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Draft for Approval - II

Government Of Odisha  
Department of Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts

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No. HTH-(HC)-84/2013 3570 /HT&H, Bhubaneswar dated the 16.7.13

From

Shri Raja Parija, OAS(S),  
Joint Secretary to Government

To

The Director,  
Handicrafts & Cottage Industries,  
Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Sub:- Guidelines for implementation for "Artisans Welfare Fund".

Sir,

With reference to your Letter No. 3412, dated 07/06/2013 on the above subject, I am directed to send herewith a copy of approved guidelines for implementation of "Artisans Welfare Fund".

Encl:- As above.

Yours faithfully,

  
Joint Secretary to Government

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**GUIDELINES FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF  
'ARTISANS WELFARE FUND' UNDER THE SCHEME  
PROMOTION OF HANDICRAFTS INDUSTRIES**

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**1. Background**

Handicraft Artisans of Odisha play an important role in preserving the craft heritage of the State. But they are unable to build up any financial surplus to look after their old age, occupational health hazards and to provide higher education to their children and thus need assistance from the Government.

**2. Objective:**

- i) To support for enrollment of artisans under Health Insurance Scheme & Life Insurance Scheme, 100% artisan contribution of Insurance premium shall be provided on behalf of the artisans as per revision in the premium amount/ registration fee/ renewal charges of the scheme for implementation of both the schemes sponsored by DC (H), New Delhi implementing through Assistant Director o/o DC (H), Bhubaneswar / Sambalpur in the State.
- ii) To provide emergent assistance of ex-gratia to the family of deceased artisans belonging to BPL category, where an artisan dies due to illness/ accident etc.
- iii) To encourage the handicraft artisans for their craftsmanship by honoring them with felicitation and Awards.

**3. Target Group:**

Genuine Handicraft Artisans of the State issued with identity card as a handicraft artisan from DC (Handicrafts) / State Government / Authorised State Government Organisations.

**4. Eligibility**

For consideration under Insurance Schemes and assistance of ex-gratia, the artisans must be engaged in any of the craft recognized by the State Government. In case any of the Handicraft Artisan changes his profession, he/she shall be debarred for any sort of assistance under the scheme.

Any of the artisans of Odisha engaged in craft activities are eligible for participating for awards.

**5. Implementing Agency:**

Director of Handicrafts & CI shall be the Nodal Officer for the scheme. The Nodal Officer will nominate one of his responsible officer not below the rank of Joint Director as Co-coordinating Officer. SIDAC will be the Implementing Agency. The General Manager of District Industries Centers/ Regional Industries Centers/ the DCIOs will be the Executing Agency. They will submit proposals to the Nodal Agency after due verification jointly with o/o Assistant Directors, DC (H).

## 6. Funding Pattern:

- (i) A Revolving Fund with initial provision of Rs. 50.00 lakh will be created under the scheme in State Plan.
- (ii) If required, Government may provide more assistance, basing on the impact and feasibility of implementation of the programme, from time to time.

## 7. Fund Management:

- i) Fund under the scheme shall be kept in a separate Flexi Account in any of the Nationalised Banks to be operated by the Implementing Agency.
- ii) The interest accrued from time to time on the deposits shall be merged into the account and shall be treated as revolving fund. The total revolving fund will be utilized in implementation of the programme as per approval/instruction of the Nodal Agency from time to time.
- iii) The Implementing Agency shall maintain separate Books of Account for the purpose and reflect all transactions of the welfare fund scheme in the said books of A/c and also make available the records for periodical and internal audit as well as statutory audit.

## 8. Benefits:

Following benefits will be extended from the account of Artisans Welfare Fund:

1	100% artisans' share of premium alongwith Registration Charges/ Renewal Charges, if any, for enrollment under Health Insurance Scheme	As per norm from time to time
2	100% artisans' share of premium alongwith Registration Charges/ Renewal Charges, if any, for enrollment under Life Insurance Scheme	As per norm from time to time
3	Emergent Ex-gratia benefit to the family of deceased artisan belonging to BPL category (assistance per family )	Rs. 10,000/-
4	Life Time Achievement Award to 1 (one) of the artisans for his/her for relentless contribution towards promotion & development of craft in Odisha	Rs. 1,00,000/-
5	Award to 3 (three) best craftsmen for their craftsmanship	@ Rs. 50,000/-

## 9. Components to be covered and method of implementation

### (A) Insurance Scheme (Health Insurance and Life Insurance)

- (i) Health Insurance Scheme or Life Insurance Scheme will be implemented on the platform as sponsored by the DC (H), Government of India.
- (ii) Details of implementation process, coverage, claim process etc. as specified in the Insurance Scheme under specified Platform will be applicable.
- (iii) State Government will bear 100% of Share premium of the beneficiary artisans alongwith registration charges / renewal charges etc, if any.

