



GOVERNMENT OF BALOCHISTAN
INFORMATION DEPARTMENT
Dated Quetta, the 14th Feb: 2019

NOTIFICATION.

No.SO(Inf:)4-27/2019/4299-4308 In supersession of this Department's Notification No.SO(Inf:)4-27/2015/767-70 dated 26th November, 2015, the Government of Balochistan Information Department, with the prior approval of the competent authority has been pleased to notify the revised Policy /criteria-2018 with regard to the utilization of Journalist Welfare Fund in Balochistan as under:-

GUIDELINES / SOPS' OF JOURNALIST WELFARE FUND

DEFINITION OF WELFARE FUND: a fund usually established by an employer from which benefits are paid to the proposed beneficiary in time of sickness or other specified occasion and commonly set up in response to contractual obligation of the state. In this case the targeted beneficiary would called as "BALOCHISTAN JOURNALISTS"

The Journalist Welfare Fund hereunder may be called as (JWF);

Details of the criteria are as follows:-

1. **TITLE OF THE FUND;** The Fund may be called the "Journalists Welfare Fund";
2. **PERIOD OF OPERATION;** It shall come into force w.e from 10th January, 2019 and shall repeal all previous policies /criteria enforced from time to time;
3. **PURPOSE OF THE FUND;** To provide one time ex-gratia relief on urgent basis to the journalists from all over the province and their families through cross cheques.



A journalist for the purpose of this fund would mean;

- (i) A working journalist as defined under the Working Journalists and other Newspaper employees (Condition of Service) and Miscellaneous Conventions at Federal level and Provincial levels from time to time other than a Government servant;
- (ii) "Media Personnel" whose principal avocation is that of Reporting/editing for news channels of radio, TV, Print media or web- based services and who is employed as such, either whole-time or part-time, in or in relation to, one or more such establishments and includes news editor, reporter, photographer, cameraman, photo journalist, freelance journalists, but does not include any such person who;
 - a) is employed mainly in a managerial or administrative capacity, or;

- b) is being employed in a supervisory capacity, performs, either by the nature of the duties attached to his office or by reason of the powers vested in him, function mainly of a managerial nature,
- c) Who is owner of the Newspapers, Periodicals etc;
- (iii) Family for the purpose of this Fund will mean the journalist, spouse, dependent parents and dependent children;

4. CONSTITUTION AND ADMINISTRATION OF JOURNALIST WELFARE FUND

The Fund that had already been constituted under the Information Department, Government of Balochistan and shall be administered by a Committee under the chairmanship of Director General Public Relations, comprising as follows;

1. Secretary (Information)	Patron
2. Director General, Public Relations	Chairman
3. Representative of Finance Department (Not below the rank of Dy: Secretary)	Member
4. Deputy Director (Accounts)/ Representative	Member/Convener
5. Under Secretary/Section Officer (Information)	Member
6. Assistant Director Public Relations	Co opted/Member
7. President Balochistan Union of Journalists	Member
8. President Press Club	Member

The signatory of the issuance of cheque shall be;

- (i) Director General Public Relations / Chairman
(ii) Deputy Director (Accounts)

"The convener shall convene the meeting of the JWF after every three months or the case may be".

"Amendment; the above committee may be altered by the Director General Public Relations, from time to time, with the prior approval of Patron".



5. ELIGIBILITY FOR AVAILING ASSISTANCE OUT OF THE WELFARE FUND:-

A journalist shall be eligible for relief from the fund, provided that,

- 5.1) He/she is a citizen of Pakistan/ Local, Domicile of Balochistan;
- 5.2) He/she is ordinarily resident of Balochistan;
- 5.3) He/she should be accredited with Information Department Government of Balochistan, under accreditation Policy;
- 5.4) Journalists who are not presently accredited by Government of Balochistan, shall also be eligible for relief from the fund, if they have been journalists, as defined under these guidelines for a minimum period of five continuous years;
- 5.5) The beneficiary cannot avail another opportunity in ongoing fiscal year;

- 5.6) The beneficiaries shall not be either government servant or from a semi autonomous bodies.

