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PART I—Orders and Notifications by the Governor of West Bengal, the High Court, Government Treasury, etc.

GOVERNMENT OF WEST BENGAL

Department of Food and Supplies

11A, Mirza Ghalib Street, Kolkata - 700087

NOTIFICATION

No.634-FS/Sectt./Food/4M-04/2021

Dated: 12.02.2021

WHEREAS the Government of West Bengal provides food and nutritional security to over 10 crore beneficiaries by ensuring access to adequate quantity of food at subsidized prices through the Public Distribution System;

AND WHEREAS In this endeavour of the State Government, the Fair Price Shop (FPS) Dealers play a pivotal role by ensuring last mile delivery of foodgrains to the targeted beneficiaries;

AND WHEREAS the members of the family of the FPS Dealer also often contribute to the running of the FPS and that family is totally dependent upon the commission that the dealer receives from the Ration shop for its livelihood;

NOW, THEREFORE, in order to provide financial support to the family members to enable them to continue with their livelihood during times of family distress as well as to provide social security to the members of the Dealer's family in the event of his death due to any cause, including natural death, the Governor is pleased to introduce the following death benefit scheme for FPS Dealer:-

THE WEST BENGAL FAIR PRICE SHOP DEALERS (DEATH BENEFIT) SCHEME, 2021

1. Short title, Application and commencement. – (1) This Scheme may be called the West Bengal Fair Price Shop Dealers (Death Benefit) Scheme, 2021.

- (2) It shall apply to a dealer having a Fair Price Shop license in individual capacity, or as a joint ownership or registered partnership firm. This does not apply to licenses issued to Self Help Groups, Cooperative Societies or Groups of Individuals.
- (3) It shall be deemed to have come into force with effect from the 1st day of February, 2021.

2. Definition.– (1) In this notification, unless the context otherwise requires, –

- (a) "Application" means the Application prescribed in Annexure 1;
- (b) "Competent Authority" means the District Controller of Food & Supplies or the Deputy Director of Rationing, as the case may be, within whose jurisdiction the Fair Price Shop of the deceased dealer is situated;
- (c) "Dealer" means a licensee in whose name a license of the Fair Price Shop is issued by the Competent Authority as an individual or as a partner of a registered partnership firm or as joint owner;
- (d) "Death Benefit" means a guaranteed sum of rupees two lakh payable to the eligible claimant of a Dealer on his death;

- (e) "Eligible Claimant" in respect of a deceased Dealer means his nominee or spouse or son and daughter;
- (f) "Licensing Authority" means the Sub-divisional Controller of Food & Supplies or the Rationing Officer, as the case may be;
- (g) "Nominee" means a person or persons nominated by the Dealer from the members as defined in "family" in sub-clause (m) of clause 2 of the West Bengal Public Distribution (Maintenance and Control) Order, 2013;
- (h) "State Government" means the Government of West Bengal in the Department of Food and Supplies;
- (2) Words and expressions used in this Scheme but not defined, shall have the same meaning as assigned to it under the West Bengal Public Distribution System (Maintenance & Control) Order, 2013 or the West Bengal Urban Public Distribution System (Maintenance & Control) Order, 2013

3. Salient features of the Scheme. – The State Government may provide to the Eligible Claimant of the deceased Dealer a onetime Death Benefit, if the date of death of such dealer occurs during the validity of the Dealership license.

Explanation. – A license of the dealer suspended at the time of his death is considered as valid license for the purpose of Death Benefit.

4. Eligibility for availing the benefit. – (1) The Eligible Claimant(s) of a Dealer, who expires on or after the 1st February, 2021 and who at the time of his death had a valid FPS Dealership license, shall be eligible for Death Benefit under this Scheme.

- (2) The Eligible Claimant(s) of the FPS Dealer shall be entitled for receiving only one death benefit extended by the State Government through any of its scheme at his option.
- (3) In the absence of nomination, the benefit will be payable to the spouse of the Dealer and in the absence of the spouse the benefit will be payable to the dependent sons and daughters of the deceased Dealer in equal share.

5. Details of Financial Support. – (1) Under this Scheme the Eligible Claimant(s) shall be entitled for one time financial support of rupees two lakh to be payable in one installment.

- (2) The amount will be disbursed to the Eligible Claimant(s) by cheque or through bank transfer.

6. Nomination. – (1) An individual dealer may submit the Form of Nomination for Death Benefit (Annexure-II) prescribed hereunder to the Licensing Authority.

