

4.13 Appointing retired persons as Honorary Librarians for AGAMT libraries

Rural Development and Panchayat Raj (SGS II) Department

G.O. (Ms) No. 177

Dated : 25.10.2007

Read :

1. G.O.Ms.No.115 RD &PR (SGS-2) Department, dated 11.09.2006
2. G.O.Ms.No.189 RD & PR (SGS.2) Department, dated 27.12.2006
3. G.O.Ms.No.97 RD&PR (SGS-2) Department, dated 13.06.2007
4. Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj,
Letter No RC No.48049/06 SS2 Dated 05.09.2007

ORDER

In the Government order first read above, the Government have launched a new scheme called Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam (AGAMT) for all 12618 Village Panchayats which aims at substantial mobilization of resources into one-fifth of the Village Panchayats each year to improve the infrastructure in all the villages in the State over the period of five years. The AGAMT Scheme, among others, envisages establishment of a library in each Village Panchayat.

2. In the letter fourth read above, the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has sent a detailed proposal for appointing Honorary Librarians in the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries. As per the original AGAMT guidelines, the library should be kept open for a minimum of 7 hours daily. The Praeraks and Assistant Praeraks available in a Panchayat under the Continuing Education Scheme should be entrusted with the responsibility of maintaining the AGAMT Library. In cases, where there are no Praeraks and Assistant Praeraks, the Panchayat Clerk / Panchayat Assistant / Makkal Nala Paniyalar is to be entrusted with this responsibility.

3. However the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has pointed out the difficulties encountered in entrusting the libraries with Praeraks / Assistant Praeraks as these are not available in all Village Panchayats of each district. They are appointed out of funds available under Continuing Education Scheme which is a time bound programme. Hence, ensuring their presence in the library for a period of 7 hours a day is not practically feasible on a permanent basis. Also, the services of the Panchayat Assistants / Panchayat clerks and Makkal Nala Paniyalars can not be counted upon as they are entrusted with multifarious responsibilities. In the ten NREGA districts, the Panchayat Assistants are also entrusted with responsibilities of maintaining NREGS registers in the village panchayat and the Makkal Nala Paniyalars are responsible for the maintenance of NMRs and other related records at field level pertaining to NREGS works. The alternative of entrusting the AGAMT libraries to the staff of Library Department is also not feasible since Library Department does not have sufficient staff. In other words, it is not practically feasible to utilise the staff of another department to ensure the successful running of AGAMT libraries.

4. The Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj has therefore recommended that as an alternative, retired persons who are willing to take up an honorary job of maintaining the AGAMT library, and who are ordinarily residents of that village or the adjacent village, may be considered for the post of Honorary Librarian of the AGAMT libraries. He has also recommended that retired persons only may be taken up for this purpose so as to ensure that the libraries are run by persons of experience and knowledge who are willing to take up this work for the love of books and who are not in search of alternate employment opportunities since the present assignment will only entail an honorarium and no permanent salary. He has also suggested certain guidelines for appointing of Honorary Librarians in the AGAMT Libraries.

5. The Government after careful examination of the proposal of the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj for the appointment of Honorary Librarians in the Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries has decided to appoint the Honorary Librarians on contract basis initially for a period of two years at a consolidated pay of Rs.750 per month, to be paid out

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of the Village Panchayats' own funds. Detailed guidelines for the appointment of Honorary Librarians are annexed to this order.

6. The Government further orders that the Secretary to Government, Rural Development and Panchayat Raj Department in consultation with the Director of Rural Development and Panchayat Raj is authorized to suitably modify any of the above guidelines based on exigencies that may arise from time to time.

7. This order issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide its U.O.No.3290/FS/P/07 dated 15.10.2007.

(By order of the Governor)

K.ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

ANNEXURE

Guidelines for appointing Honorary Librarians in Anaithu Grama Anna Marumalarchi Thittam Libraries

1. Eligibility Criterion :

Retired persons who are willing to take up an honorary job of maintaining the AGAMT libraries, and who are ordinarily residents of that village or the adjacent village, shall be considered for the post of Honorary Librarian of the AGAMT libraries.

2. Order of priority :

The following Order of Priority shall be considered in the selection of librarians.

- 1) Retired Government / Private Librarians / Retired technical staff below the cadre of Librarian.
- 2) Retired Government Teachers.
- 3) Retired Private Teachers.
- 4) Retired Government servants (other than Teachers)
- 5) Persons retired from Private sector (other than Teachers).

3. Qualification:

- 1) The person applying for the post should be having a minimum qualification of SSLC passed or equivalent.
- 2) The person applying for the post should not be parent/spouse/ sibling/son/ daughter of the Panchayat President. He should also not be a ward member of the Village Panchayat.

4. Age and Nativity :

- 1) The person applying should be of the age of 58 years and above (unless he/she is an ex-serviceman; even in such cases, he/she should be at least 50 years old).
- (2) He/she should ordinarily be a resident of that village.
- (3) If there is no eligible person in that village panchayat from the above categories, persons from the adjoining village Panchayats whose boundary physically touches the concerned village panchayat can also be considered.

5. Preparation of panel :

The Village Panchayat President should select persons with qualifications, age and nativity criteria as prescribed in para 3 & 4 above and forward the panel of three eligible names in the order of priority as prescribed in para 2 above with the resolution of the Village Panchayats through the Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) to the District Collector for approval. The Block Development Officer (Village Panchayats) will scrutinize the eligibility criteria of the recommended persons and forward the panel to the District Collector who will approve the panel. No new names will be recommended by the District Collector outside the panel. In case, no person is found to be suitable, the Collector should call for a fresh panel from the Village Panchayat. The Village Panchayat President should issue the appointment letter to the first person in the list, as Honorary Librarian based on the approval of the panel by District Collector. In case of the first person resigning this post in future or not willing to work in this post, or being found unsuitable or unfit to continue in the post the person next in priority in the panel will be appointed by the Panchayat President. The appointment shall be on contract basis initially for a period of two years.

Honorarium :

The Honorary Librarian shall be paid an honorarium of Rs.750/- per month from the Village Panchayat Fund Account of the Village Panchayat concerned.

K.ASHOK VARDHAN SHETTY
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT