## ABSTRACT

Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department – Pension Scheme implemented under Social Security Schemes – Change of eligibility criteria – Orders – Issued.

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**Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme (SW6(1))Department**

**G.O. (Ms.) No. 26** **Date: 17.04.2015**

மன்மத, சித்திரை 4

திருவள்ளுவர் ஆண்டு, 2046

**Read:**

1. G.O.Ms.No.73, Finance (Pension) Department, dated 22.01.1962.
2. G.O.Ms.No.257, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 24.05.1990.
3. G.O.Ms.No.100, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 24.05.1990.
4. G.O.Ms.No.80, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 01.07.2008.
5. G.O.Ms.No.64, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 19.03.2010.
6. G.O.Ms.No.61, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 20.08.2011.
7. G.O.Ms.No.121, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 21.12.2011.
8. From the Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Letter Roc No.Rev.Aud 5(1)/5268/2015, dated 04.02.2015.
9. Letter Ms. No.25, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, dated 17.04.2015.

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**Order:**

The Government of Tamil Nadu introduced "Old Age Pension Scheme" for destitute old aged persons in the year 1962. Subsequently, other category of destitute persons such as widow, physically handicapped, agricultural labourers, deserted wives, unmarried women etc. were extended the benefits. For proper implementation of scheme, detailed guidelines i.e., Madras Old Age Pension Rules, 1962 were also framed.

2. The Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration, in his letter eighth read above has stated these guidelines have

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been followed for other schemes also as the guiding principles were similar other than the age and category specific criteria. Therefore, the primary financial eligibility condition for all categories of persons was taken as 'destitute' as defined in the Rules. There have also been category specific relaxations or imposition of certain conditions in the definition of destitute through various Government Orders. Further, the Additional Chief Secretary /Commissioner of Revenue Administration has stated that these schemes are being implemented through Revenue Department. The District Collectors and field functionaries have time and again raised difficulties in interpretation and enforcement of certain eligibility conditions. In the monthly review meetings with Special Deputy Collectors (Social Security Schemes), it has been brought to notice that some of the eligibility conditions as stipulated under Madras Old Age Pension Rules are unrealistic. Another condition imposed through Government order third read above i.e. the value of house property should not be more than ₹ 5000/, has become unrealistic due to passage of time. Moreover, minor variations in eligibility conditions, introduced through Government Orders across the categories have made the process of identification ambiguous and subjective. Hence, there is a need to simplify the eligibility conditions so that all poor deserving persons get benefitted. He has therefore requested the Government to simplify eligibility conditions.

3. In the letter ninth read above, the Government have issued orders amending the Rule 5 of the Madras Old Age Pension rules pertaining to the definition of a word 'Destitute'.

4. The Government after careful consideration accept the proposal of the Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration and issue the following revised eligibility criteria as follows:-

| Sl. No. | Name of the Scheme | Existing eligibility criteria | Revised eligibility criteria |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS) | (i)Belonging to Below Poverty Line category<br>(ii)60 years and above | (i)60 years and above<br>(ii)Destitute<br>(iii)Belonging to Below Poverty Line family |
| 2 | Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme(IGNWPS) | (i)Belonging to Below Poverty Line category<br>(ii)40 years and above<br>(iii)Should be a widow | (i) Should be a widow<br>(ii) 40 years and above<br>(iii) Destitute<br>(iv) Belonging to Below Poverty Line family |
| 3 | Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme(IGNDPS) | (i)Belonging to Below Poverty Line category<br>(ii)18 years and above<br>(iii)Disability level 80% and above | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)Belonging to Below Poverty Line family<br>(iii)18 years and above<br>(iv)Disability level 80% and above |
| 4 | Destitute Differently Abled Pension Scheme(DDAPS) | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)18 years and above<br>(iii)Disability with 60% and above<br>(iv)Incapable of working | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)18 years and above<br>(iii)Disability level 60% and above |

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|---|---|---|---|
| 5 | Destitute Widow Pension Scheme(DWPS) | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)18 years and above<br>(iii)Should be widow<br>(iv)May have major legal heirs | (i)Destitute<br>(ii) 18 years and above<br>(iii) Should be widow |
| 6 | Chief Minister Uzhavar Paadhukaappu Thittam | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)60 years and above<br>(iii)Landless agricultural labourer<br>(iv)Not having support from son/daughter<br>(v)Should not be in a position to perform manual work due to old age | (i)Destitute<br>(ii) 60 years and above<br>(iii)Landless agricultural labourers |
| 7 | Destitute / Deserted Wives Pension Scheme(DDWPS) | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)30 years and above<br>(iii)Must be legally divorced or deserted for not less than 5 years (or) obtained legal separation certificate from a competent Court of law | (i)Destitute<br>(ii) 30 years and above<br>(iii) Must be legally divorced or deserted for not less than 5 years (or) obtained legal separation certificate from a competent Court of Law |
| 8 | Un-Married Poor Women of age 50 years and above(UWP) | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)Should have completed 50 years<br>(iii)Should be an unmarried poor woman | (i)Destitute<br>(ii)Should have completed 50 years<br>(iii)Should be an unmarried woman |

(By order of the Governor)

P.M.Basheer Ahamed,
Principal Secretary to Government.

**To**
The Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration, Chennai-5
All District Collectors
(Through Additional Chief Secretary/Commissioner of Revenue Administration)
The Commissioner of Social Welfare, Chennai-32
The Director of Social Defence, Chennai-10
The Director cum Mission Director,
Integrated Child Development Services Scheme,
Chennai-113
The Pay and Accounts Officer, Chennai-8
The Principal Accountant General, Chennai-18
Copy to:
Hon'ble Chief Minister's Office, Chennai-9

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Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister(Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department), Chennia-9
Senior Personal Assistant to Hon'ble Minister (Finance), Chennai-9
Principal Private Secretary to Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Chennai-9
Finance (Social Welfare/Revenue) Department, Chennai-9
Revenue Department, Chennai-9
All Sections, Social Welfare and Nutritious Meal Programme Department, Chennai-9
SF/SC

//Forwarded by order//

P. Kom...

Section Officer.

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