

Government of West Bengal
Finance Department
Audit Branch
Notification

No. 7287-F 19-09-2008- The Governor is pleased hereby to make, in addition to the West Bengal Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1964, as subsequently amended, the following scheme regulating the medical benefits for the State Government employees and the family members thereto, with a view to providing better medical facilities to such employees and their family members:-

Scheme

1. Short title and commencement- (1) This Scheme may be called the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008.

(2) It shall come into force on such date, as the State Government may, by notification in the *Official Gazette*, appoint.

2. Application- (1) This scheme shall apply to the employee and his beneficiary.

(2) The provision of enrolment under this scheme shall be optional.

(3) An employee shall not be entitled to draw the regular medical allowance with effect from the date of effect of such enrolment under clause 4.

(4) An employee and his beneficiary shall be entitled to the facilities under this scheme in addition to the facilities under the West Bengal Services (Medical Attendance) Rules, 1964, as subsequently amended.

(5) An employee shall have the liberty to opt out of this scheme at any time.

Provided that where an employee or his beneficiary has enjoyed any benefit under this scheme, such employee shall not be allowed to opt out of the scheme within five years from the month following the month in which he enjoyed the benefit.

***Government Decisions:-**

1. The Governor is pleased to appoint the 1st June, 2009 as the date on which the said scheme shall come into force [Vide Notification No. 3472-F, dt. 11-05-2009].

2. An existing or retired employee enrolled under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 shall not be eligible to be enrolled again if he/ she opts out of the Scheme for whatever reason [Vide Notification No. 8435-F (MED), dt. 29-08-2011].

3. Definitions- In this Scheme, unless there is anything repugnant in the subject or context-

(a) “approved rates” means such rates as may be notified by the Government from time to time for various services, procedures and investigations required in connection with the medical attendance and treatment of a beneficiary;

(b) “beneficiary” means a member of the family of an employee; *

(c) “clause” means a clause of the scheme;

(d) “employee” means an employee of the Government of West Bengal enrolled under clause 4;

(e) “family”, in relation to an employee, means- *

(i) children including step-children and unmarried daughters,

(ii) minor brothers,

(iii) minor sisters,

(iv) father or mother whose monthly income does not exceed rupees one thousand five hundred,

(v) wife or husband, as the case may be;

(f) “Form” means a Form appended to this scheme;

(g) “Government” means Government of West Bengal;

(h) “hospital or institution” means such hospital or nursing home or institution as may be recognised from time to time by the Government for the purpose of availing benefits of medical attendance and treatment under this scheme;

(i) “laboratory” means such laboratory or institution as may be recognised by the Government from time to time for availing benefits of medical attendance and treatment under this scheme;

(j) “medical attendance” means attendance for professional advice and includes pathological, bacteriological, radiological or other methods of

investigations for the purpose of diagnosis which are considered necessary by the attending physician and are carried out in a hospital or institution;

(k) "specified" means specified by order;

(l) "treatment" means the use of medical and surgical facilities and includes-

(i) the employment of such pathological, bacteriological, radiological or other methods of investigations as are considered necessary by the attending physician;

(ii) the use of such medicines, vaccines, serum or other therapeutic substances as may be considered necessary by the attending physician;

(iii) medical and surgical services and procedures;

(iv) dental treatment;

(v) accommodation according to the entitlement of the employee;

(vi) such nursing as is ordinarily provided at the hospital or such special nursing at the hospital as the authorised medical attending physician at the hospital may certify, in writing, to be essential for the recovery or for the prevention of serious deterioration in the condition of the patient, having regard to the nature of the disease.

***Amendment (1):-**

Notification

No. 6722-F

Kolkata, the 9th July, 2009

The Governor is pleased to make the following amendment to the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008.

In clause-(3)

1. for sub-clause(b), the following sub-clause shall be substituted:-
 - (b) "beneficiary" means a dependent member of the family of an employee;

2. for sub-clause(e), the following sub-clause shall be substituted:-
 - (e) "dependent member of the family of an employee" means and includes-
 - (i) Husband or Wife, as the case may be;
 - (ii) Parents whose monthly income does not exceed rupees one thousand and five hundred;
 - (iii) Children, including Step-children, legally adopted children and unmarried daughters;

- (iv) Dependent widowed/ divorced daughters;
- (v) Minor brothers, minor sisters;
- (vi) Dependent unmarried/ Widowed/ Divorced sisters;

The amendment is effective from 01-06-2009.

