GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Information Technology Department - State Wide Roll Out of AKSHAYA Project and introduction of e-governance initiatives through AKSHAYA Centres - Administrative Sanction accorded - Orders issued.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (A) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms)No: 03/2004/ITD   Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 20.02.2004.

Read.- 1   G.O.(Ms) 22/2002/ITD, dated, 21.11.2002.
2. Minutes of the High Level Meeting convened by the Chief Ministers on 02.09 03.

ORDER

The Bridging the Digital Divide Project of Government of Kerala, Akshaya, is currently being implemented on a pilot phase in Malappuram. The project could achieve nearly 100% household IT literacy, through the 617 Akshaya centres in the District. All the Akshaya centres are networked through high speed broadband WiFi Connectivity and the entire district thus is on the information highway.

2. The project envisages four principal components.

1. Establishment of ICT access points:

Through out the state, it is proposed to set up a modern, state of the art ICT infrastructure, penetrating at the ward level, such that each Akshaya Centre would cater to every 2000 families.

2. Universal E-literacy

The programme aims at providing E-literacy to one person in each of the 64 lakh families in the State.

The content module is developed both in Windows and Linux platforms, so that the trainee can opt from the two.

Government vide G.O.(Ms) 01/2003/Planning had also given permissive sanction to Grama Panchayats, Block Panchayats and District Panchayats to set apart Rs 80/-, Rs. 20/- and Rs. 20/- for every person trained through the Akshaya centers -The individual beneficiary contribution for the e-literacy training is Rs 20/-.

3 Creation of Micro ICT Enterprises

The Akshaya   centres shall be set up by local entrepreneurs
at an approximate investment of Rs 2 - 3 5 lakhs per centre

4 Service Delivery:

The Akshaya ICT access points are envisaged to provide various
services to citizens including single window information and
dissemination, various e-governance services, e-Education,
telemedicine etc. These centres shall be connected through high-
speed broadband WiFi Network.

3. It is expected to create nearly 7000 - 7500 Akshaya   Centres
through out the state, each catering to 1500 to 2000 families. It is estimated
that direct employment opportunities of around 25000 and indirect
employment opportunities of another 25000 shall be created. The pilot phase
at Malappuram has resulted in a direct investment of around Rs. 25 crores
and generated direct employment to more than 2000 people so far.

4. In the high level meting convened by Honourable Chief Minister on
2nd September, 2003 with Minister (IT) Minister (LSG) and Vice Chairman,
State Planning Board and others to discuss the State Wide Roll out of
AKSHAYA the following decisions were taken.

1. Akshaya   may be replicated in all districts of the State over
the next 2 years, with implementation commencing from
01.04.2004.

2. The Akshaya   e-literacy campaign shall be implemented
through the local bodies, following the pattern of Malappuram
district.

3. Funds for the e-literacy component of the project shall be
accordingly earmarked in the Annual Plan of the Local Self
Governments.

4.Key E-governance services of departments, including those
offered by FRIENDS may be routed through the Akshaya
Centres To begin with, services offered by FRIENDS would be
introduced in the first phase.

5. It was also decided that the response of the Local Self Governments may
be ascertained to evolve a strategy for the project

6. Accordingly, a meeting of District Panchayats was convened by the
State Planning Board in January 2004, when it was unanimously decided by
all the participants that the project may be taken up for immediate
implementation in all districts over the next 2 years

7 It was also agreed that necessary funds for the e-literacy component would be earmarked by the Local Self Government Institutions in the coming plan, as per the pattern already approved in G.O (Ms) 01/2003/Plg

8 Government have examined the proposals in detail and are pleased to order that the AKSHAYA Project with the objectives and components mentioned above, and as implemented in Malappuram District be replicated in the remaining districts of the State commencing from 01 04 2004 Government also approve the financing pattern ordered in G O (Ms) 1/2003/Plg for the e-literacy component of the project.

9. Government are also pleased to order that the key e-governance services of the departments including those offered through FRIENDS Centres will be routed through the AKSHAYA Centres, in Malappuram District to begin with, and replicated to other Districts in a phased manner.

10. Government also approve the constitution of a Committee to fix the service charges in the matter.

By Order of the Governor

ARUNA SUNDARARAJAN
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To

The Director, Kerala State IT Mission, Vellayambalam.
The Vice Chairman, State Planning Board.
The AG (A&E)/Audit, Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram. (This issues with
    the concurrence of Finance Department)
The Additional Chief Secretary
The Secretary, Finance (Expenditure)
The Secretary, State Planning Board
The Secretary, Local Self Government Department.
The District Collectors.
The Director of Panchayath.
The General Administration (SC) Department – Vide (Item No. 2686
    dated 11 02.2004 of Proceedings the Council of Ministers)
The Local Self Government Department.
The Finance Department (Vide U.O No 91713/Exp A1/03/Fin Dated
    20.10.2003)
The Stock File/Office Copy
Copy to.
    The Private Secretary to Chief Minister.
    The Private Secretary to Minister, Industries & Social Welfare.
    The C A to Secretary (IT)
    The C A. to Joint Secretary (JT)

FORWARDED/BY ORDER

SECTION OFFICER