

**MATERIALS FOR UPDATION OF GOVERNMENT WEBSITE
(PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT)**

CABINET DECISIONS

08.02.2005

1. Proposal for amendment of the Utkal University of Culture Act, 1999.

The procedures laid down under clause -(c) of Sub-Section(1) of Section -17 of the Utkal University of Culture Act, 1999 do not provide extensive scope to the Chancellor to nominate three Orissan Awardees of National Academies to the Academic Council of the University under the respective category. It has, therefore, been felt necessary to amend the section suitably by way of incorporating a provision that in case the required number of Orissan Awardees under the respective category is not available, State Academy Awardees shall be taken into consideration to be nominated as the member of the Council.

2. Amendment of the Orissa Medical Education Service(Recruitment) Rules, 1979.

Approved.

3. Allotment of land in favour of IAS Officers Wives Association for playground for underprivileged children.

The IAS Officers' Wives Association was given permissive possession of an area 180'x55'(mn) in Mouza, Gopabandhu Nagar, Unit-8, Bhubaneswar for development of play ground for under-privileged children vide G.A. Department Order No. 7047/CA, dated 30.05.1996, the approximate cost of the land comes to Rs. 11,36,364.00

The Secretary of the Association has now requested for allotment of the above land on free of premium.

The matter was placed before the Empowered Committee Meeting held on 25.02.2004 and the Committee, after thorough discussion recommended for 50% concession on the premium value of the land allotted in favour of IAS Officers' Wives Association subject to approval of the Cabinet. Finance Department has concurred with the views of the Empowered Committee.

Considering the request of the Secretary of the Association, it has been decided to allot the above land on payment of 50% premium.

4. Amendment to the Orissa Civil Services (Criteria for Promotion) Rules, 1992.

Rule 3(c) of the Orissa Civil Services(criteria for promotion) Rules, 1992 was amended vide G.A. Department Notification No. 37065/Gen. dated. 19.12.1997. The rule was amended again vide G.A. Department Notification No. 20277/Gen, dated 19.07.2003 reverting to the original provision of scrutinizing preceding five years C.C.Rs. Consequent upon such amendment timely promotion of officers has been adversely affected as C.C.Rs.of preceding five years in many cases are not available for some reasons or other. For smooth management of official work, and fill up various promotional posts, it is essential to ensure timely promotion.

The Cabinet decided to amend Notification No. 20277 / Gen. dated 19.07.2003, so that preceding five available annual C.C.Rs. shall be scrutinized by the Orissa Public Service Commission, D.P.C., Selection Board or Selection Committee to adjudge suitability of an officer for consideration of promotion provided the available CCRs so considered cover at least a period of three years in preceding five years.

5. ଗ୍ରନ୍ଥୋଦ୍‌ଘ ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଧାନସଭାର ତୃତୀୟ ଅଧିବେଶନର ସଭାବସାନ ।

The 3rd session of the 13th Orissa Legislative A assembly which met from 3.12.2004 to 28.12.2004 was prorogued on 28.12.2004 by the Governor of Orissa on the recommendation of Chief

Minister in anticipation of approval of the cabinet. The Cabinet accorded ex-post-facto approval for the same.

6. Summoning of the Fourth Session of the Thirteenth Orissa Legislative Assembly.

The 4th session of the 13th Orissa Legislative Assembly was summoned for 26 days commencing from 28.2.2005 to 6.4.2005. The Governor of Orissa had summoned the session on the recommendation of Chief Minister in anticipation of approval of the cabinet. The cabinet accorded ex-post-facto approval for the same.

7. Contribution Pension Scheme.

Pension liability on State Government has increased more than 20 times during the period from 1990-91 to 2003-04. Unless effective steps are taken, it will further aggravate the fiscal difficulties. Government of India as well as other State Governments have introduced Pension Reforms with a view to curtail the pension bills in the years to come. Therefore, it has been decided to move from a Defined Benefit Approach to pensions to a Defined Contribution concept. Under this concept, the employees contribute to a pension with corresponding contribution by the employer and this amount is invested in the financial assets during the entire course of employee's service. At the end of the service carrier, the employees get the accumulated fund rather than payments from the employer as pension. Government of India have already introduced such a Defined Contribution Pension Scheme for new entrants to Central Government service w.e.f. 1st January, 2004 as per which, monthly contribution @ 10% of salary (pay+D.A.) would be deposited in a non-withdrawable pension account. Accordingly, State Government have also decided that all regular Government employees recruited after 1.1.2005 would be covered under the new defined contribution pension system.

Besides, the followings were also approved.

(i) Modification of the provisions contained in the Orissa Civil Service(Pension) Rules, 1992 whereby persons appointed under the Government of Orissa w.e.f. 1.1.2005 shall not be

eligible for pension as defined under Rule-3(i) of the O.C.S.(Pension) Rules, 1992. They shall be covered under a Defined Contribution Pension Scheme as notified by Government of India in the Ministry of Finance Notification dated 22nd December, 2003.

(ii) Suitable amendment in the provision of the Aided Educational Employees Pension Rules shall be made so that the new entrants w.e.f. 1.1.2005 in the Grant-in-Aid Institutions shall be covered under new contribution pension scheme. Their employers' share will be borne by the management of the concerned Aided Institutions.