By order of the Governor,

D. Mukhopadhyay

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

***Amendment (2):-**

No. 10531-F(MED)

dt. 10.11.10

Notification

The Governor is pleased to make the following amendment to the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 as amended under notification no. 6722-F dt. 09-07-2009:-

In Clause-3

for Sub-Clause (e)(ii), the following Sub-Clause shall be substituted:-

(e)(ii) Parents whose monthly income does not exceed Rupees Three
Thousand Five Hundred;

Note:- In case of pensioners, income from all sources including pension before commutation is to be taken as income. However, the dearness relief on pension is not to be considered as income.

The amendment is effective from 01-09-2010.

By order of the Governor,

(C.M. Bachhawat)

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

***Government Decisions:-**

(1) Family:-

(a) For availing medical facilities under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008, **children, minor brothers, minor sisters, parents** as defined in **clause-3(e)** of the Scheme, shall be deemed to be dependent on the Govt. employee if they are normally residing with him/her and fulfils the conditions of income.

Note: (i) 'Son' is considered to be dependent till he starts earning or attains the age of 25 years, whichever is earlier. Son suffering from permanent disabilities either physically or mentally will be considered dependent without any age limit.

(ii) Unmarried daughter is eligible till she starts earning (irrespective of age).

(iii) As an exception, parents can live away from employee in another station with other members of family

(iv) A declaration regarding the income of parents should be furnished by the employee concerned once at the beginning of every calendar year.

(b) It is the responsibility of the employee concerned to apply for deletion of the name of any dependent member of his/her family from the Scheme, when the ward is no longer entitled to the benefits eligible under the Scheme. The failure on the part of the Govt. employee to get the name of the child deleted from the Scheme when he/she is no longer dependent on him/her will amount to suppression of fact and it will be treated as a good and sufficient reason for initiating disciplinary proceedings against him/her in terms of the **W.B.S. (C.C.A.) Rules, 1971** as amended.

(Vide Memo No. 3474-F, dated 11.05.09)

(2) For availing the medical facilities under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 children, minor brothers, unmarried / widowed / divorced daughters, unmarried/ widowed/ divorced sisters shall be deemed to be dependent on the Govt. Employee if they are normally residing with him/her and their income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 1500/- per month.

The conditions of dependency are not applicable to the spouse. In other words, spouse is automatically included for medical benefits under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 and hence where both husband and wife are State Govt. employees none of them will be entitled to draw regular medical allowance if either of them opts to come under the scheme.

(i) However both the husband and wife, if they are State Govt. employees, may exercise option separately to come under the Scheme. In those cases they will

get identity cards as per their entitlement of accommodation. Their parents and other family members as per definition of "family" of the Scheme will get the benefits under the Scheme. A joint declaration is to be furnished stating the names of their beneficiaries and duly counter-signed by their employers. Name of sons and daughters may be shown either with the father or mother as per their option.

(ii) If the spouse is an employee of central govt. / Bank or employed in a corporation / undertaking financed wholly or partly by the Central or State Government, local bodies, aided institutions and Private organisations, which provide medical services, the medical facility can be availed of at one place only. Therefore, if spouse wants to get the benefits under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 an official certificate from his/her employer is to be obtained first regarding relinquishment of medical allowance and medical benefits available from his/her employer **(Vide Memo No. 9205-F (MED), dated 05.10.09)**.

4. Enrolment- (1) An employee seeking enrolment under the scheme shall exercise his option in Form A, in duplicate, along with an undertaking that upon enrolment under this scheme, such employee shall forgo the regular medical allowance drawn as part of monthly salary.

(2) The option referred to in sub-clause(1) shall be submitted-

(a) to the Cadre Controlling Department, in case an employee is a member of a constituted State service; and

(b) to the Head of Office, in case of any other employee.

(3) The Cadre Controlling Authority or the Head of Office, as the case may be, shall, after scrutinization of the option exercised by the employee, issue a certificate of enrolment in Form B in favour of the employee, to be effective from the first day of the month following the month in which the certificate is issued.

(4) The Cadre Controlling Authority or the Head of Office, as the case may be, shall send one copy of the certificate to the Drawing and Disbursing Officer in respect of the employee with a direction to discontinue the drawal of regular medical allowance with effect from the first day of the month following the month in which the certificate is issued.

***Amendments:-**

Notification

No 8014-F (MED)

dt 30-07-10

The Governor is pleased to make the following amendment to the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008:

In clause (4) insert the following sub-clause after sub-clause (4) -

“(5) (i). The enrolment of the existing employees of the State Government under the Scheme shall be completed within 31.12.2010 or two years from the date of joining, whichever is later.

