

Notification : [K-12012/23/2024-RNU-DDK-TVM](#)

**Empanelment of Stringers in Regional News Unit**  
**Doordarshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram - 2024**

The Regional News Unit, Doordarshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram invites applications for empanelment as Stringers from individuals / firms with experience in TV News coverages. **It is hereby communicated that the previous empanelment process initiated in 2019 stands cancelled.**

Stringers are required in all 14 districts of Kerala. Applicants should mention in the application form, the name of the district where they wish to be empanelled. Applicants must be based in the district where they apply. **The key person for the operation of stringership must be clearly mentioned and he/she must be working in the district where they are applying and must continue to be in the same district once selected.** Existing Stringers in the panel must also apply afresh. **Last date of receipt of Application is 30 days from the publishing of this advertisement on Prasar Bharati Portal.**

Empanelled Stringers are expected to do news coverages and short features on news, current affairs, sports, business and other subjects. Applicants preferably equipped with four-wheel vehicles, should have qualification, experience and expertise in cinematography / videography / news gathering / broadcast journalism. Details of other terms and conditions prescribed in Guidelines issued by Directorate General, Doordarshan, New Delhi vide their Memo No. 3/4/2003-P-III dated 02.07.2010 are available in the Annexure to this notification.

Applications duly supported with Demand Draft of Rs. 1,000/- towards non-refundable processing fee in favour of the Drawing & Disbursing Officer, Doordarshan Kendra, Thiruvananthapuram should be submitted in sealed cover with superscription. \_ **“Empanelment of Stringers of DD News- 2024”** on or before last date of submission of application. **Those who had applied in 2019 for stringer empanelment are exempted from this processing fee and it must be mentioned explicitly as a separate affidavit along with the application.** The address for submitting the Application is: **The Head, Regional News Unit, Doordarshan Kendra, Kudappanakkunnu P.O., Thiruvananthapuram-695043.** Proof in Duplicate of Academic and Technical Qualifications, Experience and Equipment ownership must be submitted along with the Application whose model is given in this notification itself. Separate Annexures can also be given

along with application detailing experience or qualification of the applicant and the team, if required.

Stringers will be paid for coverages, irrespective of length of footage or its usage but inclusive of transportation and delivery charges for

(i) local coverage of duration of less than 6 Hours @ Rs. 1500 per coverage and in case duration of 6 Hours is exceeded or when it involves locations apart for more than 10 kms, it will be treated as two coverages and the 2<sup>nd</sup> coverage paid @ Rs. 1,000.

(ii) In case of outstation coverage, which are coverages undertaken beyond the geographical limit of the town / city where the Stringer is empanelled, the Stringer's fee would be Rs. 1,800 irrespective of length of the footage or usage of the coverage, inclusive of transportation and delivery charges.

Stringers should have adequate facilities and equipment to undertake the coverages. Those equipped with 4-wheel vehicles and mobile phones will be preferred. Proof of ownership of the equipments must be submitted at the time of interview. A physical verification of the equipments and documents will be done at the time.

The coverages by a stringer should contain all elements of a news story. For each coverage, the stringer should provide raw footage, press material and a script. Stringers should not only cover assigned tasks but also alert the RNU on major news fall/breaking stories/stories of interest in their area. The Panel of Stringers shall be revised every two years.

Stringers will be removed from the panel on all or any of the following grounds:

1. When the Stringer refuses to cover the assigned coverages on two or more occasions;
2. If the coverages are poor in content or in technical quality (poor audio quality, noisy video, variation in luminance level, defocused pictures, etc.);
3. Delay in providing timely coverage;
4. When the Stringer is suspected to be sub-contracting the assigned work to others;
5. If the Stringers are found to be operating a cartel system among themselves;
6. If the information furnished by the Stringer in the application form for empanelment is found to be incorrect.
7. Any act on the part of the stringer which creates embarrassment to Prasar Bharati.