6. PROCEDURE FOR SANCTION OUT OF JOURNALIST WELFARE FUND

- 6.1 Application received for assistance out of the Fund will be processed by the Director General Public Relations Balochistan, Quetta.
- 6.2 The Deputy Director (Accounts) or any other notified Convener shall convene a meeting of the committee, after collection of reasonable applications and the Committee with specific recommendation and supporting documents will give its deliberation to sanction any desired/ vetted application/s of the applicant. The recommendations shall be made by the Committee for Secretary Information;
- 6.3 However, in case of urgency, the Chairman may initiate a case for approval of the Patron/ Secretary Information, based on solid grounds for assistance;
Such approvals will be reported in the next meeting of the Committee, for consideration and regularization of such amount;
- 6.4 The committee shall ensure that the profit thereof is to be utilized for the welfare of journalist. Therefore, the principal amount/Seed money shall not be utilized;
- 6.5 The recommendation from any authority for assistance out of Journalist welfare fund shall be placed before the Journalist welfare fund committee for consideration;
- 6.6 The Deputy Director (Accounts/ convener shall record minutes of each meeting duly signed / authenticated by all members;
- 6.7 The Deputy Directory (Accounts/ convener) shall collect monthly/quarterly/yearly bank statements of the profit earned, from the concerned bank and intimate the same to the Committee for consideration;



7. APPLICATION FORM

The application for the grant of financial assistance under this fund shall be submitted to the Director General Public Relations Balochistan, Quetta, in the form prescribed in **Schedule-I**.

8. ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE UNDER THE WELFARE FUND

- 8.1 Upto Rs.100,000/- (Rupees One hundred thousand) shall be provided to the family under extreme hardship on account of death of the Journalist;
- 8.2 One time grant upto Rs.50,000/-shall be provided to the Journalists in case of permanent disability;
- 8.3 Upto Rs.300,000/- (Rupees three hundred thousand) shall be provided for specialized medical treatment of major ailments such as cancer, renal failure, heart ailments requiring by-pass/ open heart surgery, angioplasty, brain hemorrhage and paralytic attack etc. In case the ailing Journalists has not received medical assistance from any other government functionaries;
- 8.4 Upto Rs.50,000/- (Rupees fifty thousand) shall be provided in case of accidents causing serious injuries necessitating hospitalization.
- 8.5 Upto Rs.50,000/ (Rupees fifty thousand) shall be provided in case of marriage (Self/ two Children) once a year. Provided that the Journalist will provide attested Nika Nama and C.N.I.C.

9. EXCEPTION

Notwithstanding anything contained in these guidelines, the Chairman of the Committee shall give wide publicity through leading Newspaper for obtaining the applications /cases from the Journalists for assistance throughout Balochistan.

10. PAYMENT FROM THE FUND

The payments shall be made out of the interest earned from the seed money, as already been earmarked for the Journalist Welfare Fund.

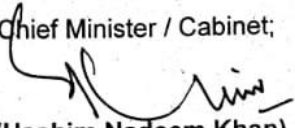
11. GENERAL

Journalists cannot claim the said assistance as a matter of right. Assistance would be extended depending on the Committee's satisfaction regarding the eligibility/merits of the cases and the financial resources available for the purpose. The Committee reserves the right to reject or accept any application without assigning any reasons thereof;



12. AUTHORITY

The authority of making any change in the byelaws in the Journalist Welfare Fund will rest with the Chief Minister / Cabinet;


(Hashim Nadeem Khan)
Secretary Information

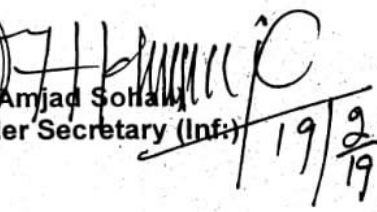
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Copy to:-

1. The Principal Secretary to Chief Minister Balochistan, Quetta
2. The Secretary, Services & General Administration Department Quetta
3. The Secretary Finance Department, Quetta.
4. The Additional Secretary (Staff) to Chief Secretary Balochistan, Quetta.
5. The Director General Public Relations Balochistan, Quetta
6. The President, Quetta Press Club, Quetta
7. The President, Union of Journalists, Balochistan, Quetta
8. The P.S to Minister for Information Department, Balochistan, Qta
9. The P.S to Secretary, Information Department, Balochistan, Qta
10. Master file.

o/c




Amjad Sohan
Under Secretary (Inf.)

19/9/19