- (2) The Licensing Authority shall, on receipt of the Form of Nomination, verify the contents, and shall keep for records and enter the relevant particulars in the register or any other mode so prescribed.
- (3) The Licensing Authority shall maintain a dealer-wise Register of Nomination under this Scheme for the all dealer within his jurisdiction in the similar Form as prescribed.

7. Application. – The Eligible Claimant(s) shall submit the Application in Prescribed Form given at Annexure-I providing his personal detail and all requisite documents to the concerned Licensing Authority within ninety days from the date of death of the Dealer.

Explanation. – "requisite documents" includes copy of the death certificate of the dealer, copy of the dealership license, duly accepted nomination form, proof of address and a copy of the proof of identity.

8. Procedure to be adopted on receipt of Applications. – (1) On receipt of the Application complete in all respect, the concerned Licensing Authority shall process the case, cause an enquiry on the basis of the Application and send its report and recommendation together with entire case record to the Competent Authority within fifteen days.

- (2) The Competent Authority shall issue orders sanctioning the benefit, on the basis of the recommended Application received from the Licensing Authority within seven days.
- (3) The entire process of sanction of the benefit must be completed within thirty working days from receipt of completed Application by the Licensing Authority.

9. Power to issue direction. – The State Government may issue direction from time to time for proper implementation of the Scheme.

10. Interpretation. – If any question arises for interpretation of this Scheme, the matter may be referred to the State Government and the decision of the State Government thereof shall be final.

By order of the Governor,

PARWEZ AHMAD SIDDIQUI
Secretary to the Government of West Bengal

Annexure I

Form of Application for benefit under the West Bengal Fair Price Shop Dealers (Death Benefit) Scheme, 2021

[See para 7]

1	Name of deceased FPS Dealer					
2	License No. & Place of business					
3	Date of death of FPS Dealer					
4	Name of Nominee (s), if any					
5	Name of Spouse					
6	Particulars of all surviving family members in terms of clause 2(m) of the WBPDS (M&C) Order, 2013					
	Sl. No.	Name	Address	Age	Sex	Relationship
	i.					
	ii.					
	iii.					
7	Particulars of claimant (s) in terms of para 7 of the Scheme					
	Sl. No.	Name	Address	Age	Sex	Relationship
	i.					
	ii.					
	iii.					

I/we hereby declare that:

- 1) I/we have not claimed and will not claim any other death benefit (viz. snake bite, lightning death, Krishak Bandhu Death Benefit, etc) from the State Government due to death of the FPS Dealer.
- 2) The statements made above are true to the best of my/ our knowledge and belief and if any information is found to be false my/our claim will be cancelled forthwith and appropriate action be taken against me.

Signature of the claimant(s) with date

Enclosures:

- (i) Attested copy identity proof (Voter Card/Driving Licence/ Passport/ Aadhaar Card/ PAN Card etc) of the deceased dealer.
- (ii) Attested copy of death certificate of the deceased dealer.
- (iii) Attested copy of FPS License in the name of deceased dealer.
- (iv) Legal/ Natural guardian declaration [in case of minor claimant(s)].

Annexure-II

**FORM OF NOMINATION FOR WEST BENGAL FAIR PRICE SHOP DEALERS
(DEATH BENEFIT) SCHEME, 2021**

(see para 6)

I/We, _____ hereby nominate the person mentioned below to receive the amount of death benefit under West Bengal Fair price Shop Dealers (Death benefit) scheme, 2021 in the event of my death during the validity period of the licence.

Name and full address of the nominee		Relationship with the Licensee	Age of the nominee	Share payable to the nominee	Contingencies on the happening of which the nomination will become invalid	Name, address and relationship of the person,if any, to whom the right of nominee shall pass in the event of his /her predeceasing the licensee	If the nominee is not a member of the family as defined in the WBPDS(M&C) Order, 2013/ WBUPDS(M&C) Order, 2013, indicate the reason
Sl. No.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1							
2							
3							

Dated this _____ day of 20____ at _____

Two witnesses to sign

Signature of the licensee (s)

1. Name and Address _____

Signature _____ Name _____

2. Name and Address _____

Signature _____ FPS No. _____

Sub-area/Sub division _____

Sub-Control/District _____

Space for use by the Licensing Authority

Date of receipt of nomination _____

ACCEPTED/REJECTED

(Signature & Seal Licensing Authority)

N.B. : in case of rejection, the licensing Authority must mention the ground of rejection.