**Application form for Empanelment as Stringer  
(To be submitted in triplicate)**

To

The Head,  
Regional News Unit  
Doordarshan Kendra  
Thiruvananthapuram

Dear Madam,

I/We \_\_\_\_\_ of M/s \_\_\_\_\_ wish to be considered for empanelment as a Stringer with your Kendra, and furnish the following information about my qualifications, experience, equipment etc. I also enclose attested copies of certificates in support of the information furnished by me:

1. Towns / Cities where the applicant wishes to be empanelled:
2. Name: ( In case of Firm, Name of firm and the name of the **Key person who will be the contact person for RNU for all assignments and must be based in the district**)
3. Father's Name:
4. Age and Date of Birth:
5. Place of Birth:
6. Office Address with Mobile & Telephone Nos:
7. Residence address with Mobile & Telephone Nos:
8. **Educational Qualifications of Stringer – Key person who will be the contact person for RNU for all assignments and must be based in the district**

(A) Academic Qualifications

Sl. No.	School / College / University	Degree	Year of Passing	Subject	% of Marks

(B) Technical Qualifications: Degree/Diploma in Cinematography, Videography etc.:

Sl. No.	Institution & Duration of the Course	Details of Degree / Diploma / Certificate	Year of Passing	% of Marks

(C) Technical Qualifications: Degree/Diploma in Journalism, broadcast Journalism etc.:

Sl. No.	Institution & Duration of the Course	Details of Degree / Diploma / Certificate	Year of Passing	% of Marks

## 9. Experience

(A) As Camera person / news camera person / videographer etc.:

Sl. No.	Period from _____ to _____	Duration of Experience in Months / Years	Organization	Area of Work

(B) Experience as newsman / Electronic Journalist etc.:

Sl. No.	Period from _____ to _____	Duration of Experience in Months / Years	Organization	Area of Work

(C) Number of visual assignments completed and in hand during the last one year.

(D) Area of specialization (News coverages, Sports, Feature Films, Short Films, Documentaries, Films on developmental subjects / Coverages on Health & Nutrition, Science, Family Planning, Interest of Children / and other areas:

(E) Documentary evidence / certificate to support the quality of your work (attach copies):

10. Details of Equipment and Facilities:

- (a) Type of equipment, number of make and quality of each including cameras, audio-equipment, lights, etc.
- (b) Do you own ENG Equipment? If yes, give details of type and make etc.
- (c) Do you have your own transport, telephone, mobile phone, high speed internet connection or other communication facility? Give details.

11. Details of Corporate Status:

- a) Do you carry out all work yourself?
- b) If you hire cameraman or other technicians, give their names and full details of their qualifications and experience:
- c) Whether you are sole proprietorship or partnership firm or a registered company or a society  
(A signed declaration to be furnished separately with a photocopy of Registration Certificate issued by Registrar of Companies or other competent authorities)

12. a) Are you related or associated with any empanelled Stringer in Doordarshan, If yes, give names, details and your relationship:

b) Are you related to any Staff in the Ministry of I & B or any of its Media Units like AIR, Doordarshan and Films Division? If yes, give names and details of the related officials and your relationship with them.

13. Any other relevant information.

Date:  
Place:

Signature  
Name \_\_\_\_\_

Prasar Bharati  
(Broadcasting Corporation of India)  
Directorate General, Doordarshan  
Doordarshan Bhawan  
New Delhi.

No.3/42003-F.II

Dated 02-07-2010

**Subject:- Selection, Empanelment, Utilisation and Revision of Panel of Stringers-  
Revised Guidelines.**

These are the revised Guidelines on selection, empanelment, utilization, removal and revision of the panel of Stringers in super session of all previous Orders on the subject. It comes in to force with immediate effect.

## 2. Selection and Empanelment Committee

2.1 The authority for selection, empanelment, removal and revision of panel of Stringers in each Kendra would vest in a 5-member Committee constituted as under:-

- i) RNU In-Charge as nominee of ADG (N&CA)/DG(News) Chairman
- ii) Engineer In-Charge of the Kendra or his nominee -Member
- iii) Senior most Producer of the Kendra or his nominee -Member
- iv) Deputy Director(Admn)/Sr.Administrative Officer/Admn.Officer -Member
- v) One outside expert-Representative of the Films Division/Pune Film Institute/SRFTI/IIMC/Head of Broadcast Journalism in Universities. -Member

2.2 Every Kendra should constitute the Selection and Empanelment Committee as aforesaid for a term of two years. The Committee shall draw a panel of Stringers which would be revised every two years.

2.3 If the present panel of Stringers in the Kendra is more than two years old, a new Selection and Empanelment Committee should be immediately constituted to draw a new panel of Stringers.

## 3. Application for Stringership

3.1 After constituting the new Selection and Empanelment Committee, Kendras should invite applications to empanel Stringers in towns and cities under the jurisdiction of the Kendra. It should be given wide publicity through website, print media as well as in Doordarshan and AIR Channels (including News bulletins). The advertisement should mention towns and cities where the Stringers would be empanelled. Applicants should be given a period of at least one month for submitting the completed application form in the Kendra, beginning from the date of issue of the advertisement in the newspapers or broadcast/telecast in AIR/Doordarshan.

