



**GOVERNMENT OF KERALA**

**Abstract**

Information Technology Department – Foster Kerala - Free and Open Source Technical Competency, entrepreneurship and Research Kerala - A Project to foster FOSS Community in Kerala to be Spearheaded by International Centre for FOSS - administrative Sanction accorded - orders issued.

**INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (C) DEPARTMENT**

G.O.(RT) No.252/2009/ITD Dated, Thiruvananthapuram, 23.11.2009.

**ORDER**

The IT Policy 2007 of the Government gives special importance to the development and promotion of Free and Open Source Software (FOSS). It is now proposed to implement a scheme called "FOSTER Kerala" (also entitled Free and Open Source Technical Competency, Entrepreneurship and Research Kerala) which envisages fostering the FOSS Community in Kerala and there by make Kerala into a major FOSS destination in the world. It is further proposed that the scheme shall be implemented by International Center for FOSS (IC-FOSS) from the funds released to them for the setting up of the Center.

2. The salient aspect of the scheme is to engage the student community to work on FOSS projects at national/international levels. It is proposed that a grant to be provided to the students who successfully develop a FOSS project. The FOSS project development by the student shall start from the academic year 2010-2011. However, preparatory to the selection of projects, training of students on FOSS and related technologies in the Engineering Colleges shall have to be carried out. To train students, it is also envisaged that the trainers would be trained. This training of trainers would need to be started immediately so that by about May 2010, there are sufficiently large number of groups who are working on the selected projects/organizations.

3. The process for selection of students and the grant of assistance shall follow rigorous standards. The total estimated expenditure on the scheme is approximately Rs. 41 lakhs. The proposed period of implementation is two years.

4. The break of the project cost is as follows:-

Project grants for 50 projects @ Rs. 50,000 per project	Rs. 25 lakhs
Trainer grant for 80 Engg. Colleges @ Rs. 20,000/- College	Rs. 16 lakhs.

5. Government are pleased to accord administrative sanction to implement the scheme FOSTER Kerala and nominate IC FOSS as the Nodal agency for implementing the scheme. The funds released for IC FOSS would be utilized for the purpose of implementing the scheme.

(By Order of the Governor),

Dr. Ajay kumar,  
Principal Secretary to Government.

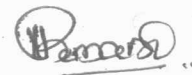
To

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The International Centre - FOSS.  
Higher Education Department.  
Director of Technical Education.  
All Engineering Colleges in Kerala .  
CAT-FOSS.

The Director, Kerala State IT Mission, Thiruvananthapuram with  
request to put up on the KSITM website.

Stock File.

Forwarded/By Order



Section Officer.