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भारत सरकार
लक्षद्वीप संघ राज्य क्षेत्र
Union Territory of Lakshadweep
पंचायत निदेशालय (Directorate of Panchayats)
कावराति Kavaratti 682555

F.No. 5/1/2015-DOP (Part) / 133

Dated: 08 -02-2020

Public Notice

Subject- Pre-legislative consultation for amendment of Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994 to include a provision for payment of honorarium to the Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Lakshadweep.

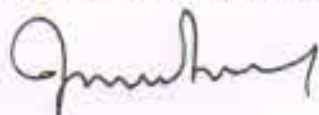
1. The Panchayats in UT of Lakshadweep have been consistently raising the issue of grant of honorarium for its Members, as being paid to the Members of Panchayats of other states / UTs. The following amount given in the table below is being paid as salary to the President Cum Chief Counsellor, Vice President Cum Counsellors, Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons and sitting fee to the Members of Panchayats. Thus at present only the President Cum Chief Counsellor & Vice President Cum Counsellors of District Panchayat and Chairpersons & Vice Persons of Village(Dweep)Panchayats are being paid salary, whereas the Members of District Panchayat and Village (Dweep) Panchayats are not being paid any salary or honorarium and are only paid Sitting fee, as given below.

Functionaries	Salary/Honorarium	Sitting Fee
President cum Chief Counsellor, DP	Rs. 5900/- per month	NIL
Vice President cum Counsellors, DP	Rs. 4600/- per month	NIL
Chairperson, VDP	Rs. 4600/- per month	NIL
Vice Chairperson, VDP	Rs. 3300/- per month	NIL
District Panchayat Members	NIL	Rs. 150/ per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 800/ per month.
Village(Dweep) Panchayat Members	NIL	Rs. 100/- per day subject to a maximum of Rs. 500/- per month.

2. The Lakshadweep Administration, in five phases of devolution, has devolved a large number of schemes and programmes covering all the 29 subjects of the 11th schedule, relevant to the islands. This include the entire five major departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Fisheries and Health Services. The corresponding responsibilities of the Panchayats have also thus increased. The 4th Finance Commission for Union Territories conducted the studies after the last phase of devolution in which the five sectors were devolved. The Commission had recommended that the UT Administration of Lakshadweep may consider payment of honorarium to the members of PRIs at the rates of honorarium being followed in respect of the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the UT of Andaman & Nicobar islands as a guide. The 4th Finance Commission for the Union Territories further recommended that the rates of honorarium may be revised once every three years. The recommendations of the 4th Finance Commission were finally accepted by the Ministry of Home Affairs.
3. Now, the UT Administration has obtained the latest rates of honorarium from the UT of A&N islands and processed the issue for payment of honorarium as recommended by the Finance Commission.
4. The present proposal seeks the approval of Cabinet for amendment in the Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994 to include a provision for the payment of honorarium to the Elected Members of Panchayati Raj Institutions in Lakshadweep on the same pattern and of the same scale and as paid in the Union Territory of Andman & Nicobar Islands which has been recommended by the 4th Finance Commission and accepted by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Section 55 (1) of The Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994 states that:

"the salary and allowances of the Chairpersons and Vice Chairpersons of a Village (Dweep) Panchayat and of President cum Chief Counsellor and Vice President cum Counsellors of District Panchayat shall be such as the Administrator may, with the approval of the President may by order determine".



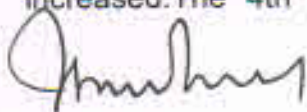
Section 55 (2) of the Regulation states that:

"every member of a Panchayat other than the Chairperson, Vice Chairperson of a Village (Dweep) Panchayat and of a President cum Chief Counsellor and Vice President cum Counsellor of District Panchayat shall be entitled to receive sitting fee and allowances as may be prescribed".

In the light of the facts detailed above UT Administration proposes to initiate the process for amending the Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994 as below.

In section 55 sub section (2) of the Lakshadweep Panchayats Regulation, 1994, for the words **"sitting fee and allowances as may be prescribed"**, the words **"such honorarium and allowances as the Administrator may with the approval of the President by order determine"** shall be substituted.