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3.2 The model advertisement for inviting application from Stringers is shown in Annex-1. The Application for empanelment of Stringers should be submitted in the prescribed form as indicated in Annex-2.

#### **4. Number of Stringers**

4.1 The maximum number of empanelled Stringers in cities of Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai should not be more than 8 each. In Cities/Town where other kendras are located, the number of Stringers in the panel should be limited to 5. Other Cities, town and District headquarters can have up to 2 Stringers. A standby/ Waiting list shall also be maintained. Waiting list in Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai could be upto 8, in Kendra towns upto 5 and other towns/cities up to 2. Stringers in the waiting list could replace Stringers who are removed from the panel.

4.2 Although the upper limit of the number of Stringers has been indicated in Para 4.1 all efforts should be made to keep the number of Stringers in a city/town to minimum possible. This is to ensure that the empanelled Stringers get adequate number of coverages to break-even and keep equipment and personnel dedicated to Doordarshan coverage.

#### **5. Stringers in Cities/Towns.**

5.1 Kendras should make all efforts to empanel at least one Stringer in all district headquarters, major towns/cities and major news-falling centers in the region under their jurisdiction. In the case of big metros like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, one Stringer each could be empanelled in important sub-urban areas. A wide network of Stringers all over the region would improve the news gathering facility of the RNUs.

5.2 Stringers should not only cover assigned tasks, but also alert the RNUs on major news-fall or breaking news or stories of interest in their towns/cities.

#### **6. Equipment and Facilities.**

6.1 Stringers can use DVC-Pro/DV-CAM/CCD/Mini DV camera for coverages. They should also have adequate facilities and equipment to undertake the coverages. The requirements regarding camera, equipment, and facilities would be reviewed from time to time to factor in technological changes in the area.

6.2 The Empanelment Committee or any Technical Committee constituted by it should verify the proof of ownership of the equipment by physical verification of equipment and documents.

6.3 Stringers equipped with 4-wheel vehicles and mobile phones would be preferred, as it would improve the movement and connectivity.

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### 7. Experience and qualification

Ideally, Stringers should be good camerapersons with good news sense. Therefore, the educational and professional qualification and experience of the Stringer as a cameraperson as well as a newsperson should be taken into account while empanelling the Stringers. Qualification and experience in Broadcast journalism and newsgathering shall be taken into account while assessing the suitability of the Stringers.

### 8. Criteria for Selection and Empanelment.

8.1 While the Criteria for selection and empanelment of Stringers cannot be spelt out in detail, the Selection and Empanelment Committee may adopt a 5-stage process to empanel Stringers. These Stages are i) Preliminary Scrutiny to shortlist applicants; ii) Test coverage by short-listed applicants; iii) Interview; iv) Verification of equipment and documents; and v) Final List.

8.2 If the number of applications are large, the Selection and Empanelment Committee may constitute a sub-committee with the approval of competent authority, to assist the Committee to process the applications and to shortlist the applicants.

8.3 The eligibility of the candidates should be assessed, based on the Assessment Scale indicated in **Annex-3**, especially with regard to qualification, experience, equipment, technical facilities, credibility etc. short listed applicants after preliminary scrutiny should be asked to provide two test coverages using their own equipment and raw material - for ascertaining the quality of their work.

8.4 The final panel of the Stringers shall be drawn by the Committee based on the eligibility as determined with the help of 1) Assessment scale, 2) Interview and 3) the quality of the test coverages. The names of selected Stringers should be published on the notice board of the office of the Kendra and all selected applicants should be informed in writing.

8.5 Each selected Stringer will have to sign a Contract (Model Contract given at **Annex-5** embodying essential conditions of services, fees, termination of contracts etc..

8.6 Existing Stringers in the panel shall also go through all processes mentioned in this guideline.

### 9. Utilisation of Services.

9.1 It shall be the personal responsibility of the **Head of RNU** to ensure optimal and equitable utilization of the services of the Stringers. Head of RNU would be held accountable if Stringer coverages are not optimally utilized. Only newsworthy events should be covered and the coverages may be used as far as possible in at least one bulletin.

9.2 The number of Stringer coverages shall be kept to the minimum and it should be given only under unavoidable circumstances. **Assignments** shall be given to the Stringers only when;



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- a) Film/ENG cameramen in the Kendra are not available being engaged for the coverage of another important assignment; Or,
- b) The event cannot be economically covered by the staff cameramen of the Kendra or the event to be covered is outside the station of the Kendra; Or,
- c) The news feed on the event cannot be obtained from ANI/PTI/UNI/Vision or any other television news agency with which the DD Kendra has entered into a contract with prior approval of Dte.General, Doordarshan, New Delhi

9.3 The services of the Part-Time Correspondents (PTC) of Prasar Bharati should be suitably used for coverages. PTCs would be paid at the rates applicable to Stringers, if the visual footage of news coverage provided by them is used.

