



GOVERNMENT OF KERALA

Abstract

Electronics and Information Technology Department – Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON) – Providing free Internet connection to the eligible economically backward families of the State – Administrative Sanction accorded - Orders issued

ELECTRONICS & INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (B) DEPARTMENT

G.O.(Ms)No.13/2022/ITD Dated,Thiruvananthapuram, 04-05-2022

Read 1 GO(Ms)No.10/ 2017/ITD dated 18.05.2017

2 G.O(Ms)No.27/2019/ITD dated 11.11.2019

3 Letter No. MD/KFON/2022/5651 dated 18.03.2022 from the Managing Director, KSITIL.

ORDER

Government have accorded Administrative Sanction for the implementation of Kerala Fibre Optic Network (K-FON) project which aims to provide high speed internet connectivity to around 30,000 Government offices / educational institutions and internet facilities to the economically backward families in the State as per G.O read as 1st paper above. Later, revised Administrative Sanction was issued for the project at a total cost of Rs.1548.08 Crores plus applicable taxes *vide* G.O read as 2nd paper above.

2) The first phase of KFON project was inaugurated on 15th February, 2021 and is expected to be completed soon. Many Government offices have been connected as part of the project. Hon: Chief Minister had announced that free internet connectivity will be provided to selected BPL families through KFON project in each of the 140 Legislative Assembly Constituencies in the State. As per letter read as 3rd paper above, the Managing Director, Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited (KSITIL) has submitted a proposal for providing free connectivity to the poor families in the State as envisaged in the project. Managing Director, KSITIL has also informed that giving connectivity to these households does not fall under the purview of the System Integrator (M/s.BEL) of KFON project and hence an Internet Service Provider (ISP) shall be selected for the purpose.

3) In these circumstances, Government is pleased to accord Administrative

Sanction for providing household connection to the 70,000 eligible BPL families @ 500 families in each of the 140 Legislative Assembly Constituencies across the State. Local self Government Department shall identify the most deserving families from among the BPL families of each of the 140 Legislative Assembly Constituencies covering all Local Self Government institutions across the State.

4) The expenditure for providing free internet connection to the families including the capital cost (installation expenditure) as well as the monthly recurring costs shall be derived by the Managing Director, KSITIL in an uniform manner through local procurement method for quotations/ negotiations with the Local Internet Service Providers. The Managing Director shall furnish these rates to Government for information.

5) Government are also pleased to accord sanction to the Managing Director, KSITIL to make arrangements with the Local Cable Operators for delivering free internet to the identified poor households from the nearby KFON Point of Presences (PoPs) till the Internet Service Provider (ISP) for the KFON network is selected. Managing Director, KSITIL shall fix the data limit (monthly/daily) that can be provided free of cost through the KFON network. The bandwidth speed provided for such connections should be at par with the market standards.

(By order of the Governor)
BISHWANATH SINHA
ADDITIONAL CHIEF SECRETARY

To:

The Managing Director, Kerala State IT Infrastructure Limited
The Chairman & Managing Director, KSEB Limited
The Chief Executive Officer, Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board
The Director, Kerala State IT Mission, Thiruvananthapuram
M/s.Bharat Electronics Limited (Through the MD, KSITIL)
The Principal Accountant General (G&SSA) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
The Principal Accountant General (A&E) Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
LSG Department / Power Department / Finance Department
The Information Officer (W&NM), I&PRD

Forwarded /By order
Signed by Manesh Mohan
Date: 05-05-2022 10:52:16

Section Officer

Copy to :

The PS to Additional Chief Secretary(E&IT Department)

The CA to Additional Secretary(E&IT Department)

The CA to Deputy Secretary (E&IT Department)