



Punjab Government Gazette

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PART I

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

(AGRICULTURE-2 BRANCH)

NOTIFICATION

The 17th August, 2021

No. 8/62/2021-Agri-2 (5)/8276.-Whereas, the use of Aadhaar as an identity document for delivery of services or benefits or subsidies simplifies the Government delivery processes, brings in transparency and efficiency, and enables beneficiaries to get their entitlements directly in a convenient and seamless manner by obviating the need to produce multiple documents to prove one's identity;

And whereas, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Punjab (*hereinafter referred to as the Department*), is administering the Crop Loan Waiver Scheme (*hereinafter referred to as the 'Scheme'*) to provide a debt relief to small and marginal farmers against institutional crop loan, which is being implemented through the Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Punjab (*hereinafter referred to as the Implementing Agency*);

And whereas, under the Scheme, an eligible amount of debt relief (herein referred to as the benefit) is given to small and marginal farmers (herein referred to as beneficiaries) against institutional crop loan (Principal + Interest) i.e. crop loan advanced by commercial and cooperative banking institutions;

And whereas, the aforesaid Scheme involves recurring expenditure incurred from the Consolidated Fund of the State of Punjab;

Now, therefore, in pursuance of section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (Central Act No.18 of 2016) (*hereinafter referred to as the said Act*) and all other powers enabling him in this behalf, the Governor of Punjab is pleased to require the following, namely:-

1. (i) An individual eligible for receiving the benefits under the Scheme, shall hereby be required to furnish proof of possession of the Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication;

(ii) Any individual desirous of availing benefits under the Scheme, who does not possess the Aadhaar number or, has not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, shall be required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment and submit proof thereof before registering for the Scheme provided that he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar as per section 3 of the said Act, and such individuals shall visit any Aadhaar enrolment centre (list available at www.uidai.gov.in) to get enrolled for Aadhaar;

(iii) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, the Implementing Agency, is required to offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for the beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar and in case there is no Aadhaar enrolment centre located in the respective Block or Taluka or Tehsil, the Implementing Agency shall provide Aadhaar enrolment facilities at convenient locations in coordination with the existing Registrars of UIDAI or by becoming a UIDAI Registrar themselves:

Provided that till the time Aadhaar is assigned to the individual, benefits under the Scheme shall be given to such individual, subject to the production of the following documents, namely:—

- a. if he has enrolled, his Aadhaar Enrolment Identification slip; and
- b. any one of the following documents, namely :-
 - i. Bank or Post-office Passbook with Photo; or
 - ii. Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card; or
 - iii. Passport; or
 - iv. Ration Card; or
 - v. Voter Identity Card; or
 - vi. MGNREGA Card; or
 - vii. Kisan Photo Passbook; or
 - viii. Driving License issued by the Licensing Authority under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988); or
 - ix. Certificate of Identity having photo of such person issued by a Gazetted Officer or a Tehsildar on an official letter head; or
 - x. any other document as specified by the Department:

Provided further that the above documents may be checked by an officer specifically designated by the Department for that purpose.

2. In order to provide benefits to the beneficiaries under the Scheme conveniently, the Implementing Agency shall make all the required arrangements to ensure that wide publicity through the media shall be given to the beneficiaries to make them aware of the said requirement.

3. In all cases, where Aadhaar authentication fails due to poor biometrics of the beneficiaries or due to any other reason, the following remedial mechanism shall be adopted, namely:-

a. in case of poor fingerprint quality, iris scan or face authentication facility shall be adopted for authentication, thereby the Implementing Agency shall make provisions for iris scanners or face authentication along with finger-print authentication for delivery of benefits in seamless manner;

b. in case the biometric authentication through fingerprints or iris scan or face authentication is not successful, wherever feasible and admissible authentication by Aadhaar One Time Password or Time-based One Time Password with limited time validity, as the case may be, shall be offered;

c. in all other cases, where biometric or Aadhaar One Time Password or Time-based One Time Password authentication is not possible, the benefits under the Scheme may be given on the basis of physical Aadhaar letter whose authenticity can be verified through the Quick Response Code printed on the Aadhaar letter and the necessary arrangement of Quick Response Code reader shall be provided at the convenient locations by the Implementing Agency.

4. In addition to the above, in order to ensure that no bona fide beneficiary under the Scheme is deprived of his due benefits, the Implementing Agency shall follow the exception handling mechanism as outlined in the Office Memorandum of Direct Benefit Transfer Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India dated the 19th December 2017.

5. This notification shall come into force on and with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Chandigarh
The 10th August, 2021

ANIRUDH TEWARI,
Additional Chief Secretary (Development).