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PART--I-- Orders and Notifications by the Government of Tripura, The High Court, Government Treasury etc.

GOVERNMENT OF TRIPURA FOOD, CIVIL SUPPLIES AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS DEPARTMENT F.No.6-22(1)-CS/DF/2021/14895 Dated, Agartala, the 02 / 12 / 2021.

Environment Protection Fund Scheme

1. Introduction:

i. Providing access to clean cooking fuels for the poor is a priority mission and vision for the State Government as this would benefit them by improving overall health condition of the family as a result of reduced exposer to smoke emitted from burning traditional fuels, prevent respiratory disease like bronchitis, asthma, infections like pneumonia and tuberculosis. This will also lead to savings in unproductive time spent on fuel collection which can be utilised in self employment related jobs.

ii. It is being observed that use of clean cooking fuel (LPG) by the PMUY beneficiaries and other poorest of the poor family is very less due to poor economic status of the family which is frustrating the very purpose of the Government considerably.

iii. With a view to promote and propagate the use of clean fuel for domestic cooking amongst the vulnerable families of the State by way of extending some monetary relief for improving their affordability of LPG cylinder, the State Government has decided to establish an **Environment Protection Fund** with contribution from the Central & State PSUs.

2. Applicability:

i. Assistance from the fund shall be applicable to AAY beneficiaries having domestic LPG connections under PMUY.

ii. AAY families having normal domestic LPG connections but cannot purchase more than 2 LPG refills in a year due to poor purchasing capacity.

iii. AAY families for installation of PNG connections on surrender of their domestic LPG connections.

3. Establishment of Environment Protection Fund:

The following shall form or be credited into the fund:-

- i. Contribution from Central PSUs under CSR.
- ii. Contribution from State PSUs under CSR.
- iii. Any other receipts for the purpose.

Tripura Gazette, Extraordinary Issue, December 3, 2021 A. D.

4. Objective of the Fund:

Assistance from the fund will be provided to the applicants by the FCS & CA Department into their Bank account through online transfer on the basis of recommendation of a Committee to be constituted by the concerned Sub-Divisional Magistrates. Amount available in the fund may be utilized for:-

i. Providing up to 25% of the cost of LPG cylinder in favour of an AAY family having PMUY connection.

ii. Providing upto 25% subsidy on cost of maximum 3 domestic LPG refills in favour of an AAY family having normal LPG connection who is unable to purchase more than 2 domestic LPG refills in a year due to financial constraint.

iii. Reimbursement of maximum 50% of the cost of installation of a PNG connection in favour of an AAY family.

iv. Providing financial assistance for any other purpose relating to ensuring access to clean cooking fuel as may be decided by the State Government.

v. Conducting survey on the impact of the scheme upon the intended beneficiaries at Sub-Division level.

5. Operation of the Accounts and maintenance of records:

i. Proper and separate account of the Environment Protection Fund shall be maintained in the FCS & CA Department and shall subject to Audit by the office of the Accountant General (Audit Tripura).

ii. A separate account shall be opened in any of the nationalized bank in Agartala for operation of the Fund. The account shall be operated jointly by the Accounts Officer and head of the office (and/or/DDO) of the Directorate of FCS & CA. The bank passbook or any other documents in relation to the Fund shall remain under the custody of the Head of Office of the Directorate of FCS & CA and shall be regulated in the manner in which the accounts to be maintained by the State Government.

6. Guidelines for operation of the fund:

The SOP for operation of the fund, selection of beneficiaries, procedure for transfer of assistance in favour of the beneficiaries etc. may be finalized by the State Government in due course of time.

S. Chaudhuri Secretary to the Government of Tripur

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