

Benefits offered in the State of Maharashtra for Senior Citizens

Compiled by Shri Annasaheb Tekale: Vice President, AISCOON and Vice President, FESCOM.

On behalf of Maharashtra Senior Citizen Federation FESCOM, the senior citizens were repeatedly following up with the government to solve the problems of the senior citizens. In May 2023, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Shri Eknath Shindeji took notice of these issues and held a meeting with seniors. His government accepted all the demands made by seniors in the meeting.

- 1) **Travel concessions** - On the occasion of Amrit Mahotsav, currently in Maharashtra, all senior citizens above 75 years of age have been allowed free travel in all classes of buses of State Road Transport Corporation and all senior citizens between 65 to 75 years have been given 50% concession on travel. 50% concession on travel is also being provided for all women upto 65 years of age.
- 2) **Health facilities** - All the senior citizens of Maharashtra are provided with various health facilities. Earlier, Health Insurance limit was up to Rs. one and a half lakhs and now it will be increased to five lakhs. In case of critical illness, seniors will be admitted to the special super specialty hospital.
- 3) **Free Health Check Up** – This will be done twice a year for every senior citizen in view of the increasing longevity. This will ensure prevention as it would be easy to detect a disease or disorder very early.
- 4) **Senior Allowance** - The government of Maharashtra has agreed to give an allowance of Rs 3000 per annum from this year to all the senior citizens who have completed the age of 65 and who do not receive any kind of pension nor pay income tax.
- 5) **The Sanjay Gandhi Niraadhar Yojana** for senior citizens below the poverty line has been increased to Rs 1,500 per month.
- 6) **Control coordination committees** with senior citizens have been established at the district level under the chairmanship of the collector in each district and two representatives of senior citizens are taken on that committee. This helps in raising various issues faced by seniors while Government policies are being implemented by bureaucracy. This forum is also useful to provide further suggestions, if any.
- 7) **Separate cell in every police station**- This is for senior citizens in every police station in every District. This is for speedy resolution of complaints of senior citizens. This is under implementation. Two local representatives of senior citizens are being appointed at the senior citizens cell.
- 8) **Strict enforcement of Parental Maintenance Act 2007** and Act 2010. Government has accepted the request and all District Collectors have been warned and strict instructions have been given for appropriate implementation under this act.
- 9) **Protest centers for senior citizens** we demanded that the government should establish a protest center at the level of each municipality and village panchayat etc. The government has decided in the budget session that the establishment of a protest center in every local body has been made compulsory.

10) **Control Committee for health** In order to ensure that the health facilities meant for the senior citizens are provided on time, the government has appointed control committees at the state district and taluka level. Two representatives of senior citizen are being taken on this committees.

11) **Distribution of support aids for seniors** - Apart from this, items such as cane support, walker, wheelchair, hearing aid, eye glasses etc. are also distributed to the needy and below poverty line senior citizens free of cost

State Information and Benefits offered in the State of Punjab for senior citizens.

Compiled by Er. Karnail Singh Patron AISCCON Sr. Vice President

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Taking into consideration FEDSEN and Distt. units demand for Sr. Citizens Hon'ble Chief Minister Punjab Bhagwant Singh Mann granted many benefits and schemes for Sr. Citizens Punjab

1) Health

- Sade Bajurag , Sada Maan (Our elders are our pride) on 3rd Oct 2023 a campaign was launched. Under this, camps are to be organized in each District for free medical checkup and treatment . In each camp there is provision of 500 senior citizens to be checked under supervision of District Social Security Officer , CMO and D.C. Free medicines and medical aids are provided.
- Mukh Mantri Sehat Bima Yojna & Sarbat Sehat Bima Yojna are launched. Beneficiaries are required to show health card at Govt. Hospitals or network hospitals under this Yojna. There is also Health Insurance scheme for pensioners.
- Punjab Govt. is engaged in both curative and preventive aspects of health. Aam Aadmi Clinics are opened . Primary health centers are already working.

2) Transport

Free Bus Travel for women in Punjab •-

For socio-economic development mobility has always been very important. There is Free travel concession in Punjab to female of all ages (including senior citizen females) in Punjab Government buses.

