

No. AG-15039/15/2024-Sr.C-I

**Government of India**

**Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment**  
**Department of Social Justice and Empowerment**  
**(Senior Citizens' Welfare Division)**

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A-253, Shastri Bhawan,  
New Delhi, the 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2025

To

The Pay and Account Officer,  
Department of Social Justice and Empowerment,  
Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment,  
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi.

**SUBJECT: Release of First Installment (50%) of Central Assistance to the State Government of Himachal Pradesh under the Centrally Sponsored of Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana(AVYAY), sub scheme State Action Plan for Senior Citizens (SAPSrC) of the year 2024-25 - Reg.**

Sir

I am directed to convey the sanction of the President of India for releasing an amount of **₹22,05,500/- (Twenty Two Lakh Five Thousand Five Hundred)** only as first installment (50%) of central assistance to the **State Government of Himachal Pradesh** under the component of State Action Plan for Senior Citizens(SAPSrC) of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana(AVYAY), for the Year 2024-25 to undertake the following activities as per the State Action Plan received from the Government of **Himachal Pradesh**: -

- i. Special drives for cataract surgeries- Rs. 10.8 Lakhs
- ii. Training to geriatric caregivers- Rs.6.255 Lakhs
- iii. Awareness and publicity campaign- Rs. 5 Lakhs

2. The amount is debitable to the Demand No. 93 of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for 2024-25, Major Head "3601"; Grants-in-aid to State Governments (Major Head); 06-Centrally Sponsored (Sub Major Head); 101 – Central Assistance/Share(Minor Head); 40.12 –Atal Vayo Abhyuday Yojana (AVYAY); 31- Grants-in-aid-General.

3. It is requested that arrangement may kindly be made to credit the above amount to the **State of Himachal Pradesh** in accordance with the procedure laid down in the Ministry of Finance Office Memorandum No.2(45)/76-Spl. Cell dated 30.08.1976 and modified vide Office Memorandum dated 16.9.76, under intimation to this Division.

शुभम भारद्वाज / SHUBHAM BHARDWAJ  
अवर सचिव / Under Secretary  
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय  
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4. Central Assistance being released is adjustable against the final due Central Assistance for the current financial year. The release of fund is subject to furnishing of Audited Statement of accounts and the Utilization Certificate as per the rule 12-C of the General Financial Rules(GFR), 2017 in respect of the grant-in-aid released during previous years, duly signed by authorized signatory of the State Government.

5. The Central Assistance shall be utilized only as per the provisions contained in the guidelines of the scheme and the State Government shall update the progress periodically in respect of implementation of the scheme and utilization of the Central Assistance. It is further requested to provide the quantifiable outcomes of the Trainings proposed to be imparted to Geriatric Caregivers & Health Care and capacity Building.

6. In the event of failure on the part of the State Government to utilize the grant-in-aid for the purpose for which it has been sanctioned or failure to comply with the conditions of this sanction, the State Government shall be liable to refund, the whole or part amount, as the case may be, in terms of Rule 209(6)(ix) of the GFR.


7. The State Government would ensure that following guidelines as issued by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance, is complied with during the course of implementation of scheme:

- i. The State Government will designate a Single Nodal Agency(SNA) for implementing the scheme immediately, if not done. The SNA will open a Single Nodal Account for this scheme at the State level in Scheduled Commercial Bank authorized to conduct government business by the State Government.
- ii. The Implementing Agencies(IAs) down the ladder should use the SNA's account with clearly defined drawing limit set for that account. However, depending on operational requirements, zero-balance subsidiary accounts may also be opened for the IAs either in the same branch of the selected bank or in different branches.
- iii. All zero balance subsidiary accounts will have allocated drawing limits to be decided by the SNA concerned from time to time and will draw on real time basis from the Single Nodal Account of the scheme as and when payments are to be made to beneficiaries, vendors etc. The available drawing limit will get reduced by the extent of utilization.
- iv. For seamless management of funds, the main account and all zero balance subsidiary accounts should preferably be maintained with the same bank. However, State Government may choose different banks for opening Single Nodal Accounts of different Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- v. Only banks having a robust IT Systems and extensive branch network should be chosen for opening the Single Nodal account of each CSS. The bank chosen should have the facility to open the required number of subsidiary Zero balance accounts and a robust MIS for handling accounting and reconciliation at each

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level. The bank should also provide a user-friendly dashboard to officers at various levels to monitor utilization of funds by IAs.

