



Government of Kerala

Department of Environment & Climate Change

Pallimukku, Pettah P.O., Thiruvananthapuram- 695 024

Ph: +91471-2742264(Off), 2742554 (Dir) +91471-2742554(Fax)

e-mail: environmentdirector@gmail.com web: www.envt.kerala.gov.in

PROCEEDINGS OF THE DIRECTOR

Present: Sri.P.Sreekantan Nair

Sub: Environment & Climate Change Research Fellowship Programme (PARISTHITHI POSHINI)-Modalities of fellowship and selection procedure- fixed-Orders issued.

DIRECTORATE OF ENVIRONMENT & CLIMATE CHANGE

No.DoECC/E3/1746/2013

dated 19.11.2013

Read :- 1. G.O.(Rt) No.121/2012/Env. Dated 13.08.2012.

2. G.O.(Rt) No.140/2013/Env. Dated 12.09.2013.

ORDER

Government vide G.O read above have issued administrative sanction to institute Environment & Climate Change Research Fellowship Programme entitled 'Paristhithi Poshini' for researchers(students) desirous of working at the forefront of Environment Management, Environmental Sciences, Environmental Engineering, Environmental Economics and Climate Change with a focus on problem solving on Environment and Climate Change issues by way of research in Environmental Schools/Institutions in Kerala/ Country. Govt. has further authorized the Director, Department of Environment & Climate Change (DoECC) to issue detailed orders on the modalities of the fellowship and selection procedures, and shall be as follows hence forthwith:

This Environment & Climate Change Research Fellowship Programme **PARISTHITHI POSHINI** will allow our most promising young researchers after completing MSc/MPhil/MTech to do cutting-edge research on critical issues related to the Environment and Climate Change. The fellowships will involve full time research work for 3 years, leading to Ph D degree in the relevant subject areas. **However the total number of fellowships in operation at any point of time will not normally exceed Twenty.** Paristhithi Poshini intends to find solutions to the practical problems of Environment & Climate Change and their application on to the field leading to visible environmental improvement in Kerala.

1. **Title:**

The title of the programme shall be "Paristhithi Poshini Environmental Research fellowship- Kerala."

2. Subject Areas of fellowship:

There will be 5 areas for consideration of Paristhithi Poshini fellowship. They are: i. Environment Management (ii) Environmental Sciences (iii) Environmental Economics (iv) Environmental Engineering and (v) Climate Change.

3. Nature of Fellowship:

Two fellowships from each subject area mentioned in clause (2) shall be considered for award every year. In case a suitable fellowship cannot be allowed in any discipline in a year, other subjects can be considered for more than two fellowships, in that year, provided, total fellowship per year shall not exceed 10.

4. Eligibility

- (i) Only natives of Kerala are eligible.
- (ii) Candidates should have a post graduate degree (MSc/ Mphil) from any of the recognized Universities in India in the below stated concerned disciplines:
 - (a) for fellowship in Environment Management - Post graduation in Environment Management/Disaster Management/Life Sciences (Zoology/Botany)
 - (b) for fellowship in Environmental Sciences - Post graduation in Environmental science/Environmental studies/Life Sciences (Zoology/Botany)
 - (c) for fellowship in Environmental Engineering - Post graduation in Environmental Engineering / Environmental Technology
 - (d) for fellowship in Environmental Economics - Post graduation in Economics/Econometrics/Agricultural Economics/ Environmental Economics
 - (e) for fellowship in Climate Change - Post graduation in Environmental Sciences/Environmental Studies/Environment management/Environmental Engineering/ Environmental Technology/Environmental Economics/Agricultural Economics /Economics/ Econometrics/Earth Science/ Atmospheric Sciences/Planetary Sciences/Disaster Management/Climatology/ Life Sciences (Zoology/Botany)
- (iii) Candidates should have secured minimum 70% of marks in aggregate for the qualifying degree.
- (iv) The candidates should have the eligibility to undertake research in Environmental Schools/Institutions/R&D institutions/ Universities. They must register for PhD Programme in any of the 'Institutions' in Kerala/Country latest by the next admission time in the respective universities in any case not later than one year after the award.

5. Age:

Should not have exceeded 35 years of age as on 1st January of the year of inviting application for fellowships.

6. Duration

The period of fellowship shall involve full time research for a period not exceeding three years. An extension period of two years may be considered under special circumstances without any financial assistance and shall be decided case to case merits by the Department of Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala.

7. Fellowship

Rs 12,000/- per month for the first two years and Rs. 14,000/- for the 3rd year. The fellowship will carry an annual contingency grant of Rs. 20,000/- Plus 10% H.R.A. This may be revised from time to time by the Dept. of Environment & Climate Change, Govt. of Kerala.

8. Mode of Selection

A common aptitude test with 100 objective type questions (20 from each subject area) shall be held for short listing of candidates as per eligibility. It will be followed by personal interview of the short listed candidates for final selection.

