- Note:- 1) Produce two passport size photographs
 - 2) The type and cost of the laptop/i-pad/notebook/PC tablet/camera to be granted will be decided by the Government.

DECLARATION

I further declare that I have availed/not availed of similar benefits under any of the scheme of the Department of Information & Publicity.

	Sign:
	Name:
Date:	
Place:	

Notification

DI/INF/Jour-Wel-Fund/2021-22

GOA STATE WORKING JOURNALISTS WELFARE SCHEMES 2021-22

- I. Short title and commencement.— i. This Scheme may be called the 'Goa State Working Journalist Welfare Scheme'.
- *ii*. This scheme shall merge and supersede the Goa State Working Journalist Welfare Scheme Rules. 2002.
- *iii*. It shall come into force from the date of publication in the Official Gazette.
- iv. This scheme will come into force with immediate effect and shall consider all those journalists who are presently members including those who have retired or family members who are drawing pension under the Goa State Working Journalist Welfare Scheme Rules, 2002. They will be entitled to get welfare under this scheme, subject to the conditions prescribed in this scheme and as amended from time to time.
- II. *Objectives.* i) "Goa State Working Journalist Welfare Scheme" is meant for the

welfare of working journalists, retired from service after working in Goa and their families.

- III. Definition.— i) Working journalist means, a journalist who is working in Goa for one or more Media and who come under the definition of Wage Board under the Working Journalists and Newspaper Employees Service Conditions and Miscellaneous Conditions Act, 1955.
- *ii*) "Family" means spouse of working journalists, unmarried children below the age of 21 years and parents who are dependent on working journalist.
- iii) Governing Body means a Committee constituted by the Government under Government order consisting of Director (Information and Publicity) as Chairman, Director of Accounts/Joint Director of Accounts, President or representative of the Goa Union of Journalist (nominated by President, GUJ) as Members and Information Officer, Department of Information and Publicity as Convener/Member Secretary.
- *iv*) "Service" means period of work in Goa as a working journalist for one or more Media house, continuously or in intervals for a period of 18 years.
- v) Retirement from service means retirement after attaining the age of superannuation while working in a Media house or discontinuance of job on account of Media House stopping publication/ Telecasting/or inability to continue in job due to any other reasons like any emergency or pandemic. However, retirement will be considered only on attaining the age of 60 years.
- vi) Establishment means Media Offices/ establishments and Media publishing/ Telecasting from Goa as specified under the Working Journalists and Newspaper Employees Service Conditions and Miscellaneous Conditions Act (45 of 1955).
- vii) Scheme means the working journalists pension scheme for which this Scheme is framed.

- IV. Eligibility -i) Any journalist, who is a resident of Goa for 15 years.
- *ii)* Those who retire after 18 years of service in any newspaper/Media establishment setup in Goa will be eligible only after attaining the age of 60.
- V. Welfare Funds.— i) A separate fund created for the Goa State Journalist Welfare Fund shall be continued for granting welfare fund under the scheme.
- *ii)* The fund will comprise of the contribution by the State Government through budgetary provision.
- iii) The Fund will be at the disposal of the Governing Body for the purpose of disbursement of welfare under the scheme.
- VI. Disbursement of welfare.— i) Any journalist, who is above 18 years of age, and completed 18 years of service, can apply under the scheme.
- *ii)* The application for pension has to be submitted in prescribed Proforma (Annexure-I) to the convener of the Governing Body.
- iii) The applications must be accompanied by a statement (Annexure –III) issued by the newspaper concerned, showing details such as name of the establishment, work of the applicant, date of joining service and date of birth as per official records, maintained in the concerned media house. Concerned Media house Editor or by authorized official of the media house has to certify the application.
- *iv)* In the event of death of a member of the scheme, the family members, as specified under this rule, can submit an application for family welfare along with relevant documents.
- v) The convener of the Governing Body or an officer authorized on his/her behalf must receive the application and enter the name of applicant and other details in the register to be maintained for this purpose.
- VII. General Instructions regarding eligibility.— i) Accredited Journalist, who

- attains 60 years of age, and completes 15 years of service in any Media houses as a working Journalist will be entitled for welfare under the scheme.
- ii) Non-Accredited Journalist, who attains 60 years of age, and completes 18 years of service in any Media houses as a working Journalist will be entitled for welfare under the scheme.
- iii) Non Accredited/Accredited Journalist shall have to submit experience letter of the concerned Media house letter head and signed by Editor or an authorized official of the concerned media house.
- VIII. *Governing Body.* A Committee to be constituted by the Government under specific Government order.
- IX. Power of Governing Body.— i) Consider applications and granting welfare for eligible applicants, reject applications as per rule XIV etc.
- ii) Plan development of the scheme from time to time.
- *iii*) Bank account opened under the Goa State Journalist Welfare Fund, 2002 shall be continued to be operated for the purpose of this scheme.
- X. Welfare Amount.— (i) An amount of Rs. 8500/- p.m. will be disbursed as pension for pensioner.
- (ii) 50% of the pension of the Journalist for family pension.
- XI. Application for Welfare.— i) The applicant should submit an application with employment certificate from the Media establishment with Editor's signature, for which he/she was working, or from the President or Secretary of Goa Union of Journalists of the State, along with the pass book copy seeking claim to the Welfare.
- XII. Sanction of Welfare.— On receipt of application for welfare the Governing Body should consider it within one month from the