(ii). New entrants into Government service shall be allowed to exercise option and complete enrolment under the Scheme within two years of their appointment in Government service.

(6). The employees not opting to come under the West Bengal Health Scheme within the period as specified at sub-clause 5 shall not be eligible to opt for the Scheme at a later period.”

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(C. M. Bachhawat),

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

***Government Decisions:-**

(1) No. 8435-F (MED)

Date: 29-08-2011

Notification

The existing and retired State Government employees are getting the benefits of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 w.e.f. 01-06-2009 and enrolment under the Scheme was open up to 31-12-2010. Now the Governor is pleased to order that the existing and retired Government employees who have not yet enrolled their names under the Health Scheme may be allowed to enroll their names during the period from 01-09-2011 to 31-03-2012 following provisions of the Scheme.

2. The existing and retired Government employees who are not enrolling their names under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 by 31-03-2012 shall not be eligible to get the benefits of the Scheme in future.

3. New entrants into Government service shall, however, be allowed to exercise option and complete enrolment under the Scheme within two years of their appointment in Government Service.

4. An existing or retired employee enrolled under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 shall not be eligible to be enrolled again if he/ she opts out of the Scheme for whatever reason.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(C.M. Bachhawat)

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

(2) No. 8219-F (MED)

Date: 19-08-2011

Notification

The State Government employees who are enrolled under the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 while in service are allowed to exercise option for their enrolment under the Scheme as pensioner within one year of the date of their retirement. It has been observed that due to various reasons such pensioners are not getting the benefits of the Scheme w.e.f. the day next to the day of their retirement. Now, in order to give relief to the retired employees, the Governor is pleased to order that the retired Government employees who were enrolled under the West Bengal Health Scheme at the time of their retirement will be deemed to be remaining under the Scheme w.e.f. the date of retirement unless a retired Government employee opts out of the Scheme.

The Pension Sanctioning Authority will issue fresh Identity Card under the Health Scheme as pensioner to the retired employee whose pension has already been settled. Those who will not get P.P.O. No. at the time of retirement may be issued Temporary Family Permit. Such Permit will remain valid till pension is settled.

If a retired employee opts out of the West Bengal Health Scheme, such retired employee will get medical allowance @ Rs. 300/- p.m. and shall not be entitled to any facilities under the Scheme. Such retired employee will not be allowed to enroll name under the Health Scheme in future.

This Order will be effective from 01-08-2011.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(C.M. Bachhawat)

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

(3) If husband and wife both are Govt. employees under the Govt. of West Bengal and if one opts under the Scheme, both will not be entitled to draw regular medical allowance. (Vide G.O. No. 3474-F, dated 11.05.09)

5. Facilities- An employee or a beneficiary of such employee shall be entitled to the following facilities, namely:-

(a) medical attendance and treatment as an indoor patient in a hospital or an institution; and

(b) medical attendance and treatment at out patient department of a hospital or an institution, or a clinic attached to such hospital or institution for such diseases, and under such circumstances, as may be specified.

6. Medical attendance and treatment as an indoor patient in a hospital- An employee shall be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of his or his beneficiary's medical attendance and treatment, as an indoor patient in a hospital or an institution.

Explanation- For the purpose of this clause, the expression "cost of medical attendance and treatment" shall include-

(a) The amount charged by the hospital or institution in accordance with the approved rates;

(b) The cost of medicines purchased from outside on the advice of the attending physician at the hospital or institution;

(c) The charges for such pathological, bacteriological, radiological or other methods of investigations as are considered necessary by the attending physician and carried out, on the advice of the attending physician, in a laboratory or institution, other than the hospital or institution in which the patient is treated.

7. Medical attendance and treatment as an OPD (Out-Patient Department) patient in a hospital- (1) An employee shall be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of his or his beneficiary's medical attendance and treatment as an OPD patient in a hospital or institution in the following cases:-

- (i) Malignant diseases[#],
- (ii) Tuberculosis,
- (iii) Hepatitis B/C and other liver diseases,
- (iv) Insulin-dependent diabetes^{**},
- (v) Heart diseases,
- (vi) Neurological disorders/ Cerebrovascular disorders,

- (vii) Malignant malaria,
- (viii) Renal failure,
- (ix) Thallasaemia/ Bleeding orders/ Platelet disorders,
- (x) Injuries caused by accidents*.

(2) An employee or his beneficiary shall also be entitled to reimbursement of the cost of follow-up medical attendance and treatment relating to Neuro Surgery, Cardiac Surgery (Including Coronary Angioplasty and implants), Cancer Surgery/ Chemotherapy/ Radiotherapy, Renal Transplant, Hip/ Knee replacement Surgery and Accident cases received as an OPD patient in a hospital or institution.

