

# **GUIDELINES FOR ANNAPURNA SCHEME**



**Government of India  
Ministry of Rural Development**

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# GUIDELINES FOR ANNAPURNA SCHEME

## 1. Objective:

The Annapurna Scheme aims at providing food security to meet the requirement of those Senior Citizens who though eligible have remained uncovered under the National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS). Under the Annapurna Scheme, 10 Kg. of foodgrains per month are to be provided 'free of cost' to the Beneficiary. The number of persons to be benefited from the Scheme will, in the first instance, be 20% of the persons eligible to receive pension under NOAPS in States/Union Territories.

## 2. Background:

- 2.1 The National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS), launched in 1995, seeks to provide pension @ Rs.75 per month to 68.81 lakh destitute, aged 65 years and above. Thus, 20% of 68.81 lakh would imply that 13.762 lakh Beneficiaries would be eligible for coverage under the Annapurna Scheme. The Statewise allocation is given at Annexure I.
- 2.2 These Beneficiaries are proposed to be covered in a phased manner depending on the availability of funds and the performance of the State authorities.
- 2.3 The State Governments are required to distribute the allocation between Districts, based on the ground situation in real terms. The identification of Beneficiaries will be a necessary first step and State Governments should initiate immediate action in this behalf.

## 3. Eligibility Criteria:

Central assistance under Annapurna Scheme will be provided to the Beneficiaries fulfilling the following criteria :

- 3.1 The age of the applicant (male or female) should be **65 years or above**.
- 3.2 The applicant must be "**destitute**" in the sense of having little or no regular means of subsistence from his/her own source of income or through financial support from family members or other sources. In order

to determine destitution, the criteria (if any) currently in force in the States/UTs could also be followed.

**3.3 The applicant should not be in receipt of pension under the NOAPS or State Pension Scheme.**

3.4 As mentioned above, the Beneficiary would be entitled to 10 Kg. of foodgrains (wheat or rice) per month free of cost. The ceiling on the total number of Annapurna Beneficiaries is specified for the States/UTs in Annexure I.

**4. Implementing Authorities:**

4.1 The Department of Public Distribution, Union Ministry of Consumer Affairs and Public Distribution will ensure the supply of required quantities of prescribed quality foodgrains from the godowns of the Food Corporation of India (FCI) to the agency designated by the State Government.

4.2 At the State level, the State Departments of Public Distribution (Departments of Food and Civil Supplies) and at the District level, the Collector/District Magistrate/Chief Executive Officer, Zilla Panchayat will be squarely responsible for the implementation of the scheme. The State Food & Civil Supplies Departments will purchase the foodgrains from the Food Corporation of India on payment of economic cost and will ensure that the FCI supplies the foodgrains to the District as per district wise allocation decided by State within the overall allocation of the State concerned. The Collector/CEO, through the District Officers of the State Food and Civil Supplies Departments will be responsible for ensuring the availability of foodgrains at the District level and for distributing the same through the network of Fair Price Shops under the Targeted Public Distribution Systems (TPDS). The Collector/CEO will make arrangements for the distribution of foodgrains and issue of Entitlement Cards through the Panchayats/Municipalities and ensure that the beneficiaries covered under Annapurna are not receiving any old age pensions.

**5. Information requirement from State Governments:**

5.1 State food & Civil Supplies Departments should open a separate

Savings Bank Account in a Branch of the State Bank of India or its subsidiary Banks and communicate the Bank Account Number and Bank Code Number for telegraphic transfer of funds.

- 5.2 The Panchayats will identify the Beneficiaries and communicate the same to Collector/CEO. The Nodal Department implementing the NOAPS in the State would have the list of identified Beneficiaries awaiting coverage under the NOAPS. The State Food and Civil Supplies Departments may make use of these lists. The State Government should Communicate to the Union Ministry of Rural Development the total number of identified Beneficiaries.
- 5.3 The State Food & Civil Supplies Department will obtain information as per Annexure III from each District and the Food Corporation of India in regard to identification of Beneficiaries, receipt of foodgrains, distribution of foodgrains and will consolidate the information for the State and forward it to the Ministry of Rural Development for each quarter ending June, September, December and March Every Year.
- 5.4 The State Governments will inform the Ministry of Rural Development in respect of the steps taken to make arrangements for lifting of foodgrains from the Food Corporation of India. The Collector/CEO Zilla Panchayats will co-ordinate with District level functionaries of the Food & Civil Supplies Department and will further allocate the quantitative entitlements under Annapurna Scheme, Fair Price Shop wise. The District Collector/CEO will be responsible for collection of foodgrains from the nearest godown of the Food Corporation of India in the District and will arrange transportation from the FCI godown to the Fair Price Shop and arrange distribution of the same through the Fair Price Shops.

