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PART I

Punjab Government Notifications and Orders

GOVERNMENT OF PUNJAB

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE SERVICES WELFARE

(Defence Services Welfare Branch)

NOTIFICATION

The 7th April, 2021

No. DSWD-3/22/2020-4DW/I/167110/2021.- 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 *Defence Services Welfare, Punjab (hereinafter referred to as the Department)*, is administering the Old Age Pension (*hereinafter referred to as the Scheme*) benefits to Veterans of World War I and II over 65 years of age, which is being implemented through the District Defence Services Welfare offices (*hereinafter referred to as the Implementing Agency*);

And whereas, under the Scheme, A financial assistance (*hereinafter referred to as the benefit*) is given to the veterans of World War I and II who are above 65 years of age and were released from Army Service without pension. This grant is also given to the Widows of the Ex-Servicemen of World War I and II. (*hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries*), by the Implementing Agency as per the extant Scheme guidelines;

And whereas, the aforesaid Scheme involves recurring expenditure incurred from the Consolidated Fund 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*), the Government of Punjab hereby notifies the following, namely:-

1. (1) 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.

(2) 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 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.

(3) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, the Department through its 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 Department through its 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; 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 Department through its 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 Department through its 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 Timebased 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 Department through its 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 Department through its 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 with effect from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

Sd/-

GURKIRAT KIRPAL SINGH,
Secretary to Govt. of Punjab,
Department of Defence Services Welfare.