



**Government of Odisha**  
**Department of Social Security & Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities**

No. 1613 /SSEPD Dt. 22-2-21  
SSEPD-DA-I-DA-0024/2018

From

**Bhaskar Sarma, IAS**  
Commissioner-cum-Secretary to Govt.

To

**All Collector**

Sub: Revised Guidelines for Award of Incentive for Marriage between Persons with Benchmark Disabilities and Other Person.

Madam/Sir,

Please refer to the guidelines on award of incentive for marriage between persons with Disabilities and other persons were communicated to you vide this Department Letter No.6188 dt.28.07.2017. During implementation of this scheme, some operational problems were brought to the notice of this Department. Incentive amount under the scheme has now been enhanced from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 2,50,000/- per eligible couple. The guidelines have been further revised now giving its effect from the date of its issue.

The revised guidelines are enclosed herewith for your information and necessary action.

Yours faithfully

  
Commissioner-cum-Secretary

Memo No 1614 /SSEPD

Dt 22-2-21

Copy forwarded to State Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities, SIDR Building, Capital Hospital Campus, Unit-VI, and Bhubaneswar for kind information.

  
Deputy Secretary to Govt.

Memo No 1615 /SSEPD

Dt 22-2-21

Copy forwarded to All RDCs for kind information.

  
Deputy Secretary to Govt.

Memo No 1616 /SSEPD

Dt 22-2-21

Copy forwarded to All DSSOs for information and necessary action.

  
Deputy Secretary to Govt.

# **Guidelines for Award of Incentive for Marriage between Persons with Benchmark Disabilities & Other Person**

\*\*\*

The State Government, after careful consideration, have been pleased to decide to Award Incentive for the marriage between Person with Benchmark Disability and other person, irrespective of category of the disability, so as to mainstream the Persons with Disabilities in the society and enable them to lead a normal and dignified life and also to encourage the other person to marry the Person with Disability. With the intention of providing timely incentives to genuine persons to avoid misutilization of such incentives and to streamline sanction, drawl and disbursement of incentives, the Government hereby prescribe the following comprehensive guidelines for award of marriage incentive for marriage between Person with Benchmark Disability and Other Person in respect of all the cases from now onwards.

To facilitate and fulfill mandates under Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 and the National Trust for the Welfare of Persons with Autism, Cerebral Palsy, Mental Retardation and Multiple Disabilities Act, 1999, the State Government have been pleased to formulate this Comprehensive Guideline **for Award of Incentive for Marriage between Person with Benchmark Disability and Other Person.**

**The Guidelines shall come into effect from the date of issue.**

## **1. Definition of Persons with Disabilities:**

Definitions of Persons with Benchmark Disabilities and categories for the purpose of Award of Incentive shall be as per the provisions under Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 with its amendments/ modifications from time to time.

## **2. Eligibility:**

- a. Cash incentive award can be given to either of the spouse with benchmark disability if other person marries a Person with Benchmark Disability.
- b. The bridegroom and the bride must have completed 21 years and 18 years of age respectively at the time of the marriage.
- c. Either of spouses should not have availed the incentive award under this scheme earlier.
- d. The said marriage should be dowry free.



- e. Both of the spouses should be residents of Odisha State.
- f. The beneficiary qualifying for the incentive of both the Department i.e. ST & SC Development, Minorities and Backward Class Welfare Department and Department of SSEPD will be left to opt to avail the benefit under one Department to avoid duplication.

**3. Amount of Incentive:**

The amount of incentive is fixed at **Rs.2,50,000/ (Rupees two lakh and fifty thousand only)**

**4. Application Form:**

The eligible couple will apply online in the Department website ([www.ssepd.gov.in](http://www.ssepd.gov.in)) under Application for Marriage Incentive menu.

**5. Filling up of Application Forms:**

Eligible Couple shall apply online in the menu stated above by uploading the self-attested copies of the following documents within one year of their marriage:

- a. Aadhaar Linked Disability Certificate will be entertained. In case an applicant without Aadhaar seeks marriage incentive, the person will have to submit proof of his/her application for Aadhaar. Aadhaar seeding in such case will be expedited at Department level and thereafter incentive request will be considered for sanction.
- b. Marriage Registration Certificate issued by the competent registration authority of marriages.
- c. Self-attested Post Card Size Joint Photograph of the couple.
- d. Residential certificate issued by the Tahsildar or any other authentic Proof of residence.
- e. Aadhaar linked joint bank account of husband & wife for e-transfer of the fund through IFMS.

