

## NOTE

### Extention of the Scope of Krishak Bandhu(DB) Scheme,2019.


It is for information that as per existing Notification No. 2352/AG/O/COORD Dated-22/01/20219 a 'farmer' for the purpose of Krishak Bandhu (DB) Scheme,2019 means a person who is owner of Agricultural land/ recorded bhagchashi (share cropper) of West Bengal and 'registered farmer' means a farmer who has registered himself and herself under the scheme Krishak Bandhu(AI) (ibid clause II(g & h).

The age for entitlement of the benefit is that the deceased farmer has to be within the age limit between 18-60 years.

To enhance the scope of Krishak Bandhu (DB) Scheme,2019 and to maximize the number of beneficiaries, it is proposed that the eligibility criteria in respect of the cut of age of deceased farmer may be extended beyond 60 years up to 65 years of age.

Secondly, oral leasee / unregistered Bhagchashi (share cropper) already included in Krishak Bandhu Natun /or included in Bangla Shasya Bima Yojona ( BSB) during the period of death may be brought under the purview of Krishak Bandhu (DB) Scheme, 2019 . This may be effected from 01.12.2021.

Sbmitted.

 20/12/2021

Pijush Kanti Sarkar  
Additional Secretary

Secretary (HoD)  
Agriculture Depatment

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
WRITERS' BUILDING  
KOLKATA-700001

No. 2352/AG/O/COORD  
(AG/N/PLB/3B-25/2018)

Dated, Kolkata the 22<sup>nd</sup> Jan, 2019

NOTIFICATION

Government of West Bengal in the Department of Agriculture, vide their memo no. 112-AG/O/9M(Nab)-01/2019 dated 17.01.2019, has notified introduction of 'Krishak Bandhu Scheme' with two components.

Department of Agriculture has been declared as nodal department for the scheme vide para V of the referred notification.

Now, Department of Agriculture, Government of West Bengal hereby notifies the '**Operational Guidelines**' for implementation of one component of the scheme viz., '**Krishak Bandhu (Death Benefit) Scheme, 2019**' in pursuance of para (ii) of the said memorandum.

This issues with the concurrence of Finance Department vide U.O. No. Gr. A1/2018-19/0067 dt. 22.01.2019.

Krishak Bandhu Scheme (Death Benefit) 2019

- I. SHORT TITLE:  
This notification may be called "Krishak Bandhu Scheme (Death Benefit), 2019".

II. DEFINITIONS:

In this notification, unless the context otherwise requires,

- (a) "Application" means an application for availing death benefit under the scheme on the death of a farmer.
- (b) "District Officer" means the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Admn) of concerned district.
- (c) "Form" means such form as may be prescribed, by the Government or any appropriate authority on its behalf.
- (d) "Government" means the Government of West Bengal in the Department of Agriculture.
- (e) "Benefit" means death benefit under the scheme due to death of a farmer.
- (f) "Sub Divisional Officer" means the Assistant Director of Agriculture (Admn) of a Sub-division.

(g) "Farmer" means a person who is owner of agricultural land/recorded *Bhagchushi* (share cropper) of West Bengal.

(h) "Registered Farmer" means a farmer who has registered himself/herself under the scheme 'Krishak Bandhu Scheme (Assured Income)'.

III. CONDITIONS FOR AVAILING OF BENEFIT:

(1) A person/s shall be entitled to get the benefit if following conditions are fulfilled, namely:-

(i) The deceased farmer was of age between 18 (eighteen) to 60 (sixty) years on the date of death.

(ii) The farmer has expired on or after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2019.

(iii) In case of a farmer already registered under 'Krishak Bandhu scheme (Assured Income)', the claimant (s) is/are the recorded nominee under the said scheme.

(iv) In case of non registered farmer, the claimant (s) is /are eligible claimant (s) as declared by local BDO.

(v) In case of non registered deceased farmer, the claimant (s) should produce a copy of ROR containing the ownership document of Agricultural land in favour of the deceased.

(vi) The claimant (s) to produce along with the application either (i) a copy of the 'Krishak Bandhu' card under 'Krishak Bandhu Scheme (Assured income)' of the deceased farmer or (ii) a certificate of being eligible claimant (s) as per annexure-III from BDO.

(2) The claimant (s) will be eligible for only one death benefit extended by the State Government. The claimant (s) will be at liberty to avail the benefit under this scheme or any other death benefit scheme of State Government in operation (viz., snake bite or lightning death etc.) as may be beneficial to him/her. He/she will have to attach a self declaration certificate to this effect as per annexure - I.

(3) Date of birth as recorded in Birth registration certificate/voter card (EPIC) / Driving Licence/ Passport/ Aadhaar card/ PAN Card or any other Government approved photo identity proof having DOB will be considered for calculation of age of the deceased.

