

Finance Department - Aided institutions under Education Departments (School/Collegiate/Technical etc) and other Departments - Countersignature on all bills including monthly paperless salary Bills – Modified – Orders - Issued.

FINANCE (STREAMLINING) DEPARTMENT

G.O (P) No. 85/2024/FIN

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 30.09.2024

Read: 1. G.O (P) No. 30/2013/Fin dated 16.01.2013.

- 2. G.O (P)No.163/2020/ Fin dated 22.12.2020.
- 3. Circular No. 34/2022/Fin dated 23.04.2022.
- 4. Circular No. 60/2023/Fin dated 23.06.2023.

ORDER

As per the Government Order read second paper above, HMs/Principals of all aided institutions were authorized to draw and disburse the monthly salary claims of all approved staff members without countersignature by the competent authority specifically authorized for the same and e-submitted to treasuries using Digital signature of the DDOs. This was enabled subject to the condition that the DDO must be Principal or HM as the case may be, and in the absence of Principal or HM, the senior most teacher must be the DDO in charge for certain periods, beyond which the countersigning authority has to act as DDO. Certain time limit for charge arrangement was also issued vide Circulars referred above.

- 2) Now in many cases, the charge arrangement is seen made indefinitely due to various reasons and requests are being received to continue with the temporary arrangement indefinitely, which is against the accountability principles.
- 3) In the above backdrop, the Government are pleased to introduce the system that all bills including monthly salary bills (paperless) needs to be counter signed by the approving authority in online mode in SPARK itself and then e-submitted to Treasury by the DDO itself. This system was being operational for all other bills in SPARK except monthly salary bills and the same is also now brought under this system and will come into force from the monthly salary bills for **October 2024 onwards**.
- 4) All Treasury Officers are directed to honour all bills/claims of aided employees with online countersignature on bills, and however before passing such bills, appropriate noting printed on the physical bills or the on the online pdf bills in the case of monthly paperless bills, in this connection are to be ensured.
- 5) These instructions are applicable in the case of all aided institutions under other Departments like Ayurveda Medical Education, Ayush etc. also.
- 6) Operational procedure to be followed in SPARK would be uploaded as a tutorial in SPARK/Finance Department websites.
 - 7) Formal amendment in KTC to facilitate this new procedure will be issued

8) The Government Order read second paper above is modified to this extent.

(By order of the Governor)

Dr Sriram V I A S JOINT SECRETARY & OFFICER ON SPECIAL DUTY FINANCE (RESOURCES)

To

The Principal Accountant General (A&E), Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Accountant General (Audit-II) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of Treasuries, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of General Education, Thycaud, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of Technical Education, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of Collegiate Education, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of General Education, Higher Secondary Education, Thiruvananthapuram.

The Director of General Education, VHSE, Thiruvananthapuram.

Health & Family Welfare Department, Govt. Secretariat

Ayush Department, Govt. Secretariat.

Finance (Education-A/B/C, Health-A/B) Department

Finance (Spark) Department

The Nodal Officer, www.finance.kerala.gov.in

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Forwarded / By Order

Accounts Officer

Majia