



**Government of Kerala**

**Abstract**

General Education Department - Effective minimum strength for linguistic minority schools - Sanctioned - Orders Issued.

**General Education (J) Department**

GO(Ms)No.162/14/G.Edn.

Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 20.8.2014.

- Read:-
1. G.O (MS) No.167/01/GEdn., dated 11/05/2001.
  2. Government letter No.75726/J3/10/GEdn., dated 08/02/2011.
  3. Representation dated 14.12.2012 submitted by Kerala State Kannada Medium Teachers Organisation
  4. Letter No. Special Cell Hqs.II/lrs/243 dated 1.12.2011 from the Accountant General (Audit), Thiruvananthapuram.
  5. Letter No.H2/34392/2013/DPI dated 4.4.2014 from the DPI, Thiruvananthapuram.

**ORDER**

As per Rule 7(3) of Chapter VIII KER and G.O read as 1<sup>st</sup> paper above, in schools where a particular language is the general medium of instruction, separate divisions of any standard or all the standards being opened with any other language of any linguistic minority group as the medium of instruction may be sanctioned by the Director with previous sanction of Government, subject to the condition that the minimum strength of pupils belonging to the linguistic minority group shall be 8 for each standard or an aggregate of 32 pupils in LP section/8 and 24 in UP section. Rule 7A, envisages that in predominantly Tamil or Kannada areas of the State, where Tamil or Kannada as the case may be, has been permitted as the medium of instruction under sub-rule (2) of Rule 7, the Director may permit or require separate divisions of any standard or all standards being opened with Malayalam as medium of instruction subject to the condition that the strength of pupils for Malayalam shall be 10 for each standard or 40 in aggregate in LP schools/10 and 30 in UP school. In short, Rule 7 provides for opening separate division for linguistic minority group in a school where a particular language is the medium of instruction and Rule 7A provides for opening of Malayalam medium division in Tamil/Kannada medium schools.

During audit of Accountant General at Assistant Education Officer, Kumbala and Manjeswar of Kasargod district, it was found that in several Kannada medium schools in Kasargod district having average strength of less than 25 were treated as economic without obtaining exemption from minimum strength and regular appointments made as against the appointment of protected hands were approved. Objections were raised during the audit of Accountant General and salary of teachers thus appointed were withheld.

Government as per letter read as 2<sup>nd</sup> paper above has clarified the above said rule position and orders in G.O(MS)No.161/01/G.Edn dated 11.5.2001 and directed the Director of Public Instruction to clear the audit

objections. But the clarification was not accepted by the Accountant General and the Senior Audit Officer has requested for further clarification in the matter as per letter read as 4<sup>th</sup> paper above. At present, no rules/ Government orders support the statement that Kannada medium schools are not uneconomic though the number of students is 8 in each standard. In order to clear the audit objection and to release withheld salaries of teachers, exemption has to be given to Kannada medium schools, by fixing an effective minimum strength for Kannada medium schools so that those schools where the required minimum strength is not available may be declared as uneconomic.

Government have examined the matter in detail and are pleased to order that in the linguistic minority schools, the effective minimum strength fixed for considering the school as economic is minimum 8 pupils each in all divisions or as given below:

LP Section(I-IV)	-	32
LP Section(I-V)	-	40
UP Section (V-VII)	-	24
High School Section(VIII to X)	-	24
UP Section (I to VII)	-	56
High School Section ( I to X)	-	80
High School Section (V to X)	-	48

This order has retrospective effect from 2008-09 academic year onwards only for the limited purpose of dropping the audit objections. Necessary amendments to KER will be issued separately

(By Order of the Governor)  
**A. SHAJAHAN**  
Special Secretary

Director of Public Instruction, Thiruvananthapuram  
The Principal Accountant General(Audit),Thiruvananthapuram(with C/L)  
The Accountant General (A&E), Thiruvananthapuram  
The Secretary, Kerala Public Service Commission, Thiruvananthapuram(with C/L)  
✓The Director, IT@School, Thiruvananthapuram (for publishing in the website)  
All Deputy Directors of Education  
All District Educational Officers  
All Assistant Educational Officers  
All Officers and sections in the General Education Department  
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Section Officer

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