by a criminal court for an offence involving moral turpitude.
- Resignation of member . 24. A member may resign from his membership of the Scheme by writing under his hand addressed to the Member-Secretary of the Committee and on such resignation being accepted by the Committee, the member shall cease to be a member of the Scheme.
- Sanctioning Authority. 25. The Committee shall be the authority competent under the Scheme to sanction financial assistance to members or their ~~with~~ kin.
Provided that the aggregate of such financial assistance in any financial year shall not exceed one-third of the total amount at its credit,
- Power to suggest amendment of the Scheme. 26. The Committee may, if after consideration is of opinion that it is expedient for the interest of the members, suggest to the State Government for amendment of any of the provisions of the Scheme.
- Disputes. 27. If any dispute arise on any matter relating to these Scheme such disputes shall be referred to the State Government whose decision thereon shall be final.