



ABSTRACT

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department – Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women - Excess expenditure of Rs.7.45 crore incurred for the release of honorarium to Self Help Group women of 28,377 Schools for the hassle free / smooth implementation of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS), in rural and Town Panchayat areas by running decentralised kitchen in all schools in 37 Districts – Ratification - Orders – Issued.

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (CGS-3) Department

G.O.(Ms).No. 171

Dated:14.11.2024

குரோதி வருடம், ஜப்பசி 28
திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு, 2055

Read:

The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited, Letter Roc No.2549/P&C/2023, dated: 18.03.2024.

ORDER:

The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women has stated that the Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation was identified as the Nodal Agency for implementation of Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme in Rural and Town Panchayat Schools by the Government and the funds for implementation is released through the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department. The Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme has been implemented from 16.09.2022 onwards on a pilot basis in 17 Blocks of 16 Districts and it was expanded to all 37 Districts, 388 Blocks and 470 Town Panchayats and decentralised kitchen is run by the Self Help Group women from 25.08.2023 onwards. The role of Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women is to engage and train the Self Help Group Women at the rate of 3 per school in all 37 Districts in the 26,516 Schools in rural areas in 388 Blocks and 1,861 Schools in 470 Town Panchayats.

2. In order to implement the scheme in rural and urban areas for 15,75,900 students in 28,377 schools, the cost of implementation at the rate Rs.12.71 per day / per child was approved and funds were released by the Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department.

3. Based on the pilot implementation experiences and student's strength, a revised honorarium slab was worked out and communicated to the District Collectors, in which 10 slabs were adopted based on student's strength. Out of the permitted cost of Rs.12.71/- per child / per day, Rs.7.00/- per day / per child is allocated for the cost of food raw materials / vegetables and condiments and Rs.1.25/- for gas charges per child / per day. The balance of Rs.4.46/- per day per child out of Rs.12.71/- was set apart for monthly honorarium for the Self Help Group Women who act as Kitchen-in-charge. The implementation cost is released by the Commissioner of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment for only 85% of student strength communicated by Officer on Special Duty, School Education department and in-turn released to the District Collectors by the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women. On receipt of funds from Commissioner of Social Welfare, the required funds have been calculated District wise/ School wise based on student strength and released to the District Collectors and the District Collectors in turn have released the

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CMBFS
Stockfile
and file to be
attached.

Food and Raw materials cost to the Regional Manager, Tamil Nadu Civil Supplies Corporation and Joint Registrar, Co-Operatives directly from the Collectorate based on the indent raised and invoices received from the departments and balance cost towards the vegetable / Condiments cost from the approved cost of Rs.7.00/- per day / per child, Gas / Fuel charges cost and honorarium in the approved slabs have been released to the kitchen in-charges through the Panchayat Level Federation (PLFs), based on students strength and number of schools.

4. As the honorarium slab worked out by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, for kitchen-in-charge / Self Help Group cook for the pilot implementation in 16 Districts, 17 Blocks was found to be in excess of the cost released per day per child i.e., Rs.12.71/- and for an excess expenditure incurred to the tune of Rs.46.00 lakh, the ratification proposal was sent by the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women which has been under the consideration of the Government in Social Welfare and Women Empowerment Department. The honorarium cost to be paid to the kitchen centre-in-charge have been released to the Panchayat Level Federation (PLFs) / Area Level Federation (ALFs) Accounts concerned and PLFs / ALFs have in turn released to the concerned Self Help Group Women / kitchen in-charge Bank Accounts directly by 5th of every month.

5. During the period of August / September 23 - March 24, the Commissioner of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment had released an amount of Rs.220.04 Crore to the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women and subsequently, the funds have been released to the District Collectors in 37 Districts for the first month calculating the number of days from August 25th to September 29th, 2023, i.e., 23 days based on 85% students strength as mentioned in the G.O.(Ms).No.33, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment(SW4(1)) Department, dated:07.06.2023 till March-2024 for totally 133 working days during the period of 7 months.