IV. AMOUNT OF BENEFIT

The amount admissible as onetime death benefit shall be rupees two lakhs only per deceased farmer.

V. SUBMISSION AND RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS.

(i) Eligibility Date: Death of farmer on or after 1st January 2019.

(ii) Applications for the benefit under this scheme should be in Form-1.

- (iii) The nominee (for registered farmer) or the eligible claimant (s) (for non registered deceased farmer) should submit the application in prescribed format, typed/ downloaded/ neatly hand written strictly as per format, with all requisite enclosures, at the earliest to the Assistant Director of Agriculture of concerned Block.

#### VI. PROCEDURE TO BE ADOPTED ON RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS:

- (i) After receipt of the application, complete in all respect, the Assistant Director of Agriculture of concerned Block will cause an enquiry on the basis of the application, through his authorised official. The enquiry must be completed within seven working days of receipt of the application.
- (ii) After confirmation he will send the application with his recommendation on the body of the application to the Assistant Director of Agriculture (Admn) of sub-division for sanction of the benefit, drawal and disbursal thereof.

#### VII. SANCTION OF THE BENEFIT:

- (i) The Assistant Director of Agriculture (Admn) of sub-division shall issue orders sanctioning the benefit, on the basis of the recommended applications received from the Assistant Director of Agriculture of concerned Block.
- (ii) In all the cases Assistant Director of Agriculture (Admn) of Sub-division will be the sanctioning authority of benefit within his jurisdiction and he will also act as the Drawing Disbursing Officer of the fund so allotted.
- (iii) The sanctioned list shall be placed on the official website of the District.
- (iv) The entire process of sanction of the benefit must be completed within fifteen working days from receipt of completed application by the Assistant Director of Agriculture of concerned Block.

#### VIII. FUND MANAGEMENT AND DISBURSEMENT:

- (i) The fund for 'Death Benefit Component' under the scheme will be released by administrative department of Agriculture to the Director of Agriculture who will in turn release the fund to the District Officers, except for Darjeeling & Kalimpong districts.
- (ii) In case of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts (under Gorkha Territorial Administration) administrative department will release the fund directly to GTA.
- (iii) The District Officers will in turn sub allot the fund on pro rata basis to the DDO under his jurisdiction.
- (iv) The DDO will arrange to raise the bill in proper form with concerned treasury and disburse the benefit through A/C payee cheque only.

(v) In case of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts (under Gorkha Territorial Administration) the requisition of fund should be placed to GTA by the District Officers for disbursement of the benefit as per usual procedure.

(vi) The benefit will be payable to the nominee (for registered farmer) or in equal proportion to the eligible claimant (s) (for non registered farmer) as per certificate issued by BDO in format - IV.

IX. MAINTENANCE OF REGISTER AND SUBMISSION OF REPORT:

(i) The Sub Divisional Officer (ADA-Admin) shall maintain a complete block wise record of payment of the benefit in an appropriate register in the prescribed format detailed in para IX(ii).

(ii) The register shall contain the name, address and age of the deceased farmer, Date of death, number and date of order sanctioning the benefit, details of payee/s, relations thereof with the deceased, amount of benefit sanctioned to each of such beneficiary, name of the Treasury or Sub-Treasury wherefrom the benefit is paid, cheque details and such other particulars as may be considered necessary.

(iii) The Sub Divisional Officer (ADA-Admin) shall submit a report on status of benefit disbursement and fund utilization under the scheme, as per format to be prescribed time to time to the District Officer on half yearly basis within 5<sup>th</sup> of April and 5<sup>th</sup> of October of each year as on the half year ending on March and September and /or as and when required by appropriate authority.

(v) The District Officer will in turn submit the consolidated reports of his district within 7th of April and 7th of October or as and when required positively to the Director of Agriculture.

(vi) The Principal Secretary, Gorkha Territorial Authority will submit the utilization certificate, and requisition of fund, if required, to the Secretary, Agriculture Department for Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts. District Officers of Darjeeling and Kalimpong districts will submit all other statutory reports and any other report as asked for to the Director of Agriculture or any other appropriate authority.

(X) The Director of Agriculture will arrange for wide publicity of the scheme among the farmers through all media.

(XI) The Director of Agriculture will arrange for uploading of the advertisement along with the prescribed format and annexures in the 'Matir Katha' portal of the department in a format that can be downloaded.

(XII) The Director of Agriculture Government of West Bengal may frame any guidelines and prescribe any form for smooth operation of the scheme in Agriculture.

(XIX.) This notification will have immediate effect.

By order of the Governor,  
Sd/- Naveen Prakash  
Additional Chief Secretary to the Govt. of West Bengal.