



• GOVERNMENT OF SIKKIM
FINANCE DEPARTMENT
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O.M No GOS/FIN/ADM/ 01

DATED 18.05.2020

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

The unprecedented crisis in the wake of nationwide lockdown to combat and contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has exacted heavy economic and financial cost. The lockdown has slowed down the economic activities in the country and ceased the revenue inflow putting extra burden to the State ex-chequer.

The Cabinet in its meeting on Friday, 8th May, 2020 discussed and deliberated on the subject and directed to impose following austerity measures to mitigate the adverse effect of the economic downturn in the State.

1. BAN ON APPOINTMENT UNDER REGULAR/WORK-CHARGED/MUSTER ROLL/ADHOC /CONSOLIDATED PAY /TEMPORARY BASIS ETC.

- a) There will be a complete ban on temporary appointments in all categories for 6 months from the date of the issue of this Memorandum
- b) Barring exemption for Health Department for regular appointment, there shall be no regular appointments, creation of posts, cadre reviews etc. for 6 months from the date of the issue of this Memorandum.

2. REPAIRS AND MAINTENANCE AND PAYMENT OF LIABILITIES.

- a) No expenditure on repairs and maintenance, renovation (Minor works), decoration, furniture and furnishing etc. of the office buildings including chambers of the Public officials will be done except water

supply, electricity, fire, Health Department and other emergency services. The liabilities already created for the non essential works stated above except of Health Department, if any, shall not be paid till further order.

- b) The liability already created other than above shall also not to be paid till further order.
- c)

3. BAN ON REPLACEMENT AND PURCHASE OF VEHICLE, COMPUTER & PERIPHERIALS ETC.

There will be complete ban on the purchase of vehicle, computers and other Information technology related accessories, furniture and furnishing, televisions and other office equipment till further order. Hiring of vehicle is also prohibited.

In case of any urgency of purchase for newly constructed public buildings like schools, colleges, libraries, hospital or any such institution, where provision has been made in the current budget, prior concurrence of the Finance Department will be required.

4. CURTAILMENT OF EXPENDITURE BY 20%

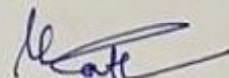
There shall be 20% cut during the current financial year on all allocation under revenue expenditure except under Salary, Wages, Pension, Interest payments, Grants-in Aid (salary), purchase of medicines, repairs of medical equipments and purchase of Power.

The discretionary grants of Honourable Minister and Members of legislative Assembly shall be deferred till further order.

5. DRAWAL OF POL

- a) There shall be no drawal of monthly and tour fuel for the months of April and May, 2020 except for Chief Secretary, DGP, HoDs, District Collectors, ADCs, SDMs, BDOs, SPs, SDPO Offices, SHOs and Doctors at STNM, District Hospitals, CHCs and PHCs.

However, in other cases, the head of the department concerned shall rationalise their requirement in a fair and just manner with list of vehicles and name and designation of the officials who were engaged during the lock down period for a period of more than 21 days. They shall submit the proposal to the Finance Department for examination and concurrence.



- b) The fuel already drawn by the other departments for the said periods may be adjusted in the subsequent months.
- c) Resource on account of POL for commercial vehicles under SNT shall be regulated on the basis of utilisation of the fleet during the lockdown period. The HOD shall submit detail to the Finance Department for concurrence.
- d) The departments and Offices who have received resources from other sources towards drawal of POL etc. shall submit detail statement of the utilization of the fund to the Finance Department.

6. **TOUR OF OFFICERS AND STAFF**

There is complete ban on foreign travel. The Officer proceeding on tour outside the State shall not be accompanied by any other member other than himself/ herself.

7. **ADVERTISEMENT/ PUBLICATION OF NOTICE INVITING TENDER**

There shall be no publication and advertisement of any kind in the Newspapers except in Sikkim Herald. However, the advertisement which is mandatory in the local and national papers shall be submitted to Finance Department for examination and concurrence.

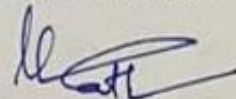
8. **CONVEYANCE ALLOWANCE**

No conveyance allowance shall be paid except for Doctors posted in the STNM, District Hospital, and CHCs. However, the allowance of said Doctors, and Doctors posted elsewhere for noble COVID-19 mission, shall be certified by the Medical Superintendent/ respective CMO and the head of the department for obtaining concurrence of the Finance Department.

Conveyance Allowances already drawn shall be adjusted in the subsequent month and report of same to be submitted to the Office of the Additional Chief Secretary, Finance.

9. **HOUSE BUILDING ADVANCE**

Grant of House Building Advance to AIS Officers shall be deferred till further order.



10. REFRESHMENT/ RECEPTIONS

There will be a complete ban on hosting of official reception in the Hotel/ Resort and serving of refreshment during meeting, seminars etc. till further order. However, in exceptional circumstances concurrence of Finance Department is required.

11. TRANSFER OF FUND

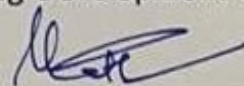
- a) The transfer of fund to RLB & ULB, Boards and Government bodies in the form of grant-in aid other than salaries and honorariums shall be deferred till further order.
- b) Devolution of fund under the 5th State Finance Commission shall be reduced by 10 % till review of same by authority except grants recommended by the 15th Finance Commission.

12. CONTINGENCY AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES

- a) All contingency provisions in the ongoing works shall not be utilised till further order.
- b) The administrative charges provisioned in the work, scheme etc. shall be credited to the revenue head of the respective department immediately

13. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

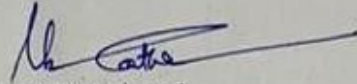
- a) No new scheme/ works including land acquisition shall be initiated. However, all the initial formalities of the works already budgeted can be completed so that implementation can be commenced immediately after the withdrawal of order by the Government.
- b) There is no restriction for implementation of centrally Sponsored Schemes to the extent of funds made available by the Government of India
- c) No liabilities should be created without Budget provision. HOD of the concerned department shall be held responsible in the event of creation of any liability without the concurrence of Planning and Finance Department.
- d) Allocation for the ongoing capital works except for State Share shall stand reduced by 20%.
- e) The scope of the existing work/ scheme shall also in no case be enhanced without the concurrence of the Planning Development and Finance Department.



All the above noted measures will also be applicable to the State PSUs, undertakings, statutory bodies, autonomous institutions Rural & local Bodies and all other Government aided institutions with immediate effect.

This supersedes all earlier Orders / Office Memorandum in this regard.

BY ORDER



(V. B. PATHAK), IAS
Additional Chief Secretary
Finance Department
Government of Sikkim
File No177/Fin/Adm./10-11/ Pt - II

MEMO NO

/177/FIN/ADM/10-11/PT- II

DATED 18.05.2020

Copy to:

1. Additional Chief Secretary to Hon'ble Governor
2. Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister
3. All Heads of Department
4. Registrar General of High Court of Sikkim
5. All District Collectors
6. Private Secretary to all Hon'ble Minister
7. Director, Treasury, Pay & Accounts Office
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