**Information Related to Govt. Schemes & Allowances for the Corona Situation**

* **‘Jai Bangla’ (wishing victory to Bengal) Scheme:**

The West Bengal State Government has decided to bring all the new (namely, T**aposili Bandhu** (Pension Scheme) for **Scheduled Caste (SC)** and **Jai Johar** (Pension Scheme) for **Scheduled Tribe (ST)** and existing Old Age Pension schemes, Widow Pension schemes and Disability Pension schemes administered by the State Government, under one Umbrella Scheme for pensions, namely, the **Jai Bangla Scheme 2020**. The State government has also decided to increase the pension amount given to eligible beneficiaries under the existing Pension schemes (where monthly pensions ranged from Rs. 600 to Rs. 750 per month) to a uniform amount of Rs. 1000 per month for all schemes (including new ones). For more details click on this **Link:** <https://jaibangla.wb.gov.in/login> or open the file given below:



* **‘Sneher Paras’ (affectionate touch) Scheme:**

In order to provide some financial assistance to the migrant workers who are resident of West Bengal and are stranded in different parts of the country due to ongoing nationwide lockdown for Covid-19 outbreak, the West Bengal State Government has decided to introduce a new scheme namely “**Sneher Paras**”. Under this scheme a financial assistance of one-time ex-gratia payment of Rs. 1000/- will be provided to such workers who are stranded in other parts of the country since 24.3.2020. For more details click on this **Link:** <https://wb.gov.in/documents-notification.aspx> or open the file below

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* **‘Khadya Sathi’ Prakalpo (friend for food scheme):**

To mitigate the economic hardship of the people, consequent to the lockdown for preventing the spread of Covid-19 virus, the Government of West Bengal has decided to provide food grains (rice and wheat/fortified atta) to 7.88 crore AAY, SPHH, PHH and RKSY-I (ration card holder) beneficiaries at their respective prescribed entitlements including special package entitlements **free of cost** through the Public Distribution System for a period of 6 (Six) months starting from 1st April to 30th September, 2020 in public interest. For more details visit- <https://wbpds.gov.in/rptForUsers/rptNotificationOrderDtls_usr.aspx> or open the file below



* **Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS):**

AWCs will continue to be temporarily closed till 15.5.20 as per West Bengal State Government order with a view to safeguard the health of children and pregnant and lactating mothers. During this period, no Pre-School activity and no morning snacks or hot cooked meals will be served from these centres. However, to ensure continuation of supplementary nutrition during this period 2kgs of rice, 2kgs of potatoes and 300gms of pulses will be provided to each beneficiary. For more details visit- <http://icdswb.in/> or open the file given below



* **Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana (Prime Minister’s scheme for welfare of the poor):**

The Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman on 26th March, 2020 announced that **Rs 1.70 Lakh Crore of relief package** will be given to the poorpopulation **under Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Yojana to help them fight the battle against Corona Virus**. While addressing the press conference Smt. Sitharaman said “Today’s measures are intended at reaching out to the poorest of the poor, with food and money in hands, so that they do not face difficulties in buying essential supplies and meeting essential needs.” Under this relief package there are several schemes covered and some allowances were announced which are as follows-

* Insurance cover of Rs 50 Lakh per health worker fighting COVID-19 to be provided under Insurance Scheme
* 80 crore poor people will get 5 kg wheat or rice and 1 kg of preferred pulses for free every month for the next three months
* 20 crore women Jan Dhan account holders to get Rs 500 per month for next three months
* Increase in MGNREGA wage to Rs 202 a day from Rs 182 to benefit 13.62 crore families
* An ex-gratia of Rs 1,000 to 3 crore poor senior citizen, poor widows and poor disabled
* Government to front-load Rs 2,000 paid to farmers in first week of April under existing PM Kisan Yojana to benefit 8.7 crore farmers
* Central Government has given orders to State Governments to use Building and Construction Workers Welfare Fund to provide relief to Construction Workers.

For more details click on this **Link:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1608345>

* **Mid-Day–Meal Scheme:**

Schools in many States and Union Territories have beenclosed as a precautionary measure to protect the students from Novel COVID-19(Corona) virus. Under such extra ordinary circumstances, the CentralGovernment has decided to provide Mid-Day Meal to meet the nutritionalrequirements of the eligible children under Mid-Day Meal Scheme in order tosafeguard their immunity. As per the MDM Rules, 20l5 if Mid-Day Meal is not provided to the children in schools on any school day due to the non-availability of food grains, cooking cost, fuel, absence of cook-cum-helper or any other reason, the State Government shall pay the 'Food Security Allowance' to every child which will be consisting of i) Quantity of the food grains as per entitlement of the child and ii) cooking cost prevailing in the State. For more details visit- <http://mdm.nic.in/mdm_website/> or open the file given below

