



## ABSTRACT

FISHERIES – Missing fishermen – Relief assistance to the families of the fishermen – Orders – Issued.

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ANIMAL HUSBANDRY, DAIRYING & FISHERIES (Fs.6) DEPARTMENT

G.O.( Ms. ) No.62.

Dated 27.04.2007

### ORDER

The Marine fishermen depend on sea for their livelihood. During fishing operations, the boats sometimes drift into sea to far off places, due to natural vagaries like strong wind, heavy rain, water current, and also some times engine failure. When reports of missing boats and fishermen are received, the Coast Guard and Navy are requested to conduct search operation (sea and aerial) for tracing missing fishermen, and boats, and all efforts are taken by the department on a war footing basis to locate them. However, while all efforts are made to trace the missing fishermen, many a times, it so happens that, fishermen are either captured /apprehended by the Navy of neighboring countries or have got lost at sea due to vagaries of nature. At present as per the orders issued in G.O.(3D)No.23, Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Department, dated 9.8.2002 where the fishermen have been apprehended by the Navy of Foreign Countries, a sum of Rs.50/- per day is given to the family, subject to certain conditions stipulated therein.

2) A similar incident has occurred recently when a Kerala Boat ALP 2749 viz. "Sri Krishna" belonging to one Thiru Chandran of Munambam, Kerala State with 12 Fishermen (11 belonging to Tamil Nadu) went for Tuna long line fishing from Sakthikulankara in Needankara base, Kerala State on 7.3.2007. The boat was due to return to base on 13.3.2007. However, the boat has been reported missing. Though all efforts are being made to trace the boat and the missing fishermen it has been futile. While the search operations are continuing, a Government Order has been issued sanctioning a one time assistance of Rs.10,000/- each to the missing crew vide G.O. Rt.No.87, Animal Husbandry Dairying and Fisheries Department, dated 19.4.2007. The Hon'ble Chief Minister, taking into consideration the ad hoc nature of such relief and informed the Hon'ble Members of the Tamil Nadu State Assembly that the Government will discuss and issue orders providing for daily relief to the families of the missing fishermen till he is found or the family becomes eligible for the ex-gratia provided for deceased fishermen.

3) The Government after careful consideration sanction a sum of Rs.18.00 lakhs (Rupees Eighteen lakhs only) and also have decided to issue orders for payment of relief assistance at the rate of Rs.50/- (Rupees fifty only) per day i.e. Rs.1500/- (Rupees one thousand and five hundred only) per month to the families

of fishermen who have been missing while fishing subject to the following conditions:

- (i) The affected fishermen should be an actual fisherman and should be a member of the Fishermen Co-operative Society.
- (ii) An application with a copy of the FIR filed with the Local Police Station and countersigned by the local Sub-Inspector of Fisheries / Inspector of Fisheries submitted to the Assistant Director of Fisheries and
- (iii) An affidavit from the local Village Panchayatars regarding (a) the non-availability of the missing fishermen in their village/villages 30 days from the date of voyage, (b) that the fisherman should not have been involved in any illegal activities.

An affidavit may also be obtained from the families of these fishermen that the amount paid to them, as daily relief shall be returned to the Government in case the fishermen later found involved in illegal activities.

4) The expenditure sanctioned in para 3 above, shall be debited to the following new head of account under Demand No. 7, Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department - Fisheries.

" 2405-00-Fisheries 800 Other expenditure - I Non Plan-BI. Monthly assistance to the family of Missing Fishermen . 09 Grants-in-Aid-03 Grants for Specific Scheme (D.P. Code No.2405.00.800 BI 0933)

5) The expenditure constitute an item of "New Service". The approval of the Legislature will be obtained in due course. Pending approval of the Legislature, the expenditure will be met initially by an advance from the contingency fund. The Director of Fisheries, is requested to apply in prescribed format alongwith the copy of this order to Government in Finance (BG I) Department for sanction of an advance from the Contingency Fund.

6) The concerned Coastal District Collectors are authorized to draw and disburse the amount sanctioned at para 3 above.

7) The Director of Fisheries, Chennai-6 shall be the estimating, reconciling and controlling authority of the new sub-head of account opened in para 4 above.

8) The Pay and Accounts Officers/Treasury Officers are requested to open the above new head of account in their accounts.

9) This order is issued with the concurrence of the Finance Department vide its U.O.No. 59/DS(RC)/07, dated 27.4.2007 and ASL No. 81 (Eighty one)  
(By Order of the Governor)

LEENA NAIR,  
SPECIAL COMMISSIONER &  
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT.

To  
The Director of Fisheries, Chennai-6  
The Collectors of Coastal Districts.  
The Concerned Treasury Officers of Coastal Districts.  
The Pay and Accounts Officer (S) Chennai-35.  
The Accountant-General, Chennai -18/Chennai -18 (B.N.)  
The Accountant-General, Chennai -35/Chennai -35 (B.N.)  
The Assistant Directors of Fisheries of Coastal Districts.  
Copy to  
The Finance (BG I/BG II/AH&F) Department, Chennai-9.  
The Secretary to Chief Minister, Chennai-9.  
The Special Personal Assistant to Minister (Fin.) Chennai-9  
The Senior Personal Assistant to Minister (Fs.), Chennai-9.

Forwarded/By order

  
SECTION OFFICER  
2.5.07