- vi. The bank's software system should be able to monitor the drawing limits of the IAs who should be able to draw funds on real time basis from the SNA's account as and when payments are to be made. The selected bank should ensure proper training and capacity building of branch managers and other staff for smooth operation of these accounts.
- vii. The SNAs shall ensure that the interest earned from the funds released should be mandatory remitted to the respective Consolidated Funds on pro-rata basis in terms of Rule 230(8) of the GFR, 2017. Interest earned should be clearly and separately depicted in Public Finance Management System(PFMS), scheme-specific portals integrated with the PFMS and in MIS provided by the banks.
- viii. After opening of Single Nodal Account of the scheme and before opening zero balance subsidiary account(s) of IAs or assigning those drawing rights from the SNA's account, the IAs at all levels shall return all unspent amounts lying in their accounts to the Single Nodal Account of the SNA. It will be the responsibility of the State government concerned to ensure that the entire unspent amount is returned by all the IAs to the Single Nodal Account of the SNA concerned. For this, the State Governments will work out the modalities and the timelines and will work out Central and State share (if any) in the amount so available with IAs. The SNA will keep a record of unspent balance lying in the account of IAs and the amount refunded by IAs.
- ix. The SNAs shall keep a record of the unspent amount lying in the account of IAs to be deposited in the Single Nodal Account while assigning drawing rights to IAs.
- x. The State government will transfer the Central share received in its account in the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) to the concerned SNA's account within a period of 21 days of its receipt. The central share shall not be diverted to the personal Deposit (PD) account or any other account by the State Government.
- xi. State Government will register the SNA and all IAs on PFMS and use the unique PFMS ID assigned to the SNA and IAs vendors and other organizations receiving funds will also be mapped in the PFMS.
- xii. Payments will be made from the zero balance subsidiary accounts up to the drawing limit assigned to such accounts from time to time. Transactions in each Subsidiary Account will be settled with the Single Nodal Account daily through the Core Banking Solution(CBS) on the basis of payments made during the day.
- xiii. The SNAs and IAs will mandatorily use the EAT module of the PFMS or integrate their systems with the PFMS to ensure that information on the PFMS is updated by each IA at least once every day.
- xiv. The SNAs will keep all the funds received in the Single Nodal Account only and shall not divert the same to Fixed Deposit/Flexi-Account/Multi-Option Deposit Account Corporate Liquid Term Deposit(CLTD) Accounts etc.
- xv. The State TFMIS should be able to capture scheme component-wise expenditure along with PFMS Scheme Code and Unique Code of the Agencies

  
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incurring the expenditure. State Governments will ensure daily uploading/sharing of data by the State IFMIS/Treasury applications on PFMS. The PFMS will act as a facilitator for payment, tracking and monitoring of fun flow.

- xvi. **The remaining amount (50%) shall be considered for release only after receipt of Utilisation Certificate(UC) of at least 75% of the first installment being released now.**

8. The accounts will be open to inspection by the sanctioning authority and audit, both by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India under the provision of CAG (DPC) Act, 1971 and internal audit by the Principal Accounts office of the Ministry/Department, whenever the institution or Central Government is called upon to do so.

9. The sanction is being issued with the concurrence of Integrated Finance Division of the Ministry vide their Dy. No. 91071/JS&FA (SJ&E) dated 12.01.2025.

Yours faithfully,

(Shubham Bhardwaj)

Under Secretary to the Government of India

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Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The Director, Social Welfare Department, Government of **Himachal Pradesh**
2. The Secretary, Finance Department, Government of **Himachal Pradesh**.
3. The Secretary, Planning Department, Government of **Himachal Pradesh**.
4. The Account General, Government of **Himachal Pradesh**.
5. NITI Aayog, (SJE Division). NITI Bhawan, New Delhi.
6. Director of Audit, Central Revenue, IP Estate, New Delhi.

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