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GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

No. 2761602/ARC-3/2024-FIN

Finance (ARC) Department Thiruvananthapuram

Dated: 18.09.2024

The Additional Chief Secretary (Finance)

The Director of General Education, Jagathi, Thiruvananthapuram-695014.

- 2) The Regional Deputy Director, O/o the Regional Deputy Director, Higher Secondary Education, Kannur 670 003
- 3) The District Educational Officer, Office of the District Educational Officer Kannur District 670 002
- 4) The Assistant Educational Officer, Office of the Assistant Educational Officer Kannur North, Kannur District 670 002
- 5) The Sub Treasury Officer, Office of the Sub Treasury, Chakkarakkallu Kannur District 670 613

Sir.

- Sub:- Contempt Case (Civil) No.2444/2024/X dated 12.09.2024 arising out of the Order in IA No.1/2024 in WP(C) No.13279/2024 dated 10.07.2024- Compliance of Order dated 10.07.2024 passed by the Hon'ble High Court - reg.
- Ref:- 1) Interim Order of the Hon'ble High Court dated 02.04.2024 in WP(C) No.13279/2024 filed by Shihab S.H.
 - 2) Modified Interim Order of the Hon'ble High Court in WP (C) No.13279/2024 filed by Shihab S.H.

The above contempt of Court Case, filed by Shihab S.H alleging noncompliance of direction of the Hon'ble High Court dated 10.07.2024 in WP(C) No.13279/2024. The Hon'ble High Court in the aforesaid writ petition passed an interim order vide reference (1) cited directing to grant 10% House Rent Allowance from April 2024 onwards on executing the bond by the petitioner. Further, the Hon'ble High Court vide reference (2) cited has modified the interim order and directed to make necessary modifications in the SPARK module for implementing the order passed on 02.04.2024.

In this context, it is pertinent to note that House Rent Allowance (HRA for brevity) class allocation is office-specific and not employee-specific in the SPARK application, which implies that the HRA for an office is set uniformly for all employees in that office. Therefore, it is incorrect to set the office HRA at a higher rate. However, as a solution, there is an option available for Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) in the SPARK application to provide higher rate of HRA using the allowance code 196 - HRA Compensation Allowance by calculating the excess amount due to the employees in addition to that which is eligible for him/her.

In compliance of the directions issued by the Hon'ble High Court, you are hereby instructed to inform all the concerned Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) to provide higher rate of House Rent Allowance by using the allowance code 196-HRA Compensation Allowance by calculating the excess amount due to the employees/teachers in addition to that which is eligible to him/her. It is stated categorically that the HRA Compensation Allowance is specifically admissible to the employees who are applicants/petitioners in this particular case and to those petitioners who have executed bonds undertaking to refund the excess amounts, if any, received by them as per Order of the Hon'ble High Court vide reference (1) cited.

In case, if any Drawing and Disbursing Officers (DDOs) encounters any technical snags for generating the bill, the DDO concerned should pay a visit to the o/o the SPARK PMU (SPARK PMU,1 st Floor, DPC Building, Senate House

Campus, University of Kerala, Palayam, Trivandrum 695034) in person and avail the high level of hand-holding support of the Team SPARK to generate the bill. (The DDOs must carry the Digital Signature Certificate and other paraphernalia so as to ensure that the process is hassle-free).

It is further informed that any non-compliance from your end will be viewed seriously. Therefore you are directed to comply with the Order of the Hon'ble High Court till the final judgement is in place.

Yours faithfully,

AHAMMED KABEER. Y ADDITIONAL SECRETARY

For Additional Chief Secretary (Finance)

Approved for issue

Section Officer

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