#### 10. Roster

Every RNU shall maintain a Roster of Stringers and assignments should be strictly rotated as per the Roster, so that all stringers get equitable number of coverages. The nominee of DTC should check this Roster to ensure that assignments are fairly rotated.

#### 11. Essentials of Coverage

The Coverages by Stringer should contain all elements of a news story. For each coverages, the Stringer should provide raw footage, dope sheet, press material and a script.

#### 12. Performance Evaluation and Register.

The performance of Stringers shall be monitored and evaluated continuously. A Register shall be maintained to record the details of assignments given to each Stringer along with dates, events coverage, nature of coverages, length of coverage and payments due/made, remarks especially with regard to quality and speed of coverage. It should also show the summary of number of local/outstation coverages and fee paid in a month. The format of the Register is at Annex 4.

#### 13. Removal of Stringers

13.1 Stringers will be removed from the panel on all or any of the following grounds.

- a) When the Stringer refuses to cover the assigned coverages on two or more occasions;
- b) If the coverages are poor in content; or in technical quality – (poor audio quality, noisy video, variation in chrominance or luminance levels, defocused pictures etc);
- c) Delay in providing timely coverage;
- d) When the Stringer is suspected to be sub-contracting the assigned work to others;
- e) If Stringers are found to be operating a Cartel system among themselves;
- f) If the information furnished by the Stringer in the application form for empanelment is found to be incorrect;
- g) Any act on the part of the Stringer, which creates embarrassment to Prasar Bharati.

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13.2 In the case of the first default on account of 13.1 a), b) or c), it should be communicated to the Stringer in writing, so that he/she can improve performance.

13.3 Before removing the Stringer from the Panel, a Show Cause Notice should be sent to the Stringer, asking why he/she should not be removed. The reply should reach the DD Kendra within 30 days of the issue of the Notice. If the reply is not found satisfactory or is not received, the Stringer would be removed from the Panel. The order of removal of the Stringer from the panel should be communicated to the Stringer, specifying the reasons for removal. The Contract referred to in Para 8.5 should provide for this action.

13.4 Stringers who are removed from the panel may prefer an appeal to the Director General, Doordarshan within thirty days of receipt of the order on removal. The Director General's decision on the appeal shall be final.

13.5 Stringers can also get their name deleted from the panel voluntarily after giving at least three months notice to the DD Kendra.

13.6 Stringers who have been removed from the panel of a Kendra shall not be eligible for empanelment at any other Kendra of Doordarshan. The details of every removed Stringer shall be circulated by the Kendra to the Directorate General as well as all other Kendras.

#### **14. Revision of the Panel**

The panel of Stringers shall be revised every two years, after completing all the processes explained in this Guideline.

#### **15. Rates of Payment**

15.1 The rates of payment to Stringers will be fixed by Orders issued by the Office of the Directorate General, Doordarshan from time to time. For assigned local coverage, a lump sum of Rs. 1200 /- (irrespective of length of the footage or usage of the coverage), inclusive of transportation and delivery charges will be paid for coverages done in DVC-Pro/DV-CAM/CCD/Mini DV. In case 6 Hrs. is exceeded or when it involves locations apart for more than 10 Kms. it will be treated as two coverages and 2<sup>nd</sup> coverage paid @ Rs.900 only i.e. 75% of the 1<sup>st</sup> coverage.

15.2 In the case of outstation coverages- which are coverages undertaken beyond geographically limit of the town/ city where the Stringer is empanelled or beyond the town of Kendra, the Stringer fee would be Rs 1500 (irrespective of length of the footage or usage of the coverage), inclusive of transportation and delivery charges. Outstation coverages should be kept to the minimum. If there are empanelled Stringers in all important towns/cities, there may not be any need for assigning outstation coverages.

15.3 Payment to Stringers for coverages shall be made expeditiously, without any delay. Payment will not be made if the coverage is of poor quality or if the coverage is delayed.

15.4 The ceiling for payment per Stringer per annum will be fixed by Orders issued from time to time. At present the limit is Rs.3 lakh per Stringer for Delhi News Wing and Rs. 2 lakh per Stringer for other RNU's. ADG (N&CA) will be empowered to relax this norm on a case-to-case basis after examining it.