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Notifications or Orders of specific character or of particular interest to the public issued by Secretariat Departments.

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NOTIFICATIONS BY GOVERNMENT

HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT

Notification for scholarship schemes (First Graduate Scholarship and Scholarship to students who joined in the institution under 7.5% reservation).

[G.O. Ms. No. 313, Higher Education (J2), 22nd December 2023,
மார்கழி 6, சோபகிருது, திருவள்ளூர் ஆண்டு-2054.]

No. II(1)/HE/2/2024.—WHEREAS, the use of Aadhaar as an identity document for delivery of services or benefits or subsidies simplifies the Government delivery processes, brings in transparency and efficiency, and enables beneficiaries to get their entitlements directly in a convenient and seamless manner by obviating the need to produce multiple documents to prove one's identity;

AND WHEREAS, the Higher Education Department (hereinafter referred to as the Department), is administering the following schemes (hereinafter referred to as the Scheme) to eligible students who joined under Government Quota of Government, Government Aided, Universities, Self Financing Colleges affiliated to Anna University which are being implemented through Directorate of Technical Education (hereinafter referred to as the implementing Agency);

(1) First Graduate Scholarship

(2) Scholarship for students who joined under 7.5% reservation on preferential basis.

AND WHEREAS, under the scheme, the scholarship (hereinafter referred to as the benefit) is given to every eligible student to eligible students who joined under Government Quota of Government, Government Aided, Universities, Self Financing Colleges affiliated to Anna University (hereinafter referred to as the beneficiaries), by the Implementing Agency as per the extant Scheme guidelines;

AND WHEREAS, the aforesaid Scheme involves recurring expenditure incurred from the Consolidated Fund of the State of Tamil Nadu.

NOW THEREFORE, in pursuance of section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 (Central Act 18 of 2016) (hereinafter referred to as the said Act), the Government of Tamil Nadu hereby notifies the following namely: -

1. Aadhaar Authentication for the schemes, where beneficiaries are other than Children:-

(i) An individual eligible for receiving the benefits under the Scheme shall hereby be required to furnish proof of possession of the Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar authentication.

(ii) Any individual desirous of availing benefits under the Scheme, who does not possess the Aadhaar number or, has not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, shall be required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment before registering for the Scheme provided that he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar as per section 3 of the said Act, and such individuals shall visit any Aadhaar enrolment centre (list available at the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) website www.uidai.gov.in) to get enrolled for Aadhaar.

(iii) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, the Department through its Implementing Agency, is required to offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for the beneficiaries who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar and in case there is no Aadhaar enrolment centre located in the respective Block or Taluk or Tehsil, the Department through its Implementing Agency shall provide Aadhaar Enrolment facilities at convenient locations in co-ordination with the Existing Registrars of Unique Identification Authority of India or by becoming a Unique Identification Authority of India Registrar themselves.

Provided that till the time Aadhaar is assigned to the individual, benefits under, the scheme shall be given to such individual, subject to the production of the following documents in original, namely: -

(a) If he/she has enrolled, his/her Aadhaar Enrolment Identification Slip; and

(b) Any one of the following documents, namely: -

- (i) Bank or Post Office Passbook with Photo; or
- (ii) Permanent Account Number (PAN) Card; or
- (iii) Passport; or
- (iv) Ration Card or
- (v) Voter Identity Card; or

- (vi) Driving license issued by the Licensing Authority under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988); or
- (vii) Certificate of identity having photo of such person issued by a Gazetted Officer or a Tahsildar on an Official letter head; or
- (viii) Any other document specified by the State Government Provided further that the above documents may be checked by an officer specifically designated by the Department for that purpose.

(B) Aadhaar Authentication for the Schemes, where beneficiaries are children:-

(i) A child desirous of availing the benefit under the scheme shall hereby be required to furnish proof of possession of the Aadhaar number or undergo Aadhaar Authentication.

(ii) Any child desirous of availing benefits under the Scheme, who does not possess the Aadhaar number or, has not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, shall be required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment subject to the consent of his parents or guardians, before registering for the Scheme provided that he is entitled to obtain Aadhaar as per section 3 of the said Act, and such children shall visit any Aadhaar enrolment centre (list available at the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) website www.uidaigov.in) to get enrolled for Aadhaar.