The applicants may take printout of the system generated application on complete documentation for his/her record. Communication to the applicant on successful complete documentation shall be made through SMS.

**6. Preliminary Scrutiny of the application;**

- a. On receipt of an online application under Incentive Award, the concerned Block Social Security Officer in case rural areas and Executive Officer in case of Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) will make preliminary scrutiny of the application for further processing towards sanction. In case of deficiencies, he will advise the applicant to



upload the wanting documents reverted for the purpose within one month.

- b. Complete documentation cases thereafter shall be forwarded to concerned Verification Officer to report genuineness of the claim within two weeks from the date of receipt of the application.

#### **7. Verification:**

- a. Tahsildars are designated as Verification officers for the purpose of Marriage Incentive Awards,
- b. On receipt of the application the Verification Officer shall undertake physical verification of the couple, certificates and other relevant details on prior intimation for the same to the applicant couple.
- c. The couple shall be physically present on date of visit of the Verification Officer along with required original certificates and with other details.
- d. Verification Officer shall verify the following at couple residence address
  - i. Verify identity of applicant
  - ii. Shall verify the Aadhaar Linked Disability Certificate,
  - iii. The fact of marriage or otherwise
  - iv. Whether such marriage is first marriage or whether applicant or spouse has availed same benefit earlier or not.
- e. After verification of the genuineness of the application, the Verification officer shall forward the report along with application to the Concerned District Social Security Officer within 30 days from the date of receipt of the application.
  - a. The District Social Security Officer concerned will finally cross check and recommend the complete cases to the Collector concerned for approval.
  - b. The Collector & District Magistrate shall ensure that either spouse should not have availed the incentive award under this scheme in the District or any other district in the State.
  - c. Sanctions shall be accorded strictly following the common Disability Seniority.
  - d. The Collector & District Magistrate shall satisfy himself and accord sanction subject to availability of budget and after thorough scrutiny with reference to the guidelines and other relevant rules.
  - e. Copy of the sanction order of Marriage Incentive Award by District Collector shall be marked to the concerned Verification Officer, Applicant and Director, Department of Social Security & Empowerment Persons with Disabilities for information.



- f. The amount of Marriage Incentive Award shall be disbursed to the Couple through IFMS.
- g. The amount of incentive shall be locked in for 3 years. Withdrawal is allowed in three phases with withdrawal of 10% of the funds after 6 months, next 10% after one year and the balance 80% of the funds after successful completion of 3 years of the marriage. The couple can withdraw under joint signature. The Bank shall be advised accordingly.
- h. The names of couple who are sanctioned Marriage Incentive Awards sanctioned shall be displayed on the web-site of the District and State Department of Social Security & Empowerment Persons with Disabilities along with scanned Joint Photograph of the Couple.
- a. If rejected, the reasons thereof shall be intimated to the applicant by the Collector & District Magistrate.

**8. Allotment of funds and review:**

- a. The placement of funds to the Collector & District Magistrate shall be made by the Director, Department of Social Security & Empowerment Persons with Disabilities as per their demand and availability of budget provision.
- b. The Director, Department of Social Security & Empowerment Persons with Disabilities shall review the status periodically with the Collector & District Magistrate and other Departments to ensure that the objective of the scheme is fully achieved and to sort out problems if any,
- c. The DSSOs shall be responsible for proper maintenance of Accounts.
- d. The accounts shall be audited by AG, Odisha and also Departmental Auditors.

**9. Action for fraudulently availing any benefit meant for Persons with Disabilities:**

Those who fraudulently avail or attempt even after having availed once the same shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to two years or with fine which may extend to Rs. 1,00,000/- or with both as prescribed under section 91 of Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016. In such cases, the Collector & District Magistrate, who is the sanctioning authority, shall initiate action accordingly, besides recovery of disbursed amount with 12% interest.

**10. Refund of Incentive:**

In the event of divorce or dissolution of the marriage taking place within the time period 3 (three) years to 5 (five) years calculated from the date of receipt of the first installment of the incentive (i.e. 10% of the incentive), the spouse (either husband or wife) without disability, shall be liable to refund 50% of total amount as arrear of land revenue within one



year of the occurrence failing which the principal amount with annual interest of 6.5% will be charged from him/her.

**11.Evaluation:**

The evaluation of the scheme shall be done at an interval of 3 years by a third party appointed by Social Security & Empowerment Persons with Disabilities Department.

\*\*\*