3) Security:-

Old Age Homes:-

- Old age home are to be made in 10 Districts for helpless elders who do not have family support . One old age home in Hoshiarpur is run by Government Rs. 55 Lacs are spent there every year for free lodging, boarding , food , medicines are provided. About Rs. 2000/- per person per month is spent on each in mate . There are about 156 old age homes run by NGO's on charitable basis in different places.
- For care & welfare of elders Senior Citizen members are included in committees made by Deputy Commissioner in each Districts.
- Under CPRC (Community Policing Resource Centre) 181 (Sanjh Shakti helpline No.) is issued for senior citizens of Punjab for help. District level committees are formed in which mostly senior citizens are evolved as members.

4) Pension
Old Age Pension:-

Govt. of Punjab increased the old age pension from Rs. 1000 per month to Rs. 1500/- per month for those who do not have stable income up to Rs. 60,000/- per year. Female of 58 age and male of 65 years are eligible for this.

5) Recreation:-

Mukh Mantri Nishulak Teerath Yatra Yojna is launched to residents of Punjab. Preference is given to elders. Rs. 40 Crore budget is allocated .Main religious places of all religions as Amritsar, Patna Sahib, Char Dham, Ayodhya etc. are included for free journey . Free Transport, meals, lodging & Boarding is provided , Registration is online.

6) State MWPSR Rules & Regulations:-

There is Punjab Maintenance & Welfare of Parents & Senior Citizen Rules 2012 . It makes mandatory for adults to take care of their dependent parents and gives the right to Senior Citizens to demand monthly maintenance from their children's by approaching a Tribunal in case the children fail to do so.

Punjab Health Systems Corporation under this act directed all CMO's of Districts to give priority to Senior Citizens at OPD's and for separate desks for senior citizens.

SCHEMES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN KERALA

1. Old age pension at the rate of 1600/- per month.
2. Vayomithram — Health care for senior citizens, mobile clinic service, free medicine, palliative care for bedridden seniors, medical care etc.
3. MWPSC Act 2007 implemented from 2008. Rules framed in 2009, Revenue Divisional Officers are designated as Maintenance Tribunal.
4. Elder Helpline 14567 Implemented.
5. Vayoraksha - scheme for destitute BPL elders.
6. Vayomadhuram - for BPL senior citizens to distribute Glucometer free of cost,
7. Mandhahasam - scheme for BPL seniors for Dental care.
8. Sayamprabha to upgrade old age Homes run by Local bodies.
9. Vayoposhanam to supply nutritional food to inmates of old age Homes run by local bodies.
10. —V-ayoamrutham for Ayurvedic treatment for inmates of old age Homes run by Government.
11. Old age Home — To establish and support Government runs and aided old age Homes — Government - 15 - Aided — 194
12. Aswasakiranam — Financial support of Rs. 600 Per month to -look after bed ridden senior citizens
13. Palliative care for needy persons.
14. Vayojana Jagratha samathi in local bodies.
15. Prasanthi Help Line — run by Police Department for seniors
16. Karunya Healthcare scheme by Health department for free treatment of BPL families.
17. Medisep for service pensioners.
18. Free Vayojana paripalanam in Ayurveda Hospitals.
19. Concession in entry fees in Tourist centers.
20. 20% seats reserved in buses.
21. Vayo sevana Awards for NGO's and persons for their outstanding performance.
22. Ormathoni for Dementia Patients.
23. Vayojana Commission- Decided to establish Vayojana commission. Steps are being taken for presenting the bill in Legislative assembly.

SCHEMES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN TamilNadu

Federation of Senior Citizens' Association of Tamil Nadu,

FOSCATAN, Chennai

To

The President, All India Senior Citizens Confederation
Nerul (Thane) Mumbai

The General Secretary, All India Senior Citizens Confederation
Nerul (Thane) Mumbai

Sub: Matters/Issues affecting Senior Citizens and Super Senior Citizens of India : some vital suggestions with recommendations to enhance welfare of age-old citizens of India.

