Sub: Implementation of Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana.

Odisha is rich in Art and Culture. Its history and heritage are witness to the evolution of our Arts and Culture down the ages. Our State is also rich in folk and classical dances, songs, theatres, fine arts, prolific writings and literature.

2. To provide subsistence and support to the aged artists who despite their poverty have persistently dedicated themselves in enriching, displaying and preserving the arts and culture of Odisha, the State Government has started a new initiative called “Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana”.

3. The State Government has since been providing pension to indigent artists who are in distress condition in spite of his / her lifelong commitment / dedication to our art and culture with their note worthy contribution.

4. To support the artist and save him / her from distressed condition, this scheme has been designed to be implemented with specific stipulations with regard to age, income, his contribution as an artist and the physical and financial condition of his / her family.

5. To fulfill this objective, the State Government has formulated the following rules for administering the scheme of “Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana”.
MUKHYAMANTRI KALAKAR SAHAYATA YOJANA RULES, 2018

1. Short title and commencement:— (i) These Rules may be called “Mukhyamantri Kalakar Sahayata Yojana” Rules, 2018.
   (ii) It shall come into force from the date of its publication in the Odisha Gazette.

2. Determination of number of beneficiaries:— The Department of Odia Bhasa, Sahitya O Sanskruti shall assess and determine the number of beneficiaries as and when required through a transparent process. Approval of Government will be mandatory in determining the number of beneficiaries to be assisted under the scheme, and enhancement in the number of beneficiaries as and when considered necessary.

3. Procedure of Selection:— (i) After obtaining approval of Government with regard to the number of beneficiaries, the Department shall publish an advertisement in the print, electronic media and in the Department’s website seeking applications from the eligible artists within a period of 2(two) month from the date of such publication. The applications with all required documents shall be addressed and submitted to the concerned Collector & District Magistrate in person, through post or e-mail so as to reach him by the stipulated date.
   (ii) There shall be a Selection Committee in each District with Collector & District Magistrate as the Chairman with the following officials as members;
   (a) ADM - Vice Chairman
   (b) District Information & Public Relation Officer - Member
   (c) District Culture Officer - Member-Convener
   (d) Block Development Officer of the concerned Blocks/Executive Officer of the concerned Urban Local Body from which applications have been received for consideration.
   (iii) The concerned District Culture Officer shall place the applications before the Selection Committee for consideration.
   (iv) The number of artists to be selected by the District Level Selection Committee will be communicated by the Government from time to time. The target for a district shall be decided on the basis of existing art forms and artists registered with the BKSS / Urban KSS in that particular District.
   (v) The Selection Committee shall scrutinize each application with respect to the genuineness of the artists as per eligible criteria mentioned in Para.4. The selection of artists shall be finalized by the Committee and approved by the Collector of the District.
The approved list shall be forwarded to the Director, Odia Bhasa, Sahitya O Sanskruti Department for release of financial assistance.

(vi) The approval of artists shall be individually communicated by the District Level Selection Committee.

(vii) In case the total numbers of beneficiaries are not selected in the first year, fresh advertisements may be made during next year to fill up the target allotted to District.

4. Eligibility criteria:— (i) An artist in order to be eligible for the assistance shall be of minimum 50 (fifty) years of age in case of male and 40 (forty) years and above in case of female artists.

(ii) The annual income of the artist shall not exceed Rs.50,000/- (Rupees Fifty Thousand) only for the artists belonging to Rural Area and Rs.60,000/- (Rupees sixty thousand) only for the artists belonging to Urban Area or as may further be determined by the Government from time to time. The applicant has to enclose the annual income certificate in issued by Competent Authority in this regard with this application.

(iii) An artist covered under this scheme will not be eligible for similar benefits under any other scheme of the Government.

5. Quantum of Assistance:— (i) The financial assistance for an artist shall be Rs.1200/- per month or as may be determined by the Government from time to time.

6. Sanction of Assistance:— (i) On confirmation of the approval and release of assistance by the Government, the concerned Collector & District Magistrate as the chairman of the District Level Selection Committee shall sanction the assistance at his level for disbursement.

(ii) The Government will place the required funds to the Districts as per the target assigned and the Collector shall disburse the amount to the selected artists.

7. Procedure to be followed at the District Level:— (i) The Collector shall maintain a list of beneficiaries in whose favour assistance has been sanctioned in a data base or in e-register where the name, address, account number, phone number and Aadhaar / Voter ID number of the artists shall be recorded Block/ULB wise with specific mention of the field of contribution.

(ii) A quarterly statement of expenditure shall be submitted by the Collector to the Director, Odia Bhasa, Sahitya O Sanskruti Department to monitor the expenditure.

(iii) The financial assistance shall be remitted each month to the Savings Bank account of the beneficiary opened in any Nationalised Bank after the first payment is made in shape of cash to the beneficiary on proper identification by the disbursing authority.

(iv) The records / documents shall be opened to audit by the Competent Authorities.
8. Cancellation of Pension:— The Financial Assistance granted to an artist shall be cancelled,

(i) On his / her death (or)

(ii) On the satisfaction of Government that information furnished to the District Level Selection Committee in pursuance of sub-rule(i) of Rule- 3 was either erroneous, false or inconclusive (or)

(iii) On the determination by the Government that the beneficiary has indulged in activities prejudicial to public interest or public order (or)

(iv) On his/her ceasing to have the eligibilities referred to in clause (ii) of Rule-4 (or)

(v) Non-submission of Life Certificate within the prescribed date line during each year.

9. In each financial year, required budgetary provision shall be made available in the Budget of Odia Bhasa, Sahitya O Sanskruti Department.

10. Each year in the month of April, the beneficiary shall furnish his / her Life Certificate in the prescribed Form signed by any Member of Parliament / Member of Legislative Assembly / any Gazetted Government Officer / Chairman of ULBs / Chairman of any Panchayat Samiti.

11. This is in supersession of all previous orders, rules, resolutions, notifications etc. issued earlier in this regard.

Provided further that the artists who are already in receipt of Indigent Artist Pension will be included in this Scheme, and, will be hence forward governed by the Scheme guidelines.

12. Notwithstanding anything contained in these rules, the State Government may relax any of the provisions of these rules as and when the same is required in the interest of the beneficiaries.

ORDER

Ordered that this order shall be published in an Extraordinary issue of Odisha Gazette.

By Order of the Governor

MANORANJAN PANIGRAHY
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Government

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