## **6. Identification of Beneficiaries:**

- 6.1 The Gram Panchayats will give wide publicity to the Scheme and will also be responsible for the dissemination of information in regard to the procedure for securing benefits under the Scheme. The Gram Sabhas will select the Beneficiaries for the Scheme and the lists of beneficiaries so selected by Gram Sabhas will be displayed by the Gram Panchayats. The Gram Panchayats will distribute the Entitlement Cards to the Beneficiaries in Gram Sabha meetings.

6.2 The Municipalities will be responsible for the above activities in the implementation of the Scheme in their respective areas.

6.3 The State Government would communicate the targets for "Annapurna" to the Panchayats/Municipalities for identification of the Beneficiaries.

## **7. Release of funds:**

7.1. As per the Budget speech of the Finance Minister for the year 1999-2000, the number of persons benefiting from the Scheme are not, for the present to exceed 20% of the Old Age Pensioners within the State. Accordingly, the inter-State allocations of quantitative and financial entitlements under Annapurna have been determined, employing the criterion defined in Annexure I. Para 4 of the NSAP Guidelines use population (1998), poverty ratio and proportion of 65 + age group in total population (weightage 0.5%) for the purpose of inter-State allocations under the National Old Age Pension Scheme. The Statewise quantitative and financial entitlements are given at Annexure I.

7.2 Central assistance under the Annapurna Scheme will be released in one instalment to the State Food and Civil Supplies Department who will then tie up with the Food Corporation of India to release foodgrains, districtwise (on payment of the economic cost of foodgrains) directly to the Regional offices of the Food Corporation of India. The State Food and Civil Supplies Departments will advise the FCI to release the foodgrains to the Districts, keeping in view the districtwise allocation of Beneficiaries determined by the State Government. The State Food and Civil Supplies Department will release transportation charges @ Rs.50 per quintal as is permitted to the RPDS, to the Collectors/CEO Zilla Panchayats and the District Collectors/CEO, will tie up the logistics of distribution of foodgrains to the Beneficiaries, in consultation with the Department of Food and Civil Supplies, at the district level.

7.3 The State Food and Civil Supplies Department will submit monthly accounts to the Accountant General of the State who may, in turn, book the receipt and expenditure in his records and, at the end of the financial year, submit the appropriation account to the State Legislature. The State Government would bear full responsibility for proper utilisation of the available funds.

7.4 Funds Will be released to the State Governments only upon receipt of Utilisation Certificate that 75% of the available funds have been utilised by the state authorities. From the third year onward, funds will be released to the state Governments only on receipt of Utilisation Certificate as per the prescribed proforma (Annexure IV) for the previous year and requisite Certificate of the AG's office confirming utilisation of funds for the year preceding the previous year.

7.5 The State Governments should submit proposals for annual release of funds in the prescribed proforma (Annexure II) in February every year, after utilising 75% of the available funds, to enable release of funds for the next financial year, along with Utilisation Certificate for the previous year.

## 8. Monitoring and Evaluation:

8.1 The State Governments will send a Quarterly Progress Report in the preforma prescribed at Annexure III. The Districts are required to send the Monthly Progress Reports to the State Governments and the State Governments/U.T Administration should, therefore, consolidate and forward the same to this Ministry, every Quarter.

8.2. The State Governments will constitute Committee to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the Scheme in the respective States. The Committee at the State level may be headed by the Secretary, Food and Civil Supplies Department and may include the Secretary (Rural Development), Secretary (Social Welfare) and the Secretary (Health) and Members of Parliament and of the Legislative Assemblies/Councils, at least two Presidents, Zilla Panchayats and Zilla Samities and representatives of appropriate NGOs could also be associated with the Committee.

8.3 A District level Committee may be constituted to oversee implimentation of the Scheme under the Chairmanship of the District Collector, along with other Nodal Officers who are assigned responsibility for implementing the Scheme. This Committee could also include peoples' representatives including MPs and MLAs.