The Senior citizens of Bharat who have contributed significantly to the betterment of our Country, deserve a dedicated Portal (web site) to cater to their needs and concerns effectively.

1. This Senior Citizens Portal should facilitate access to essential services such as Property tax, water tax, UGD taxes, income tax and other civic amenities for rank and files.
2. It should provide easy access and assistance for obtaining medical care, ambulance services, Driver services free food and other emergency assistance recognizing the unique requirements of our elderly population from time to time.
3. Drafting norms as well Guidelines in website formation.
4. It is imperative to establish Senior Citizens Welfare boards at both national and state levels to provide a platform for Senior citizens to address their grievances more effectively and efficiently. The boards will serve as accessible channels for seniors to seek assistance and resolution for their concerns.
5. Creating of Senior Citizens Tribunals at both state and central levels is crucial. These tribunals would play a vital role in resolving cases that might otherwise remain unresolved, even after the passing of the litigants as has been observed in current situations. These tribunals will ensure timely and fair resolution of legal matters pertaining to senior citizens providing them with all necessary support and justice.
6. It is pertinent to mention sanction of a fixed allowance for needy senior citizens and super senior citizens to ensure that they are not left alone to the mercy of the public in their twilight years, as is done in modern developed countries, minimum Rs.3500 and 4500/- respectively. per month.
7. There is a need to establish Senior Citizen welfare centres equipped with medical facilities and a separate hospital at taluk and district as well state and national levels also these diagnostic centre could be equipped with modern labs and c investigation procedures for all senior citizens including dialysis and emergency care with ambulance facilities.
8. Like Army day, Flag day Senior citizens board may be suitably funded from state and Centre with willful donation's from corporate houses and business concerns within India and abroad with permissions of governments concerned

9. All members of physically challenged with disabilities having dumb and deaf including blind persons and transgender's data may be maintained and adequate facilities to live like an ordinary citizens with dignity and prestige. They can be funded from center /state and local bodies suitably

10. Niti Ayog recommendations may be fully implemented for welfare of senior citizens welfare. so far, no rules have been framed for which they are often fall pray to torture and suffers hard at fag end of their life.

11. Senior citizens are assessed nearly 30 percent of the current population and lack in several welfare measures and amenities provided by other countries.

12. Senior citizen concessions in Rail/Road/Air/Steamer Not yet restored so far as they have contributed sufficiently during their salaried periods to governments. 13. Providing of all assistance to Super senior citizens as well to all Senior citizens living alone with sufficient security from local police as well from other welfare association functionaries to help them to undertake all routine works.

14. Severe rape cases affecting children specially students may be given special can to protect them from cruel criminals and rules may be amended non billable time imprisonment with death penalty.

15. All BPL people falls 71 percent all over India belongs to Casual laborers and 84 percent of BPL groups not sanctioned with any pension or livelihood in old age. 16. Aged people above 70 years calculated to 15 percent males and 5 percent are women. but in other countries they are given adequate care for their lively hood full medical care with 3 times food materials. Every year W.H.O celebrate senior citizens day focusing on eliminating isolation, poverty alleviation of ailing patients and pledges are being taken on yearly basis on every 15 July on world awareness day. No fruitful action has been materialized in reality.

5. Comf

General Secret

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Programme formulated for the welfare of Senior Citizens- Karnataka

KARNATAKA STATE SENIOR CITIZENS ASSOCIATION(R) NGO, BELGAVI

KSCCA

Senior Citizens:

According to 2011 censuses out of the total Population of the State is 611 lakhs and approximately 7.72% Population is that of Senior citizens which is approximately 47.18 lakhs estimated senior citizens aged 60 and above in the state.

The Government of Karnataka has formulated state policy for Senior citizens on 05-09-2003 with the motto of ensuring better quality of life.

Objective of the State Policy:

1. To ensure safety of Senior Citizen.
2. To protect the Senior Citizens by providing economic security, Health Care and by protecting them against exploitation and ill treatment.
3. To formulate programme for Senior Citizens in rural areas to ensure that they also get the benefits that their counterparts in Urban Areas enjoy.
4. To create opportunities for Senior Citizens to lead a productive, perusal and satisfactory life.
5. These policy intends to have an objective of creating a society which includes people of all ages.
6. The state recognizes the fact that senior citizens were also resource full person's resourceful persons and are contributing members of the society.
7. This policy has realized importance of allocating budget for the welfare of senior citizens who belong to economically weaker sections.