8. Report of Shri Justice R.K. Patra, Commission of Inquiry set up to inquire into the alleged corruption in procurement of polythene sheets by the Special Organisation, Orissa.

In the wake of Super Cyclone during the year 1999, Special Relief Organisation(SRO) had to procure a bulk quantity of polythene sheets for distribution amongst affected people. Following large scale allegations about the bonafides of such purchase Government had to set up a Commission of Inquiry headed by Justice Sri R. K. Patra, the then a sitting Judge of Orissa High Court vide Revenue Department's Notification No. 4627/R., dated 24.1.2000 and after due enquiry the Commission submitted his report on 29.10.2003.

The main findings of the Commission are:-

1). No possible and cogent evidences could be placed before the Commission for which no one has been found guilty so far as procurement of polythene sheets made by the Special Relief Organisation is concerned.

2). The Special Relief Commissioner, Orissa be requested to amend/incorporate the provisions relating to the purchase of different relief materials as the existing provisions contained in the Relief Code are not sufficient.

3). 237 rolls of polythene sheets purchased by the Principal Resident Commissioner, New Delhi @Rs. 45/- per Kg. from M/s Bansal Canvas Udyog Limited, New Delhi amounting to Rs. 4,76,437/- has been misappropriated. The Government in Home Department be requested to investigate into this through the

police and to take action to realise the misappropriated amount from the erring official(s)

The Cabinet accepted the Commission's Report.

9. Approval of the Draft State Disaster Management Policy.

The Cabinet approved the State Disaster Management Policy.

Orissa is vulnerable to various disasters, both natural and manmade. The recorded history of the state is strewn with incidences of devastating floods, killer cyclones, and severe droughts/famines, which retard development and neutralise a large part of the development gains made by the State. A part of the State also comes under moderate earthquake risk zone, indicating possibility of Tsunami.

The present relief operation under the provision of the Orissa Relief Code is confined to recovery and rehabilitation measures in the post-disaster phase only. It was realised that a radically different approach was necessary to confront and manage disasters. The necessity to shift the focus from 'Relief, Restoration and Rehabilitation' to 'Planning, Prevention and Preparedness' was felt at all levels. Government of India have constituted a High Powered Committee (HPC) in August 1999 for preparation of Disaster Management Plan for the Country and also to suggest institutional reforms required at all levels for effective Disaster Management. A National Committee on Disaster Management, with the Prime Minister as the Chairperson, was set up to (a) deliberate on the necessary institutional and legislative measures needed for an effective and long-term strategy to deal with major natural calamities in future and (b) to look into the parameters that should define a National Calamity. In the context of initiatives taken by Government of India the State Government felt it necessary to have a specific policy for disaster management that would provide necessary guidelines on all aspects of emergency management. The focus of the Disaster Management Policy will be on total risk management and vulnerability reduction. The policy envisages the principles of disaster management, co-ordinated effort of different stakeholders in pre-disaster phase, response phase, recovery and rehabilitation phase. It also envisages the

prevention, preparedness and mitigation through development planning capacity building, constitution of Special Task Force, role of Local Self Government, community participation, training of stakeholders and communication system etc. The policy enumerates different activities/programmes to be adopted during response phase like rescue and medical care, food and shelter, health and sanitation, surface communication, security and damage assessment. The key activities in recovery and rehabilitation phase are reconstruction programmes, rehabilitation of orphans and widows, resource mobilisation etc.

As a follow up measure of State Disaster Management Policy and Disaster Management Plan, a Disaster Management Bill has been drafted which is under active process for enactment. The proposed State Disaster Management Policy, State Disaster Management Bill and State Disaster Management Plan are expected to be helpful to build up an effective disaster management system of the State.

10. Funding pattern of drinking water supply schemes-creation of an enabling environment to enlist people's participation to promote sustainability of water supply systems and sources.

The Sector Reforms Pilot Projects have been successfully completed in Ganjam, Balasore and Sundergarh districts. The reform initiatives have been scaled up and operationalised State wide as Swajaldhara. The drinking water supply schemes installed under the Sector Reform Pilot Projects/ Swajaldhara are being operated and maintained by the Village Water Sanitation Committees. The drinking water supply schemes installed under ARWSP/CRF etc. are being operated and maintained by the RWSS organisation. The State Government is unable to operate and maintain the water supply schemes, especially PWS schemes to the full satisfaction of the users because of budgetary constraint and shortage of manpower. Besides, implementation of the supply driven ARWSP along side the participatory Swajaldhara is creating serious confusion among the stakeholders. It is felt necessary to bring about fundamental parity in ongoing drinking water supply programmes with regard to funding pattern and operation and maintenance schemes and to opt for a suitable funding pattern having an inbuilt mechanism to enlist people's participation in installation, operation and maintenance of drinking

water sources to improve service satisfaction and sustainability of the source and systems.

The Cabinet approved the proposal with stipulations received from MPLAD, MLALAD, Grampanchayat, N.G.O. etc. which shall not exceed 50% of the contributions to be made by the community.

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