**ANNEXURE-I**

**Annapurna Numerical Ceilings and Qualifying Financial Entitlements for States/UTs**

S. No.	Name of States/UTs	Numerical Ceiling under NOAPS	Numerical Ceiling under Annapurna (Persons)	Quantitative Entitlement under Annapurna (120 Kg./Person)	Financial Entitlement			
					Economic Cost* (Rs. 9.526/- Per Kg.)	Sales Tax @ 10%	Transportation Cost (Rs. 0.50 Per Kg.)	Total Financial Entitlements
1	Andhra Pradesh	466000	93200	11184000	106538784	10653878	5592000	122784662
2	Arunachal Pradesh	9200	1840	220800	2103341	210334	110400	2424075
3	Assam	133200	26640	3196800	30452717	3045272	1598400	35096388
4	Bihar	1107700	221540	26584800	253246805	25324680	13292400	291863885
5	Goa	4500	900	108000	1028808	102881	54000	1185689
6	Gujarat	221600	44320	5318400	50663078	5066308	2659200	58388586
7	Haryana	86300	17260	2071200	19730251	1973025	1035600	22738876
8	Himachal Pradesh	38100	7620	914400	8710574	871057	457200	10038832
9	J & K	51100	10220	1226400	11682686	1168269	613200	13464155
10	Karnataka	340200	68040	8164800	77777885	7777788	4082400	89638073
11	Kerala	224900	44980	5397600	51417538	5141754	2698800	59258091
12	Madhya Pradesh	599000	119800	14376000	136945776	13694578	7188000	157828354
13	Maharashtra	669800	133960	16075200	153132355	15313236	8037600	176483191
14	Manipur	16600	3320	398400	3795158	379516	199200	4373874
15	Meghalaya	17900	3580	429600	4092370	409237	214800	4716407
16	Mizoram	5000	1000	120000	1143120	114312	60000	1317432
17	Nagaland	13000	2600	312000	2972112	297211	156000	3425323
18	Orissa	324000	64800	7776000	74074176	7407418	3888000	85369594
19	Punjab	62300	12460	1495200	14243275	1424328	747600	16415203
20	Rajasthan	237500	47500	5700000	5429800	5429820	2850000	62578020
21	Sikkim	4800	960	115200	1097395	109740	57600	1264735
22	Tamilnadu	430300	86060	10327200	98376907	9837691	5163600	113378198
23	Tripura	28700	5740	688800	6561509	656151	344400	7562060
24	Uttar Pradesh	1255200	251040	30124800	286968845	28696884	15062400	330728129
25	West Bengal	478400	95680	11481600	109373722	10937372	5740800	126051894
26	A&N Islands	2800	560	67200	640147	64015	33600	737762
27	Chandigarh	2200	440	52800	502973	50297	26400	579670
28	D&N Haveli	1900	380	45600	434386	43439	22800	500624
29	Daman & Diu	400	80	9600	91450	9145	4800	105395
30	NCT Delhi	40200	8040	964800	9190685	919068	482400	10592153
31	Lakshdweep	300	60	7200	68587	6859	3600	79046
32	Pondicherry	7900	1580	189600	1806130	180613	94800	2081543
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6881000</b>	<b>1376200</b>	<b>165144000</b>	<b>1573161744</b>	<b>157316174</b>	<b>82572000</b>	<b>1813049918</b>

Project Money **1813049918**  
 Administrative Charges @ 5% **90652496**  
 Total Cost of Annapurna **1903702414**

Note :The numerical ceilings for Annapurna have been based on the old numerical ceilings under National Old Age Pension Scheme (NOAPS). It may be mentioned that the numerical ceiling under NOAPS are under revision.

The numerical ceilings for Annapurna will consequently have to be revised.

\* The economic cost of the foodgrains is liable to change as per rates fixed by FCI from time to time.



**Proforma for release of funds under Annapurna Scheme for the Year-----**

1. Name of the State/UT \_\_\_\_\_
2. Targeted Beneficiaries during current year \_\_\_\_\_
3. Beneficiaries covered and given assistance during the year \_\_\_\_\_
4. Total allocation of foodgrains to the State ----- Kg.
5. Foodgrains released to the district ----- Kg.
6. Funds received during the year \_\_\_\_\_
7. Funds Utilised up-to-date of proposal \_\_\_\_\_
8. Percentage of utilisation \_\_\_\_\_
9. Balance as on the date of proposal \_\_\_\_\_
10. Enclose a copy of Utilisation Certificate
11. Enclose a certificate from State Accountant General's Office certifying utilisation of Funds for the previous year

Signature  
Secretary/Commissioner State Food  
& Civil Supplies Department



ANNEXURE IV

**UTILISATION CERTIFICATE-ANNAPURNA SCHEME**

Name of the State -----

Utilisation Certificate for the year -----

(a) Unspent balance from previous year -----

(b) Grants received during the year-----

Letter No.	Date	Amount (in Rs.)
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i

ii

iii.

(c) Miscellaneous receipts of the State, if any, under Annapurna Scheme -----

Total funds available-----

Certified that a sum of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ lakh (Rs. \_\_\_\_\_) was received by the State/UT \_\_\_\_\_ as grants-in-aid during ----- from Government of India vide Ministry's letter No. & Dated given above for the purpose of distribution of foodgrains to aged destitutes. Further a sum of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ only) being unspent balance of the previous year \_\_\_\_\_ was allowed to be brought forward for utilisation during the current year \_\_\_\_\_. The miscellaneous receipts of the State/UT during the year were Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ lakhs.

2. It is also certified that out of the above mentioned total funds of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rupees \_\_\_\_\_) a sum of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rupees \_\_\_\_\_) has been utilised by State/UT for the purpose for which it was sanctioned. It is further certified that the unspent balance of Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ (Rupees \_\_\_\_\_) remaining at the end of the year will be utilised for the programme next year:

3. Certified that I have satisfied myself that the conditions on which grant-in-aid was sanctioned have been duly fulfilled / are being fulfilled and that I have exercised the reasonable checks to see that the money has been actually utilised for the purpose for which it was sanctioned.

Dated \_\_\_\_\_

Name  
Designation  
State Food & Civil Supplies Department