The State Policy with an objective of providing Health Care Services, Social Security, Housing and shelter and protection of property and life are some of the aspects are complained under this policy to be monitor implements for the State Policy. A Task Force has been constituted under the Chairmanship of the Chief Minister of the State.

- **Day Care Center for Senior Citizens:**

Dept. has implemented the scheme of Day Care Center in 4 major city corporations Bangalore, Hubli-Dharwad, Belgaum and Gulbarga run through voluntary organization's in each centers 50 to 150 beneficiaries are enrolled. For Maintenance of these centers Rs.11.20 Lakhs are being provided. 1002 Senior Citizens are availing benefits in these Day Care Centers.

- **Helpline for Senior Citizens:**

To provide relief to Senior Citizens from financial exploitation, harassment and mental torture, Helplines are established in the office premises of the Police Superintendents in all 28 districts excluding Belgaum & Kalburgi of the State **Old Age Homes:**

For the Welfare of Senior Citizens, Old Age Homes are established in 30 districts, through NGOs at the unit cost of Rs.8.00 Lakhs, Government of Karnataka has released 90% budget, remaining 10% of the expenditure should be spent by Institutions. In each of these centres 25 beneficiaries are availing the services of free food, Medicine, Entertainment and Shelter.

Indira Gandhi National Old age Pension:

Senior Citizens aged between 60 to 65 years are being paid Rs.600/- as old age pension every month and for senior citizen aged between above 65 are paid Rs.1000/- This scheme is being implemented by the Social Security and Pension Department.

- Senior Citizen ID Cards

Senior citizens in the age 60+ were provided Identity Card through “Seva Sindhu”

Portal.

- Concession to Senior Citizens in Bus pass

The Senior Citizens who have obtained identity cards, voter ID, driving license are eligible to avail 25% concession in KSRTC/BMTC Busses.

- Maintenance of Parents & Senior Citizens Act 2007:

Department is implementing Government of India Maintenance of Parents & Senior Citizens Act 2007 from 01-04-2008 and rules have been framed. Maintenance Tribunals have been constituted under the chairmanship of Assistance Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the Districts concerned.

Maintenance of Parents and Senior Citizens Act-2007 (central Act – 2007 Rule-56) provided for Establishing Appellate Tribunals under the Act for appealing against the verdict of the Board under sub rule (1) of rule 15 of the Act. Accordingly the Government of Karnataka has established appellate tribunals in each District as per sub rule (2) Deputy Commissioner of the respective Districts are the heads of the tribunals.

State Award:

Govt. of Karnataka has instituted State Award for one Institution for the Best work done for the cause of senior citizens and also awards are given to 06 senior citizens, who have done greater achievement in the field of Art, Literature, Education, Legal Service, Social Work and Sports.

The Department invites applications from eligible individual and Institutions. The applications are scrutinized by the Committee headed by the Hon’ble Minister for Women & Child Development and select the eligible candidates. These awards are presented on the World Senior Citizens Day (October 1st) every year.

SCHEMES FOR SENIOR CITIZENS IN Odisha

Nerul Training

AISCCON TRAINING PROGRAM

Dt.05 & 06/03/2024.

Nerul, Navi , Mumbai

Facilities Provided to Senior Citizens by Govt of Odisha .

Presentation by Paschim Odisha Baristha Nagarik Mahasangh(POBNM) , Odisha

Presented by Dhaneswar Meher, Zonal Secretary

Sambalpur(POBNM)

PRELIMINARY

On Sep/2009 the state government of Odisha adopted the national MWPSA Act-2007 and framed the rules to work under WOMEN & CHILD DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT (WCDD) for the benefits of senior citizens.

WCDD was bifurcated on dt.01/07/2015 and a new department SOCIAL SECURITY & EMPOWERMENT of PERSON with DISABILITY (SSEPD) was created.

