

No.WEC-1/9752/21

Directorate of Women & Child Development
Poojappura, Thiruvananthapuram

Dated:16/07/2021.

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CIRCULAR

Sub: Women & Child Development –In exercise of the powers conferred by section 10 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961 (No.28 of 1961), Kerala Dowry Prohibition (Amendment)Rules 2021.

As you are aware that giving or taking or abetting “dowry” is an offence under the Dowry Prohibition Act 1961. As per definition ‘dowry’ means any property or valuable securities given or agreed to be given either directly or indirectly by one party to a marriage to the other party to the marriage or by the parents of either party to a marriage or by any other person to either part to the marriage or to any other person at or before any time after the marriage.

Giving or taking of dowry shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than five years and with fine which shall not be less than fifteen thousand rupees or amount of the value of such dowry whichever is more. Similarly demanding dowry shall be punishable. If any person demands any dowry directly or indirectly from the parents or other relatives or guardian of a bride or bridegroom, he shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which shall not less than six months but which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees, with imprisonment for a term which shall not be less than six months but which may extend to two years and with fine which may extend to ten thousand rupees.

The State government by exercising the power conferred by section 10 of the Dowry Prohibition Act,1961, the State Government made Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules 2004 and Kerala Dowry Prohibition (Amendment Rules) 2021. District Women and Child Development Officer of the Women and Child Development Department shall function as the District Dowry Prohibition Officer in every District by utilizing the service of the staff attached to that office.

As per Kerala Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Rules 2021 the Director of Women and Child Development Department shall act the Chief Dowry Prohibition Officer for administrating and co-ordinating the work relating to dowry prohibition throughout the state.

SUB RULE (IV) OF THE RULE 7 OF THE KERALA

DOWRY PROHIBITION RULES-2004 SAYS:

- (a) Every Govt. Servant shall after his marriage furnish a declaration stating that he has not taken any dowry to the Head of the Department. The declaration shall be signed by the wife, father and father-in-law .
- (b) The specific day in a year is to be observed as Dowry Prohibition Day.
- (c) Pledge is to be administrated to the students in the Schools and Colleges and other institutions not to give or take dowry.

In these circumstances, by exercising the powers vested under Kerala Dowry Dowry Prohibition (Amendment) Rules 2021, the following instructions are issued

1. November 26th is to be observed as Dowry Prohibition Day in Kerala.

2. All the students in High Schools, Vocational Higher Secondary Schools, Higher Secondary Schools and Colleges (Technical and non-technical etc) and all other educational institutions in the State should take the pledge “ not to give or take dowry” in general assembly in the respective institution on the Dowry Prohibition Day.
3. All the Heads of the Departments including Public sector undertakings, autonomous bodies, cultural and other institutions under Government shall obtain a declaration from the Government Servant within one month after his marriage stating that he has not taken any dowry in connection with his marriage. (Annexure-I).

All the Head of Department may acknowledge the receipt of the circular and furnish a report on declaration once in six months before 10th of April and October every year to the District Dowry Prohibition Officer (District Women and Child Development Officer) of concerned District. All the District Dowry Prohibition Officer shall submit a report of departments who do not furnish declaration before 15th of April & October . The reporting format for departments and districts are attached as Annexure II and III.



Chief Dowry Prohibition Officer & Director,
Women and Child Development Department

Copy to

1. All District Collectors
2. All the Head of Departments
3. All District Women and Child Development Officers.

Annexure I

DECLARATION TO BE GIVEN BY THE MALE
GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE

Rule 7 clause (iv) sub clause (a) of the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules 2004

WHEREAS I was married on(Date of marriage)

NOW therefore under clause (iv) sub clause (a) of Rule 7 of the Kerala Dowry Prohibition Rules 2004, I(Name and Designation , office of the employee) do hereby declare that I have not taken any dowry.

Signature

Place

Date

(Name, Designation and Office)

1. Signature of Father/Mother
2. Signature of Spouse
3. Signature of Father-in-law/Mother-in-law.....

Annexure II

PROFORMA TO BE FILLED BY DISTRICT OFFICER TO DISTRICT DOWRY PROHIBITION OFFICER

Name of Department:

Period :April-September/October-March Year :

HALF YEARLY REPORT OF THE EMPLOYEES'S DECLARATION AS PER THE DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT 1961 Rule 7(a)

Sl No.	Name of the office	No. of employess married during the period	No. of employees sumbitted the declaration

Signautre of District Head of the Department

Annexure III

Proforma to be filled by District Dowry Prohibition Officer to Chief Dowry Prohibition Officer

Period :April-September/October-March Year:

**LIST OF THE DEPARTMENTS WHO FAIL TO SUBMIT REPORT ON EMPLOYEE'S DECLARATION AS
PER THE DOWRY PROHIBITION ACT 1961 Rule 7(a)**

Name of District :

Sl No.	Name of Department	No. of employess married during the period	No. of employees sumbitted the declaration

Signautre of District Dowry Prohibition Officer