(iii) As per regulation 12 of the Aadhaar (Enrolment and Update) Regulations, 2016, the Department through its Implementing Agency, is required to offer Aadhaar enrolment facilities for the beneficiaries" who are not yet enrolled for Aadhaar and in case there is no Aadhaar enrolment centre located in the respective Block or Taluk or Tehsil, the Department through its Implementing Agency shall provide Aadhaar Enrolment facilities at convenient locations in co-ordination with the Existing Registrars of Unique Identification Authority of India or by becoming a Unique Identification Authority of India Registrar themselves.

Provided that till the time Aadhaar is assigned to the child, benefits under, the scheme shall be given to such children, subject to the production of the following documents in original, namely: -

- (a) If the child has been enrolled, after attaining the age of five years (with biometrics collection), his Aadhaar Enrolment Identification Slip or of bio-metric update identification slip; and
- (b) Anyone of the following documents namely:-
 - (i) Birth certificate; or Record of birth issued by the appropriate authority;
 - (ii) College identity card, duly signed by the Principal of the college, containing Parents' names; and
- (c) Anyone of the following documents as proof of relationship of the beneficiary with the parent or legal guardian as per the extant guidelines, namely:-
 - (i) Birth Certificate; or Record of birth issued by the appropriate authority; or
 - (ii) Ration card; or
 - (iii) Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) Card; or Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) Card; or Central Government Health Scheme Card (CGHS); or
 - (iv) Pension Card; or
 - (v) Army Canteen Card; or
 - (vi) Any Government family Entitlement Card; or
 - (vii) Any other documents as specified by the State Government.

Provided further that the above documents shall be checked by an officer specifically designated by the department for that purpose.

2. In order to provide benefits to the beneficiaries under the Scheme conveniently, the Department through its Implementing Agency shall make all the required arrangements to ensure that wide publicity through the media shall be given to the beneficiaries to make them aware of the said requirement.
3. In all cases, where Aadhaar authentication fails due to poor biometrics of the beneficiaries or due to any other reason, the following remedial mechanisms shall be adopted, namely:-
 - (a) in case of poor fingerprint quality, iris scan or face authentication facility shall be adopted for authentication, thereby the Department through its Implementing Agency shall make provisions for iris scanners or face authentication along with finger-print authentication for delivery of benefits in seamless manner;

- (b) in case the biometric authentication through fingerprints or iris scan or face authentication is not successful, wherever feasible and admissible authentication by Aadhaar one Time password or Time-based One-Time Password with limited time validity, as the case may be, shall be offered;
- (c) in all other cases where biometric or Aadhaar One Time password (or) Time-based One-Time password authentication is not possible, benefits under the scheme may be given on the basis of physical Aadhaar letter whose authenticity can be verified through the Quick Response (QR) code printed on the Aadhaar letter and the necessary arrangement of QR code reader shall be provided at the convenient locations by the Department through its Implementing Agency.
4. In addition to the above, in order to ensure that no bonafide beneficiary under the Scheme is deprived of his due benefits, the Department through its Implementing agency shall follow the exception handling mechanism as outlined in the Office Memorandum of DBT Mission, Cabinet Secretariat, Government of India dated 19th December 2017.
- 4(A). Notwithstanding anything contained herein above, no child shall be denied benefit under the Scheme in case of failure to establish his Identity by undergoing authentication, or furnishing proof of possession of Aadhaar Number, or in case of a child to whom no Aadhaar number has been assigned, producing an application for enrollment. The benefit shall be given to him by verifying his identity on the basis of other documents as mentioned in clauses (b) and (c) of the proviso to sub-paragraph (iii) of paragraph 1 (B) and where benefit is given on the basis of such other documents, a separate register shall be maintained to record the same, which shall be reviewed and audited periodically by the Department through its Implementing Agency”.

This Notification shall come into effect from the date of its publication in the *Tamil Nadu Government Gazette*.

A. KARTHIK,
Principal Secretary to Government.