

Government Of Tamil Nadu

Abstract

Relief - The TamilNadu FamilyDistress Relief Scheme - Assistance to bereaved families of poor house holds which lose their breadwinner – Orders – Issued.

G.O. Ms.No.470

Dated 23.5.1989

In the Budget Speech for 1989-90, a scheme for providing, special assistance of Rs.2,000/- to the bereaved family of poor households who suffer a loss of income on account of the death of the breadwinner has been announced.

2. Accordingly the Government have decided to launch the 'Tamil Nadu Family Distress Relief Scheme'. The scheme will be administered on the basis of the guidelines and instructions given below:

3. Eligibility Criteria:

The following criteria relating to 'family' "breadwinner" "Poverty" and "claimants" should be strictly followed while verifying, sanctioning and disbursing the benefit.

(i) Family:

For purposes of the scheme the family will be the nuclear family of parents and dependents. All such families who may cohabit together as a Joint family will separately qualify for the benefits under the scheme.

(ii) Breadwinner:

The head of the family male or female, will be considered as the breadwinner if he or she is an earning member. Earnings will be included from all sources such as wages, self-employment, profits, rent, interest income, etc. If the head of the family is not an earning member on account of old age, incapacity or any other reason, then the member of the family who is its prime earner can be considered as the breadwinner. However, if the head of the family is an earning member, the death of any other earning member in the family will not qualify the family for the benefit.

(iii) Poverty Criterion:

(a) In the case of families who are solely dependent on agriculture for their livelihood, poor families will be –

(1) Families of agricultural labourers without land in which all earning members in the family are solely dependent on wage income

(2) Families of small and marginal farmers where the ownership land holding of the family is less than 2.5 acres of irrigated land or 5 acres of unirrigated land or a combination of irrigated and unirrigated land equivalent to 5 acres of unirrigated land. For the purpose of calculating the latter, one acre of irrigated land will be treated as equivalent to two acres of unirrigated land.

One acre of land taken on lease will be taken as equivalent to 0.5 acres of land under ownership holding in the same category viz. irrigated or unirrigated. On this basis, leased lands will be clubbed with owned lands for arriving at ownership holding of small and marginal farmers.

(b) In the case of families who are wholly or partly dependent on non-agricultural incomes, the annual income earned from all sources shall qualify, for consideration and should not exceed Rs.5000/- per annum.

3)The above guidelines regarding ownership land holding relate to land on which cereals are grown. In cases in which remunerative cash crops such as sugar-cane, plantain, turmeric, tobacco, chillies, irrigated cotton, and irrigated ground-nut are cultivated, the total income should be taken into account so that it does not exceed Rs.5000/- per annum for the household.

1. Claimants:

Claimants under this scheme can only be the following in the order preference in which they are listed:

- i. Wife/husband of the deceased.
- ii. Unmarried dependent eldest son or eldest daughter
- iii. Dependent Father/Mother of the deceased.
- iv. Dependent eldest grandchild of the deceased. If the grandchild is a minor, the guardian.
- v. Oldest of any other dependent family member of the deceased who was living with the deceased.

2. Implementing Agency:

The Revenue Department shall be the implementing agency and the Commissioner of Revenue Administration shall be the monitoring authority.

3. Manner of implementation:

- (i) Application:

Applications for the benefit will be received from any member of the family of the deceased breadwinner. Applications should be made to the Village Administrative Officer. In the format prescribed in Annexure-I. It should be supported by a certificate relating to the death of the breadwinner attested by the Panchayat President. Applications should be made within six months from the date of death of the breadwinner and will not be normally considered if delayed beyond this period.

ii. Enquiry:

The Village Administrative Officer should enquire into the application based on a personal visit and verify all the particulars in the application with reference to the eligibility criteria stipulated in para 3 above. The Village Administrative Officer should submit his report to the Revenue Inspector in this format prescribed in Part I of Annexure II within 7 days from the date of receipt of the application. The Village Administrative Officer shall maintain a register relating to the receipt, enquiry and subsequent stages of the processing of the application in the format prescribed in annexure-III. This register should be checked at the time of Jamabandhi.

iii. Sanction and disbursement:

The Revenue Inspector should scrutinise the enquiry report of the Village Administrative Officer and after personal inspection recommend the application for sanction or rejection as the case may be to the Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) in the format prescribed in para B of Annexure II within 10 days from the date of receipt of the Village Administrative Officer's report. The Revenue Inspector shall also maintain a register in the same format as prescribed in annexure III. The Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) should personally overcheck 10 percent of the cases on the basis of field inspection. Particular attention should be paid to the cases of reported deaths from the same village. Cases reported for rejection by the village Administrative Officer / Revenue Inspector should also be included for purposes of inspection.

The Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) shall scrutinise the recommendations of the Revenue Inspector and village Administrative officer and issue proceedings sanctioning or rejecting the application. (Part C of Annexure II) The eligible beneficiary should be requested to appear in person at his office and disbursements shall be made by the Tahsildar in the form of a cheque.

Exception:

In the case of the District of Madras alone, applications for relief assistance should be submitted directly to the Taluk office. The Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) will have it enquired through the Revenue Inspectors and issue proceedings sanctioning or rejecting the application. 10% of the applications will be personally verified by the Tahsildar before disbursement. Hence for Madras District. Parts A & B of Annexure It will be filled up by Revenue Inspectors. Para C will remain as it is.

iv. Allotment of funds:

Allocations among the collectors may be made by the Commissioner of Revenue Administration, since the budget provision is available. The Collectors are permitted to have a personal Deposit account for enabling quick disbursement under the scheme. The total allocation for each district shall be drawn in two half yearly instalments. However if at any point of time the balance in the personal Deposit Account drops to less than Rs.1 lakh the collector may write to Government for replenishing his personal deposit account. The Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) in turn will have their own personal Deposit Accounts into which the funds will flow based on one allotments made by the collectors.

V. Reporting:

The Tahsildar (Distress Relief Scheme) shall send a monthly return to the Collector in the format prescribed in Annexure IV. Collectors should comply monthly returns received from the Tahsildars (Distress Relief Scheme) in their jurisdiction and send the monthly report in the same format to the Commissioner for Revenue Administration and Chief Minister's office. The commissioner of Revenue Administration should comply the monthly report in the same format district wise and furnish it to the Government in Revenue Department.

4. Staffing pattern:

The post of a Tahsildar will be sanctioned for each taluk for the purpose of implementing this scheme. He shall in addition administer other relief scheme as well, for which orders will be issued separately.

5. Availability of forms

I and II prescribed for processing an application are enclosed. The Tahsildars (Distress Relief Scheme) are requested to have a sufficient number of sets of forms (given in annexure I and II) printed, the expenditure for which shall be debitable from the head of account viz. "2053.00 District Administration -093 District establishment I Non plan AA Collectors and Magistrates 04. office expenses -2 other contingencies" Data processing code No.2053.00 093 AA 0428) 200 sets of forms may be printed initially by every Tahsildar.

6. Head of account:

The expenditure under this scheme is debitable to "2230 Labour and Employment -01 Labour -108 General labour welfare -I Non plan - A.G. Insurance social Security for unorganised labourers below poverty line" D.Code No.2230 01 103 AG 00

/By order of the Governor/

N. Narayanan

Secretary to Government

To

All Collectors,

All Tahsildars,

All Treasury Officer/Pay and Accounts Officers (North). (South),. (East) Madras and Madurai,

All Secretaries to Government, Revenue Department, Madras-9(by name)

Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Madras –5

The Accountant General, Madras –18

The Accountant General Audit I & II Madras –35