GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY PLANNING AND RESEARCH DEPARTMENT PUDUCHERRY

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No.12019/PRD/DD(Banking)/2021

Puducherry, dt.17/12/2021

I.D. NOTE

Sub: PRD -Meeting to discuss implementation of Online validation/ De-duplication of beneficiaries - Minutes of the meeting communicated -Reg.

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A Meeting to discuss implementation of Online validation / De-duplication of beneficiaries held on 08/12/2021 at 3.00 p.m under the Chairmanship of Development Commissioner-cum-Principal Secretary, Puducherry. The minutes of the meeting is communicated herewith for information and necessary action.

(G.SANTHAMURTHY)
DIRECTOR

Encl: As stated above.

1. Secretary to Government (Education), Puducherry.

2. Secretary to Government (Civil Supplies & Welfare), Puducherry.

3. Secretary to Government (Agriculture, Animal Husbandry), Puducherry

4. Secretary to Government (Fisheries, IT), Puducherry.

5. Secretary to Government (Industries and Commerce), Puducherry.

6. District Collector, Puducherry.

7. State Informatics Officer, NIC, Puducherry.

8. Senior Technical Director, NIC, Puducherry.

9. Under Secretary (Finance I & II), Chief Secretariat, Puducherry.

10.All HODs implementing Welfare Programmes / Schemes.

Copy to:

PS to DC-cum-Principal Secretary (Plg), Chief Secretariat, Puducherry.

Minutes of the Meeting Held on 08.12.2021 under the Chairmanship of DC-cum-Principal Secretary (Planning) in the V.C. Hall of Chief Secretariat, Puducherry to discuss the Online Validation (Aadhaar Authentication) and De-Duplication of Beneficiaries under Various Welfare Schemes

A meeting to discuss the implementation of Online validation/ De-duplication of beneficiaries who receive benefits under various welfare schemes was held under the Chairmanship of DC-cum-Principal Secretary (Plg). The list of participants is **annexed**.

2. At the outset, the Chair outlined that a number of welfare schemes are being implemented through various Government Departments and the meeting was mainly to review the coordination mechanism among them to ensure de-duplication and authentication while disbursing the benefits to the beneficiaries. The participants were requested to elucidate the methodology followed by them in disbursing the welfare measures to the *deserving people* under various welfare schemes coming under their portfolio.

Secretary(Education):

All scholarships including Attendance scholarship to Girl students in middle stage of education are disbursed through Aadhaar platform under DBT. All the scholarships/financial assistance to the students of Higher & Technical Education are Govt. of India schemes and the benefits are directly disbursed to the students in their bank accounts by the Central Govt. The financial assistance from the Government of Puducherry to the CENTAC students is directly sent to the Educational Institutions concerned.

Secretary(Rural Development):

- ➤ Govt. of India directly disburses the wages to the beneficiaries under NREGA into their bank accounts under DBT system.
- In Agriculture department, all the benefits extended by State as well as Central Government are disbursed to the beneficiaries into their Aadhaar-seeded bank account.

Secretary(Fisheries):

- Benefits are disbursed under OAP schemes to 7307 beneficiaries from the age of 55 years onwards to the fishermen through Aadhaar seeded bank accounts.
- The benefits like Ban relief assistance and Lien period assistance are not given to the OAP beneficiaries.
- Every month with NIC's assistance the beneficiaries of OAP are cross verified with DW&CD to ensure de-duplication.
- In order to eliminate the death cases from the OAP benefits, all the coastal villages are verified with the Sub-Inspector of fisheries on daily basis for which 9 camp office at Puducherry and 7 in Karaikal region including Mahe and Yanam are functioning.
- > To get Aadhaar authentication service for its beneficiaries, a MoU is in progress by Fisheries department with the UIDAI.

> To strengthen the data base, it is proposed to appoint two technical staff through NIC on contract basis and also to ensure effective implementation of PMMSY.

Secretary(Welfare):

- ➤ The Welfare programmes implemented by DW&CD and DCS&CA are being generally disbursed the benefits through Aadhaar based bank accounts of the beneficiaries under DBT.
- ➤ However, cash disbursement is being adopted by AD Welfare department towards the schemes viz., Financial assistance for Funeral Rites and Cash Award to SC/ST students.

District Collector, Puducherry:

> The financial assistance to the family member belonging to BPL category in the event of death or partial or permanent total disability is disbursed through Aadhaar based Bank Account.

Secretary (Industries & Commerce):

➤ While replying to the query raised by DC in respect of defining the poor/poverty, Secretary(Industries) admitted that there is no uniformity in deciding the poor/poverty. The income limit in calculating the poor/poverty varies from scheme to scheme and Department to Department.

Technical Director(NIC):

➢ Before inception of PFMS, the benefits were disbursed to the beneficiaries to their bank account with IFSC Code under DBT. Now, the PFMS portal supports both the Aadhaar Based payment and payment through Bank Account. However, PFMS insists all the benefits under DBT need to be done through Aadhaar Platform. DC welcomed this as the desired way ahead.

Conclusion:

The following action points emerged from the meeting:

- (i) All departments to follow the biometric authentication model proposed by the Fisheries department to avoid duplication of beneficiaries. The method will be of cheaper and fool-proof.
- (ii) Finance Department to ascertain whether the Aadhaar number of the beneficiaries are included in all the welfare schemes while according financial concurrence.
- (iii) DAT and LEAD Bank to confirm whether the welfare benefits disbursed to the Bank accounts of individuals are specifically made through Aadhaar linked bank account.
- (iv) Planning and Research Department in consultation with LEAD Bank may examine the possibility for utilizing the NPCI tracking service to ensure the delivery of benefits to deserving recipients.

- (v) Secretary (Welfare) to explore whether Cash awards to SC/ST students could be
- (vi) A small committee to be formed to look into aspects of uniformity in deciding the poverty level across schemes, suggest further measures to ensure 100% deduplication of similar benefit claims, frequency of de-duplication exercise, elimination of death cases, appropriate mechanism to take biometrics of beneficiaries, etc.
- (vii) Director (Fisheries) to check whether the MoU with UIDAI could be signed at Government of Puducherry level so that all departments can resort to biometric authentication, where required.

The meeting concluded with the Chair thanking the participants for their constructive contributions, and with advice to work as per the action plan. The progress to be reviewed in the follow-up meeting.

Annexure: List of Participants

Annexure List of participants who have attended the meeting held on 08.12.2021 under the Chairmanship of DC-cum-Principal Secretary(Plg.)

- 1. Director, Adi-Dravidar Welfare
- 2. Director, Animal Husbandry
- 3. Director, Fisheries
- Director, Social Welfare 4.
- Director, Planning and Research Department 5.
- State Project Director, SSA, School Education 6.
- 7. Additional Director, Agriculture
- Deputy Director, Civil Supplies 8.
- Deputy Director, Women & Child Development 9.
- Under Secretary (Finance I & II) 10.
- 11. Junior Town Planner, Town & Country Planning 12.
- JAO, Higher & Technical Education
- Technical Director, NIC 13.