

Government of West Bengal
Department of Higher Education, Science & Technology and Biotechnology

No. 23-Pr.Secy-HESTBT/2017

Date: 16/2/2017


To

The Principals/ Officers in charge of Government Colleges (all)

The Principals/ Teachers in charge of Government-aided Colleges (all)

Subject: Delay in utilisation of Plan funds sanctioned by this Department during 2016-17

1. The Department of Higher Education, based on the proposals received from different higher education institutions, has released Plan funds (distinct from non-Plan funds for salary and non-salary heads) for the execution of different schemes such as new construction, repair and renovation, procurement of furniture, fixtures, books and journals, etc. during 2016-17.
2. These funds have been released based on an assessment of the resources available with this Department and the "felt" needs of the institutions, with the expectation that the funds sanctioned/ released would be expended expeditiously by the college authorities.
3. However, on an examination of the fund utilisation (Treasury/P&AO) figures, it appears that some of the grantee/ beneficiary institutions are showing lethargy in this regard, which is not desirable.
4. It is most likely that while most college authorities have commenced the implementation of the projects/ schemes sanctioned by this Department, they have not yet submitted the bills to the Treasury/ P&A office and, hence, the funds show up as unutilised/ unexpended.
5. It would be very unfortunate if funds released by this Department lapse at the end of the financial year, unutilised.
6. Considering that public funds are scarce and competing claims for the same very high, this Department will be constrained to take an adverse view where a college authority is unable to expeditiously expend/ utilise the Plan funds released. Institutions that fail to utilise the funds, without sufficient cause, shall be liable to be excluded from the Plan fund allocation for the next financial year.
7. All institutional heads of the Government Colleges (including Govt. Engg. Colleges) and Government-aided colleges are requested to take stock of the position immediately, and take all-out steps for the expeditious utilisation of all the Plan funds released to them during 2016-17. Monitoring of the situation on a daily basis is requested.


16/2/17
(Vivek Kumar)
Principal Secretary