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**புதுச்சேரி மாநில அரசிதழ்**  
**La Gazette de L'État de Poudouchéry**  
**The Gazette of Puducherry**

**PART - II**

<b>சிறப்பு வெளியீடு</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINAIRE</b>	<b>EXTRAORDINARY</b>
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**GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY**  
**CHIEF SECRETARIAT (FISHERIES)**

(G.O. Ms. No. 09/FY, Puducherry, dated 23rd March 2023)

**NOTIFICATION**

The Lieutenant-Governor, Puducherry, is pleased to approve the Scheme components for (i) Extending lean season assistance during monsoon season of every year/natural calamities and (ii) Extending ban season assistance during ban on fishing to fishermen families under the Scheme "Welfare and Relief for Fishermen during Lean Seasons and Natural Calamities, 2023" for implementation in the Union territory of Puducherry. This order is issued after considering the requests of the

fishermen and in order that no eligible fishers are deprived of the welfare benefits under this Scheme. This order shall supersede all the earlier Amendment Notifications issued as follows:—

- (i) G.O. Ms. No. 15/Fy, dated 29-09-2015 of the Chief Secretariat (Fisheries), Puducherry.
- (ii) G.O. Ms. No. 17/Fy, dated 06-10-2015 of the Chief Secretariat (Fisheries), Puducherry.
- (iii) G.O. Ms.No. 05/Fy, dated 22-05-2020 of the Chief Secretariat (Fisheries), Puducherry.
- (iv) G.O. Ms. No. 06/Fy, dated 29-06-2020 of the Chief Secretariat (Fisheries), Puducherry.

II. The Scheme was previously notified *vide* G.O. Ms. No. 14/Fy, dated 08-09-2009 of the Department of Rural Development, Chief Secretariat (Fisheries) and published *vide* Part II of Extraordinary Gazette No. 29, dated 10-09-2009 of the Government of Puducherry (hereinafter referred to as the said Scheme), namely:—

1. **Short title, extent and commencement.**— (i) This Scheme may be called "the Scheme for Welfare and Relief for Fishermen During Lean Seasons and Natural Calamities, 2023".

(ii) It shall extend to the whole of the Union territory of Puducherry.

(iii) It shall come into force on and from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette.

#### SCHEDULE – 1

2. **Objectives.**— (i) To provide social security to all fishermen families during natural calamities, lean and fishing ban period; and

(ii) To gain the cooperation, support and involvement of all potential fisher stakeholders in conservation of fishery resources in the wild (fresh water and sea) especially during breeding season.

3. **Scope.**— Extending financial assistance to mitigate the sufferings of the fishermen during period of natural calamities including outbreak of epidemics and also during fishing ban period.

4. **Eligibility.**— (i) Beneficiary shall be in possession of Family Ration Card, issued by Department of Civil Supplies and Consumer Affairs, Puducherry;

(ii) Beneficiary shall hold a Membership Certificate as proof obtained from Fishermen Cooperative Society in the Union territory of Puducherry;

(iii) Beneficiary should be ordinarily resident in the Union territory of Puducherry. The Fisher shall not be ordinarily residing in any foreign nation during the natural calamity, lean season or ban on fishing period for which relief assistance is issued;

(iv) Benefit under this Scheme shall not be denied only on the ground that Head of Family or family member is a recipient of Old Age Pension (OAP);

(v) Benefit under this Scheme shall not be restricted on the ground that the fisher is in possession of mechanized or motorized or traditional fishing boats or is not in possession of the said fishing boats; and

(vi) Beneficiary or any other members in the Family Ration Card should not be in regular service in the Government/Quasi Government/ Government Undertakings/Retired Government Pensioner.

5. **Targeted group.**— All Fishermen families fulfilling the eligibility criteria as stipulated in Clause 4.

6. **Methodology of selection.**— (i) Eligible list of Beneficiaries of the Department extended with Fishing Ban period and Lean season relief assistance during 2020-21 shall henceforth be the "Base List" for drawing eligible beneficiaries list for successive years and application is not required for existing beneficiaries as long as their membership in FCS continues.

(ii) Applications shall be collected only from prospective new beneficiaries who are married and others who fulfill all the conditions set forth in Clause 4 pertaining to Eligibility criteria.

(iii) Beneficiaries list shall be modified on yearly basis by verification and removal of expired cases and fishers who do not fulfill the conditions set forth in Clause 4 Eligibility criteria.

(iv) The Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare shall follow a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) duly approved by Secretary to Government (Fisheries) in selecting eligible beneficiaries.

(v) Draft list of beneficiaries eligible for issue of relief is to be published in the official website of the Department of Fisheries and Fishermen Welfare, Puducherry for inviting objections if any and thereafter, the final list of beneficiaries shall be drawn.

**7. Mode of distribution.**— Benefit shall be sent to the beneficiaries' Bank account directly through ECS. The mode of payment of relief shall also be followed as per the orders issued by the Finance Department from time to time.

**8. Interpretation and clarification.**— If, any doubt arises with regard to the interpretation of any of the provisions of this Scheme and implementation thereof, the matter shall be referred to the Secretary to Government (Fisheries) whose decision thereon shall be the final.

#### SCHEDULE – 2

**9. Pattern of assistance.**— (i) Lean Season Assistance: Financial assistance @ ₹ 3,000 (Rupees three thousand only) per fishermen family during monsoon season of every year/natural calamities shall be paid as 'Lean Relief' through ECS.

(ii) Fishing Ban Period Assistance: Financial assistance of ₹ 4,000 (Rupees four thousand only) per fishermen family as ban relief for 47 days of fishing ban period or ₹ 6,500 (Rupees six thousand and five hundred only) per fishermen family shall be paid as "Ban Relief" in case of 61 days of fishing ban through ECS as the case may be.

III. This issues with the concurrence of the Finance Department, Puducherry *vide* their I.D. No. 2320(A)/FC/FD/F3/A4/2022-23, dated 20-03-2023.

(By order of the Lieutenant-Governor)

**S. MURUGESAN,**

Under Secretary to Government (Fisheries).

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