Explanation- For the purpose of this clause, the expression “cost of medical attendance and treatment” shall include-

- (a) The amount charged by the hospital or institution in accordance with the approved rates,
- (b) The cost of medicines purchased from outside on the advice of the attending physician at the hospital or institution,
- (c) The charges for such pathological, bacteriological, radiological or other methods of investigations as are considered necessary by the attending physician and carried out, on the advice of the attending physician, in a laboratory or institution, other than the hospital or institution in which the patient is treated.

Government Decisions:-

*Animal Bite cases will come under the purview of “Injuries caused by accidents” under Clause-7(1)(x) of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 for reimbursement of the cost of OPD treatment. (vide Memo No. 9205-F (MED) dt. 05-10-2009)

#Mainly Cancer cases are considered as Malignant diseases.

**Type-2 Diabetic Melitas is not considered as Insulin-dependent Diabetes.

8. Accommodation- (1) In the case of medical attendance and treatment as an indoor patient in a hospital or an institution, an employee or his beneficiary shall be entitled to such accommodation as mentioned in column (4) of the Table below, of the category of the employee as mentioned in column (2), to be determined on the basis of the basic pay including dearness pay as mentioned in column (3), respectively, against the Sl. No. As mentioned in column (1) of the said table:-

Table *

Sl. No.	Category of Employee	Basic pay including dearness pay	Type of accommodation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	I	Above Rs. 18000 p.m.	Private Ward
2.	II	Rs. 12000 p.m. and above but below Rs. 18000 p.m.	Semi- Private Ward
3.	III	Below Rs. 12000 p.m.	General Ward

(2) Where the type of accommodation in a hospital does not correspond to the nomenclature as referred to in column (4) of Table to sub-clause (1) or any similar nomenclature, the Government shall, in consultation with the authorities of the hospital concerned, determine the entitlement of the beneficiary.

***Amendments:-**

Notification No. 3473-F

dated 11.05.09

The Governor is pleased to make the following amendment to the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008-

for table under **Clause- 8** substitute the following table:-

Table

Sl. No.	Category of Employee	Basic Pay (Band Pay including Grade Pay)	Type of accommodation
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1.	I	Above Rs. 27000 p.m.	Private Ward
2.	II	Rs. 18000 p.m. and above but below Rs. 27000 p.m.	Semi- Private Ward
3.	III	Below Rs. 18000 p.m.	General Ward

By order of the Governor

D. Mukhopadhyay
Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

9. Tenure- Notwithstanding anything contained in this scheme and without prejudice to the provisions of sub-clause (2) of clause 7, the cost incurred on account of related medical attendance and treatment received in a hospital or an institution during the period upto 30 days prior to hospitalisation and 30 days from the date of discharge, shall be reimbursable.

10. Issue of Identity Card to employee and beneficiary- (1) The employee and his beneficiary shall be issued a photo-identity card with a unique identification number under the seal and signature of the issuing authority.

(2) The identification number of the employee and his beneficiary shall consist of three numbers, for example x/y/z, where "x" denotes the code number of the employee, "y" denotes the serial number of the beneficiary belonging to the family of the employee (it being 1 in the case of the employee himself) and "z" denotes the total number of cards issued for the family of the employee.

Explanation- For the purpose of this clause, the expression "issuing authority" shall mean-

- (a) the Cadre Controlling Department, in case an employee is a member of a constituted State service; and
- (b) the Head of Office, in case of any other employee.

(3) The blank identity cards with running serial numbers shall be supplied by the Finance Department on the basis of requisition received from the Cadre Controlling Departments, or the Heads of Offices through the administrative departments concerned, as the case may be.

(4) The identity card shall consist of two parts of which the issuing authority shall retain the first part and the second part shall be handed over to the employee concerned.

(5) A list of employees to whom identity cards have been issued shall be forwarded to the Drawing and Disbursing Officer and also to the Finance Department.

(6) The identity card shall have a standard format and shall contain such particulars as the name, the date of birth and the relationship of the beneficiary with the employee.

(7) The colour of the identity card shall be-

- (a) yellow, in case employee belonging to category I as mentioned in column (2) against Sl. 1 in column (1) of Table to clause 8;
- (b) pink, in case employees belonging to category II as mentioned in column (2) against Sl. 2 in column (1) of Table to clause 8;
- (c) white, in case employees belonging to category III as mentioned in column (2) against Sl. 3 in column (1) of Table to clause 8.