The Odisha State Policy 2016 for senior citizens came into force and SSEPD supervised the different activities related to health, food, shelter , safety of life and property and comfortable ageing of senior citizens .

Issues allowed by AISCCON to discuss in the training programme are HEALTH, TRANSPORT, SECURITY, PENSION & RECREATION/ENGAGEMENT

1.HEALTH

There is no special provision for senior citizens to receive exclusive benefits in healthcare. Of course senior citizens in Old Age Home are provided health care as per their needs .

2.TRANSPORT

Tourism and Transport Department, Government of Odisha started MO BUS Yojana for Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT) on 6th/Nov , 2018 . The Public from nearby cities and towns are connected to the Capital City, Bhubaneswar at the much reduced rate of price .

Senior citizens are given 50% of concession on production of valid age proof. There is no other special provision for transportation of senior citizens.

3. SECURITY

i) Food security

In Antoday Anna Yojana , beneficiaries are receiving 20Kgs of @Rs.3/- and 15Kgs of wheat @Rs.2/- per month from Dec/2000 .

In Annapurna Yojana targeted to non-sustainable citizens of more than 65 years old , beneficiaries are receiving 10Kgs of food grains per month free of cost .

The Food Supplies and Consumers Welfare Department, Govt of Odisha has advanced a step forward .

Above Poverty Line(APL) Card holders in the income range of Rs.40000 to Rs.60000 will be eligible to receive the food grains and other essential commodities like sugar , edible oil, kerosene,etc at subsidised rates(significantly lower price than the market rate) at fare price shops .

Here senior citizens are included in general but no special benefits. ii)SOCIAL Security

The District Magistrate, the district social security officer(DSSO) in district level and the local administrator at the block or urban level are taking care of the problems encountered by the senior citizens.

In the police limit, the senior citizens are identified and registered and a nodal officer is appointed to address the problems regarding safety of property and life against abuse and violence.

iii)Old Age Home

The Department of Social Security and Empowerment of Person with Disability (DSSEPD) , Govt of Odisha is making plans at the strategic locations and supporting the private organisations offering government lands and other assistance to build the Old Age Home to provide a comfortable ageing of senior citizens.

The government of Odisha has provided land and building to a few districts out of 30 districts only .

An Old Age Home built over 6598 square feet in the land area of 19.77acres at Baijamunda , Sambalpur to accommodate 250 inmates in 45+67 rooms in two storied building with all modern amenities was inaugurated in the year 2023 . Sorry to say that it is not yet operating.

4. PENSION

Senior citizens in BPL category are endowed with a pension under Madhu Babu Pension Yojana, launched on 1st/Jan, 2008.

57,08, 967 beneficiaries having income less than Rs.24000 and covered under “ State Old Age Pension Scheme ,1989 “ and “ Odisha Disability Pension Scheme,1985 “are taking the advantage of the scheme. The pension is disbursed on the 15th day of every month, declared as JANA SEVA DIWAS .

The pension amount has recently increased from the month of Feb/2024 from ₹500 to ₹1000 in the age group of 60 to 79 years old and ₹600 to ₹1200 in the age of 80 years or more .

5.RECREATION / ENGAGEMENT

Baristha Nagarik Tirtha Yatra Yojana (BNTYY) , a scheme of Odisha Govt, is continuing from 1st /Feb ,2016 with a break of 2 years during the COVID period.

Under the scheme , senior citizens in BPL category and other ration card holders in age group of 60 to 75 years are selected by a selection committee in district level for the pilgrimage sites with government assistance for all religions and faiths .

They are given a chance once in the life of senior citizens to realise their spiritual aspirations to visit religious locations.

At a time there will be 970 pilgrims and 30 members of medical staff, escort team of Odisha Govt and members of IRCTC. This facility covers all 30 districts of Odisha in phase manner to different religious spots in different geographical area of India.

Beneficiaries are travelling free of cost in the special trains and paying minimum amount of tour package for other services.

DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED-

1. The Orissa Gazette ,Published by Govt of Odisha, 29/Sep/2009,Notification No.24/Sep/2009 2.