6. Though the honorarium was proposed to be met out from Rs.4.46/- per day per child out of Rs.12.71/- which was insufficient to meet out the honorarium cost even after revising the honorarium slabs based on student strength namely 1-9, 10-25, 26-50, 51-100, 101-200, 201-300, 301-400, 401-500, 501-800 and above 1000 students, the total honorarium per month was given at Rs.12.09 crore totalling Rs.84,66,74,500/- for these 28,377 schools for the 7 months, irrespective of the number of working days in a particular month as the monthly honorarium could not be reduced based on the number of working days. While proposing the honorarium slab during July 2023, the number of school working days proposed was 170 days but the number of actual school working days comes to only 133 days. Hence, the shortfall arises in the amount of honorarium originally proposed and released ($\text{Rs.4.46} \times 1323198 \text{ students} \times 37 \text{ days}$).

7. The total number of students i.e., 13,23,198 in 28,377 Schools for whom the implementation cost of Rs.8.25/- is released to the Districts for the last 7 Months and if calculate the amount of Rs.4.46/-per day / per child, the cost of Honorarium for 7 months comes to only Rs.76.90 Crore. But based on the Honorarium slab already communicated by the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, an amount of Rs.84.66 Crore to the 37 Districts were released. The amount released by Commissioner of Social Welfare and Women Empowerment based on Rs.12.71/- per day / per child is only Rs.220.04 Crore. But the actual amount released to District Collectors by Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women including Honorarium is Rs.227.49 Crore from August' 2023 to March' 2024, for 133 working days in the last 7 months. The difference in cost of Rs.7,45,35,341/- had been utilised for meeting out the honorarium requirement of the Self Help Group women / Cook incharge Women for the 28,377 schools for the last 7 months.

8. Hence, it is requested that the difference in cost released to the 37 District Collectors towards the agreed honorarium cost i.e., Rs.7,45,35,341/- for the implementation of the scheme may be ratified on the justification that the honorarium slab approved and communication given to the Self Help Group Women could not be

reduced as it would cause hardship in the implementation of the programme in the 28,377 school centres.

9. The funds release for Honorarium was done with good and bonafide intention to ensure that the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme is implemented well and the Self Help Group women in rural and urban areas have been giving their best service for cooking and distribution of Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS) without any issues so far in the field. The difference in cost of variation in honorarium is due to the difference in the number of schools proposed originally in July' 2023 and number of schools of implementation during August – September' 2023 and the variation in the slab of student strength and number of students calculated as 85% and funds released towards 85% student strength while implementation etc.,

10. The Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women has, therefore, requested the Government to consider the situation that the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women could not reduce the honorarium, once assured to the Self Help Group Women / Cook in-charge and the action of the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women done in good faith shall be ratified and necessary Government Orders may be issued for ratifying the excess expenditure of Rs.7.45 crore for release of honorarium to Self Help Group women of 28,377 Schools for the hassle free / smooth implementation of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS), in Rural and Town Panchayat areas by running decentralised kitchen in all schools in 37 Districts.

11. The Government after careful examination have decided to issue order ratifying the action of the Managing Director, Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women Limited for having incurred the excess expenditure of Rs.7.45 Crore for release of honorarium to Self Help Group women of 28,377 Schools for the hassle free / smooth implementation of the Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme (CMBFS) in Rural and Town Panchayat areas by running decentralised kitchen in all schools in 37 Districts.

12. This order issued with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O. Note No.1226/Finance (SW & WE)/2024, dated:11.11.2024.

(BY ORDER OF THE GOVERNOR)

GAGANDEEP SINGH BEDI
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

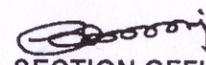
To

The Managing Director,
Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, Chennai – 600 034.
The Secretary to Government, Social Welfare and Women Empowerment
Department, Chennai – 600 009.
The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj, Chennai – 600 015.
The Accountant General, Chennai – 600 018.
The Resident Audit Officer, Chennai – 600 009.
The Pay and Accounts Officer (South), Chennai – 600 035.

Copy to:

Hon'ble Deputy Chief Minister's Office, Chennai – 600 009.
The Finance (Infra-IV) Department, Chennai – 600 009.
The Senior Private Secretary to the Additional Chief Secretary to Government,
Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department, Chennai – 600 009.
The Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (OP-II) Department, Chennai – 600 009.
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//Forwarded By Order//


SECTION OFFICER.