date of receipt of application and issue sanction order to the eligible applicant. The sanction of the Welfare will be from the date of superannuation or for the next month of receipt of the application. The Convenor, if satisfied, is authorized to issue temporary welfare for a person within one month on receipt of application for welfare. However, such decision has to be ratified at the next meeting of the Governing Body. In any case the eligible applicant will get welfare from the first day of the month, which falls soon after his retirement.

XIII. Rejection of Application.— The Governing Body can reject any application, citing sufficient reasons, reflecting specifically on the application. These reasons have to be intimated to the member with due acknowledgement.

XIV. Reconsideration.— The Governing Body is empowered to reconsider any application suo moto or otherwise, which was rejected earlier, and granted welfare under the scheme. In the event of rejection of any application for welfare, the member is entitled to submit a request for reconsideration of his/her application within three months after receipt of intimation regarding rejection of application. However, the decision of the Governing Body on such an application will be final and binding on the member.

Nomination.— i) Every member of the scheme will have to nominate a member of his family to receive welfare in the event of his/her death. It will be only on the basis of this nomination that family welfare and other amount due to the member would be granted after death of the member concerned.

ii) Nominations once made cannot be changed. But in the event of death of the nominee or as specified under 19 (2) the governing body can decide on changing the nominee. The application for this purpose has to be submitted to the Convener.

XV. Payment of Welfare Fund.— Welfare amount will be disbursed by ECS by Director, Department of Information and Publicity, on or after sixth of every month.

XVI. Cancellation of Welfare Fund.—Welfare sanctioned earlier can be cancelled at any time if the governing body is satisfied that it was wrongly sanctioned or issued on the basis of false information furnished by the applicant. In such an event, the recipient shall has to return the total amount claimed. Before cancellation of welfare, the Governing Body must hear the other party, by giving opportunity to explain his/her side.

XVII. Change of scheme.— The State Government will have the powers to suo moto or on the recommendations of the Governing Body modify the scheme, either with retrospective or prospective effect, by adding or deleting any provisions.

XVIII. Exemption.— The Governing Body is empowered to decide and approve application for disbursement of Welfare to Journalist before retirement, i.e. before attaining the age of superannuation due to unforeseen circumstances like discontinuance of job on account of newspaper stopping the publication or inability to continue in job for being in-capacitated due to any health reasons or due to any emergency or pandemic, subject to condition that the sole livelihood should be journalism and should have completed 50 years of age and a minimum of 10 years of service as journalist.

XIX. Interpretation and Explanation.— The Governing Body will have to refer to the State Government if it feels that any explanation is necessary regarding implementation of the scheme or for considering of relaxation of any clauses. The decision of the Government will be final.

This is issued with the concurrence of Finance Department vide their U.O No. 1400082723/dated: 05-10-2021.

By order and in the name of the Governor of Goa.

Dipak Bandekar, Director, Information & Publicity & ex officio Addl. Secretary.

Panaji, 3rd January, 2022.

ANNEXURE - I

Application form for membership

- 1. Name in full and address of the applicant:
- 2. The name and address where the applicant is working:
- 3. Age and date of birth of the applicant:
- 4. Residence certificate: (15 years residence certificate from concerned taluka Mamlatdar)
- 5. Aadhaar card No .:
- 6. Name of job:
- 7. The date of entry into service and details of total service:
- 8. If the applicant had any previous service in other newspaper organizations, its details:
- 9. Recommendation letter from GUJ (18 years as GUJ Member)
- 10. The name and address and the relationship of the nominee who will receive the family welfare in the event of the death of the journalist:

Signature of the applicant

Place:

Date:

Note: Attested copy to prove the date of birth and Aadhaar card copy are to be enclosed.

ANNEXURE - II

Application form for granting welfare under the Goa Journalists Welfare Fund Scheme

- 1. Name of the applicant:
- 2. Age and date of birth:
- 3. Full address:
- $4. \ \,$ The name and address of the organization working at present :
- 5. Name of the job:
- 6. Date of entry into service :
- 7. Date of superannuation:

Certified that all the details given above are true to the best of my knowledge.

Signature of the applicant

Place:

Date:

Note: Attested copy to prove the date of birth is to be enclosed.