- It is stated that the proposed amendment will lead to the provision of providing honorarium to the members of the Panchayats in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep for the duties and responsibilities they discharge and will give impetus to the Panchayats for better performance. The proposal will also help the educated youth to come forward and contest the Panchayat elections.
- The Panchayat Members in Lakshadweep believe that they have no less responsibility than their counterparts in other Union Territories and particularly Andaman & Nicobar Islands and these Panchayat Members have been complaining about discrimination stating that their counterparts in Andaman & Nicobar Islands are getting honorarium since 2011. Thus the proposal will help in bringing uniformity in the provisions relating to payment of honorarium to the members of PRIs in the Union Territories
- The Lakshadweep Administration, in five phases of devolution, has devolved a large number of schemes and programmes covering all the 29 subjects of the 11th schedule, relevant to the islands. This includes the entire five major departments of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, Education, Fisheries and Health Services. The responsibilities of the Panchayats and its members also have thus increased. The 4th Finance Commission for Union Territories conducted the

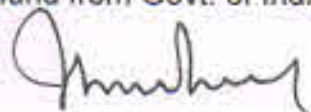


studies after the last phase of devolution in which the five sectors were devolved. The Commission has recommended that the UT Administration of Lakshadweep may consider payment of honorarium to the members of PRIs at the rates of honorarium etc. being followed in respect of the elected representatives of Panchayati Raj Institutions in the Andaman & Nicobar islands as a guide.

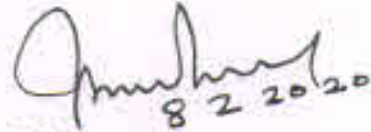
- The financial implication of the proposal is as detailed below.

Panchayats Functionary	Existing rate per month	Monthly rate proposed	Existing rate per annum	Proposed Rate per annum	Present Financial Implication per annum	Additional Financial Implication
President cum Chief Counsellor (1)	Rs.5900.00	Rs.7815.00	Rs.70800.00	Rs.93780.00	Rs.70800.00	Rs.22980.00
VPCC (2)	Rs.4600.00	Rs.6250.00	Rs.110400.00	Rs.150000.00	Rs.110400.00	Rs.39600.00
Chairpersons (10)	Rs.4600.00	Rs.6250.00	Rs.552000.00	Rs.750000.00	Rs.552000.00	Rs.198000.00
Vice Chairpersons (10)	Rs.3300.00	Rs.3910.00	Rs.396000.00	Rs.469200.00	Rs.396000.00	Rs.73200.00
DP Members (23)	NIL	Rs.4690.00	NIL	Rs.1294440.00	NIL	Rs.1294440.00
VDP Members (68)	NIL	Rs.2815.00	NIL	Rs.2297040.00	NIL	Rs.2297040.00
Total Financial Implication per annum				Rs.5054460.00	Rs.1129200.00	
Additional Financial Implication per annum						Rs.3925260.00

5. It is stated that after the honorarium is granted to the Panchayat Members, they will not be entitled to receive any Sitting Fee. There will be a marginal saving from this which has not been taken into account while calculating additional financial implication. However, the Additional financial implication which UT Administration of Lakshadweep may incur by paying monthly honorarium to the members of Panchayats in the UT shall be met by way of pruning the administrative expenses of Panchayats. The Additional financial implication required for this purpose can be spared from available budget of UTL and there is no need to project any additional fund from Govt. of India for this purpose.



6. The above legislative proposal of the Administration is published/placed in public domain for feedback/ comments from all concerned. It may be sent within a period of 30 days from the date of publication of this notice to the Director of Panchayats, Union Territory of Lakshadweep, Kavaratti-682555. It can also be mailed at panchdop@gmail.com.



(K. Buzar Jamhar)
Director (Panchayats)
U.T. of Lakshadweep

To
All the Residents of Lakshadweep

Copy to:-

1. PA to the Hon'ble Administrator.
2. PA to Advisor to Hon'ble Administrator
3. PA to Collector
4. PA to all the Secretaries UTLA.
5. The Director of Information & Public Relations with request to publish it in the Lakshadweep Times and upload on Official Facebook Page and Twitter handle of UTLA.
6. The Director IT, with request to upload it on the Lakshadweep Website.
7. All the Heads of Departments for displaying in their office Notice Board.
8. All Sub Divisional Officers/Deputy Collectors in islands/ Authorised Officer, Bitra with request to give it wide publicity.
9. The Resident Commissioner, Lakshadweep Guest House, New Delhi.
10. The Administrative Officer, Lakshadweep Office, Kochi.
11. The Chief Executive Officer, District Panchayat, Kavaratti.
12. The Executive Officer, VDPs in all islands.
13. The Information Assistant cum Photographer in all islands with request to give wide publicity.