GOVERNMENT OF KERALA
Abstract

Information Technology Department – Implementation of Special Post Graduate Education Expansion Drive in IT (SPEED IT) for addressing the issues relating to lack of employment in IT Sector- Administrative Sanction- Accorded— Orders Issued.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (C) DEPARTMENT

G.O (Ms) No. 14/09/ITD   **Dated, Thiruvananthapuram: 04.07.2009**

ORDER

"Special postgraduate Education Expansion Drive in IT (SPEED-IT)" programme which addresses the following issues which are extremely critical in the current economic slowdown has been placed under the consideration of the Government.

     i.   Loss of employment in the IT/ITES sector.

     ii.   Lack of employment of graduating students.

     iii.   Employment for Gulf returnees especially in the IT/ITES sector.

     iv.   Need for larger human resource with higher qualification in the IT/ITES sector to sustain India's position as a leader in IT Sector

Objective: The main objective of SPEED-IT is to expand the existing post graduate programe (Masters and PhDs) in IT and IT related disciplines.

Strategy: To expand the human resource of post graduates in IT and related sector by providing for a scheme to attract good students into Masters and PhD programmes in IT and IT related disciplines by providing attractive scholarships by Government and by industry. Simultaneously, encouraging the Engineering institutions in the State to expand their capacity for intake of Masters and PhD students in IT and IT related disciplines.

Specifically the strategy involves the following.

a. The programme will consist of scholarship students and sponsored students. The selection of students under scholarship category will be primarily through merit. Sponsored seats can be sponsored by industry.

b. A scholarship of Rs.8000 per month per student shall be provided to Masters students under the scholarship category. Similarly, a scholarship of Rs.14000-18000 shall be provided for PhD students under the scholarship category. In each course 20% of the seats will be available as being sponsored seats. The terms and conditions for the sponsored seats will be decided subsequently.

c. The scholarship shall not be available for existing Masters programme and will be available only for students specifically admitted under the SPEED-IT programme. The engineering colleges shall expand their existing intake for Masters and PhD to avail the benefit of the scheme. The scheme shall be available to both Government and private Engineering Colleges. The expansion of the M Tech and PhD programme will be on a self-financing basis and no separate financial assistance shall be provided by Government. However, to meet the expenses of the expanded Programme, the Engineering colleges will be allowed to charge reasonable fees which could enable them to run the expanded programme on a sustainable basis. The scholarship shall be routed through the Colleges.

d. 200 additional seats for Masters and 10 seats for PhD could be supported during the academic year 2009-2010. The addition of 200 seats in M Tech is roughly equivalent to 10 new Programmes in the academic year 2009-2010.

Funding of the Scheme: During the current academic year, the year of launch, the scheme would be primarily funded by Kerala State IT Mission. However, there would be provision for receiving funds from Industry for sponsored students. The KSITM shall provide funds from its Human Resource Development Scheme in which an amount of Rs.4 crores is provided under plan during the financial year 2009-2010.

Management of the Scheme: The Scheme is proposed to be additional over and above the existing programme. The decisions like finalizing the terms of selection of students under the scholarship category, sponsored category, receiving funds from Industry, etc. shall be done by a High Level Committee comprising of representatives from Government (involving Finance, Higher Education and IT), IT/ITES industry and Engineering Colleges which will be constituted.

Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to accord administrative sanction for the implementation of the **"Special postgraduate Education Expansion Drive in IT" (SPEED-IT) scheme** in Kerala as proposed above for 200 Master students and 10 PhD students during academic year 2009-2010 at an estimated cost of Rs.210 lakh
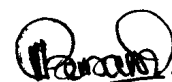
(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

Dr. AJAY KUMAR
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To,
   The Accountant General (A & E)/ (Audit) Kerala, Tvpm.
   The Director, Kerala State IT Mission
   The Secretary, NORKA Department
   The Principal Secretary, Higher Education Department
   The Director of Technical Education, Thiruvananthpuram
   All Government Engineering Colleges
   Institute of Human Resource Development for Electronics
   LBS College of Engineering, Thiruvananthpuram.
   Finance Department (Vide UO No 33721/Exp A1/09/Fin dated 21.05.09)
   General Administration (SC) Department
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Section Officer