- (iv) For selection of beneficiaries to be enrolled, concerned General Manager of DIC/RIC & the DCIOs, with joint collaboration of concerned offices of Assistant Director, DC (H), will verify to select only genuine artisans.
- (v) For artisans' contribution, 100% beneficiary share of premium alongwith registration charges / renewal charges, if any, will be released on approval of Director of Handicrafts & CI after due scrutiny.
- (vi) The Implementing Agency shall be responsible for submitting the UCs, after due verification and counter signature, to the Department of Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts.

**(B) Emergent Ex-gratia assistance in case of death**

- (i) Emergent ex-gratia assistance shall be released to the family of a deceased artisan belonging to BPL category only having Insurance Cards.
- (ii) The concerned General Manager of DICs/RICs/ the DCIOs shall submit proposal along with supporting documents like proof of death, reason of death certified by competent authority, legal heir certificate of the deceased etc. to the Directorate of Handicrafts & CI in deserving cases for consideration.
- (iii) The claims approved by Director of Handicrafts & CI are to be forwarded to the Implementing Agency for release of ex-gratia assistance from the fund.
- (iv) The Implementing Agency will release the assistance in shape of A/C payee cheque in favour of the legal heir of the deceased artisan through the respective Executive Agency as per approval / instruction of the Nodal Agency.
- (v) The related General Manager of DICs/RICs/ the DCIOs will submit UC & physical report alongwith other related documents to the Implementing Agency after disbursement of assistance, under intimation to the Director of Handicrafts & CI. The Implementing Agency shall check the same and submit to the Director of Handicrafts & CI against expenditure under the head for the needful.

**(C) Award:**

In order to encourage the handicraft artisans for their craftsmanship, different awards alongwith certificates will be given on annual basis Under the scheme.

- i) One of the craftsmen in the State will be felicitated with the Life Time Achievement Award of Rs. 1.00 lakh cash prize and certificate for his/her relentless contribution towards promotion and development of craft in the State.

Selection of craft persons for State Award and Life Time Achievement Award will be made by a State Selection Committee under the Chairmanship of Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Handlooms, Textiles & Handicrafts Department.

Other members of the Committee are:

- i) Director of Handicraft & CI
  - ii) Secretary, Lalit Kala Academy, Bhubaneswar
  - iii) Principal, B. K. Arts & Crafts, Bhubaneswar
  - iv) Two eminent Artists/ Craftsman to be nominated by Director of Handicraft & CI
  - v) Additional Director/ Joint Director of Handicrafts (Member Convener)
- ii) State Award of Rs. 50,000/- each with certificate will be given to 3 (three) craftsmen engaged in any handicraft trade for their best product in the particular year.

Application will be invited for awards by the Nodal Agency through the Implementing Agency. Wide publication will be made for the purpose. The artisans will apply in prescribed format (to be evolved by Director of Handicraft & CI) alongwith documentary support to the GM, DICs/ RICs/ DCIOs of the respective areas. The GM, DICs/ RICs/ DCIOs, after scrutiny, will recommend the eligible applications to the Director, Handicrafts & CI, Odisha to place before the State Level Committee for selection.

Director of Handicrafts & CI will approve the required amount for the awards and forward to the Implementing Agency for arranging awards.

## 10. General

- (i) Director of Handicrafts & CI will monitor proper implementation of the whole scheme.
- (ii) A Co-coordinating Officer at Directorate level shall be nominated by the Director of Handicrafts & CI to co-ordinate with related agencies for smooth implementation of the programme.
- (iii) The Executing Agencies are to submit periodical reports by 5<sup>th</sup> of every month indicating the details of coverage and settlement of claims from this fund to the Implementing Agency.
- (iv) The Implementing Agency shall submit MPR on physical and financial achievements to the Nodal Agency by 10<sup>th</sup> of every month. Achievements of the scheme shall be reviewed by the H,T&H Department from time to time.

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