9. How to apply

Eligible candidates shall submit the application in the prescribed format with copies of certificates duly attested by a Gazetted Officer including that of their eligibility for research. The application should contain mailing address, contact number and e-mail id.

10. Terms Conditions

- (i). The candidate shall be informed, in writing, of his/her selection to the 'Paristhithi Poshini'.
- (ii). On receipt of the selection order of fellowship, the candidate should submit a tri party agreement in stamp paper worth Rs.100/-among the candidate, research institution and DoECC duly countersigned by the Guide and Head of the Institution. An undertaking as in clause 10 (xi) should also be furnished by the candidate which shall form part of the agreement.
- (iii). On satisfactory receipt of the tri-party agreement, the candidate shall be awarded fellowship in writing and then only the fellowship be confirmed.
- (iv). The awardees must register for Ph. D Programme in any of the recognized Universities in India, or must be qualified for doing research NOT later than one year after the award. They may carry out the research

work either in University Departments, National Institutes or any recognized R & D Centers, which will be called the 'Institution'. If they are already undertaking the research work, the Head of the Institution will intimate the fact to DoECC where they are undertaking research work.

(v). Each selected student will be eligible for monthly fellowships and perquisites as in clause 7.

(vi). Fellowship will be released in advance in lump sum each year through the institution in which the research is carried out. The fund should be utilized only for the purpose for which it has been sanctioned. The interest accrued, if any, will have to be reflected in the statement of expenditure, which will be adjusted from the subsequent years' grant. The date of effect of fellowship shall be the date of release of 1st year of grant/fellowship and first year shall be calculated from the effective date that is the date of Demand Draft releasing the initial grant.

(vii). The amount should be drawn by the Institution and released to the research scholar only by means of DD. A separate cashbook should be maintained for the purpose by the institution, which should be available for open scrutiny of DoECC or any agency deputed by the DoECC. Receipt and Expenditure relating to the fellowship should be entered in the Cash Book simultaneously with the transactions. The designation of the drawing and disbursing officer of the institution shall be informed to DoECC. Balance amount with interest accrued if any in the account should be mentioned in the Utilization Certificate and will be adjusted against future release. Unutilized amount at the completion/termination of fellowship should be refunded with interest to Government.

(viii). A progress report of the work has to be submitted to the DoECC once in every six months with the remarks of the Head of Institution where they are undertaking research.

(ix). In addition, annual progress reports with technical/scientific details of the work accomplished should be submitted at the end of each year. The subsequent installments will be disbursed by DoECC only after receiving satisfactory progress reports and statement of expenditure & Utilization Certificate from the Head of institution (for Govt./aided/University) and Chartered Accountant in the case of unaided institution. On completion of the tenure of fellowship the research fellow must send detailed consolidated report of research work done during the entire period of fellowship and audited statements of expenditure to the DoECC.

(x). The fellowship will be purely on contract basis and will not be eligible for any service benefits. The scholars will be required to complete the research programme leading to Ph. D within a period of three years. Extension for a maximum period of two years may be considered for exceptionally good candidates on case by case basis.

(xi). Research scholars availing any other source of scholarship/stipend from other state/central funding agencies or international agencies will not be

simultaneously eligible for **PARISTHITHI POSHINI**. The research scholar should furnish an undertaking to the effect that he/she is not availing stipend from any other source simultaneously.

(**xii**). No research fellow shall discontinue his/her fellowship without prior approval of DoECC. In case he/she wishes to discontinue the fellowship prior to completion of the tenure, he/she must submit the resignation to the DoECC through the Guide, indicating specific reasons for not continuing the fellowship. The fellowship shall cease from the date stipulated in the letter approving the resignation. The research fellows who thus resigned must send a detailed consolidated report of the research work already done during the period of fellowship and audited financial statements through the Guide to DoECC, within one month of accepting the resignation failing which shall be entitled to repay the released grants with interest to Govt. of Kerala.

(**xiii**). The research fellow shall inform DoECC about the submission of thesis for Ph. D and submission/publication of any research paper arising out of the research work done during the tenure of the fellowship. Three copies of the thesis must be sent to the DoECC within one month of the award of the Ph. D degree and also two copies to the Environment Department Govt. Secretariat, TVPM. These copies of publications, if any shall also be submitted to DoECC.

(**xiv**). Due acknowledgement of Government of Kerala, Department of Environment & Climate Change **MUST BE** given in all the publications and Research paper emanating from the research work.

11. The Director, DoECC is vested with the powers to modify any of the conditions of the fellowship, which can also be over ruled by Government.

P. Sreekantan Nair.
Director

Copy to:

All Heads of Departments
The Accountant General A & E/Audit, Kerala
The Chief (Agriculture) State planning Board
The Chairman, Kerala State Pollution Control Board
The Chairman, Kerala State Biodiversity Board
The Director, Information & Public Relations Department
Information Centre
The Private Secretary to Hon'ble Chief Minister
CA to Principal Secretary, Environment Department
Registrar of all Universities in Kerala
Director of all R & D Institutions in Kerala
All Directors of National Institutions