(8) For the purpose of availing the benefits under this scheme, the employee or his beneficiary shall show his identity card to the hospital, laboratory or institution where he receives medical attendance and treatment.

(9) A temporary family permit in Form F may be issued to an employee enrolled under this scheme by the Head of Office for a period as may be specified, pending issue of photo-identity cards and such temporary family permit shall entitle the employee and his beneficiary to all the benefits of this scheme.

(10) The identity cards issued under this scheme shall be surrendered to the Cadre Controlling Department, or the Head of Office, as the case may be, at the time of retirement/ resignation/ on being relieved from Government service.

Government Decisions:-

New entrants into Government service may be enrolled under the Scheme following the procedure of enrolment as laid down under Clause-4 of the Scheme. The Head of Office/ Cadre Controlling Authority shall issue him/ her "Temporary Family Permit" without any Employee Code till he/ she gets G.P.F. Number. (Vide Memorandum No. 9205-F (MED), dated 05-10-09)

11. Intimation of medical attendance and treatment- An employee shall give an intimation to the Head of office within three days of commencement of his or his beneficiary's medical attendance and treatment:

Provided that where an employee himself is undergoing medical attendance and treatment and not in a position to intimate personally, any member of his family may give such intimation.

12. Claims for reimbursement of the cost of medical attendance and treatment- (1) An application for reimbursement of the cost of medical attendance and treatment shall be made by an employee in Form C.

(2) The application for settlement of claim under this scheme shall be made within three months of the completion of treatment-*

- (a) to the Secretary of the Department, in case of an employee working in the Secretariat,
- (b) to the head of the Directorate, in case of an employee working in the headquarters of a Directorate,
- (c) to the Head of Office, in all other cases.

(3) The application referred to in sub-clause (1) shall be accompanied with the following documents:-

- (a) essentiality Certificates in Form D;
- (b) photocopy of the identity card issued to the employee, and where the claim relates to a member of the family of the employee, photocopy of the identity card issued to such member of the family of the employee;
- (c) all original bills verified by the hospital, laboratory or institution;
- (d) all original vouchers, cash memos and money receipts;
- (e) detailed lists of all medicines, laboratory tests, investigations, procedures, number of doctors' visits, etc. with dates, duly countersigned by an authorised person of the hospital where the beneficiary has received medical attendance and treatment, along with a certificate from such authorised person that all charges are as per approved rates. In the bill prepared by the hospital, each service, procedure and investigation for which the beneficiary is charged should be specified, along with this reference number in the approved list;
- (f) detailed list of all medicines purchased from outside and all laboratory tests, investigations and procedures done in a laboratory, institution or hospital other than the hospital where the patient has received medical attendance and treatment, along with a certificate from an authorised person of the hospital that such medicines had to be purchased or such laboratory tests, investigations and procedures had to be done on the advice of the attending physician of the hospital;
- (g) photocopy of the intimation given to the Head of the Office of the employee regarding medical attendance and treatment of the employee or the beneficiary member of the family of the employee;
- (h) Check List in Form E.

Government Decisions:-

No. 2618-F (MED)

Dt. 05-04-2011

Memorandum

Under Clause 12(2) of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008 the application for settlement of claim is to be made within three months of the completion of treatment.

Now, following the requests from various corners the undersigned is directed by order of the Governor to offer the following clarification on the above clause for information and guidelines of all concerned.

<u>Treatment</u>	Time limit for preferring claim under Clause- <u>12(2) of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008</u>
1. Indoor treatment	: Three months from the date of discharge.
2. O.P.D. treatment	: Three months from the date of each O.P.D. consultation.

Note: Where medicines are to be taken for indefinite period, advance purchase for more than three months period will not be entertained and three months period for preferring claim is to be counted from the date of purchase of medicines in such cases.

This will take effect from the date of issue of the order.

Sd/- S.K. Chattopadhyay

Officer on Special Duty and Ex-officio Special Secretary
to the Government of West Bengal

13. Settlement of claims- (1) The application made under sub-clause (1) of clause 12 for reimbursement shall be processed by the concerned Department, the Directorate or the Office, as the case may be, under which the employee is presently working and the admissible cost of medical attendance and treatment shall be worked out on the basis of the approved rates.

(2) The sanctioning authority for reimbursement of the cost of medical attendance and treatment in the case of an employee working in the Secretariat shall be the Secretary:

Provided that the Secretary may delegate this power to a Special Secretary, or a Head of Department not below the rank of Special Secretary to the Government, subject to the limits of-

(i) for medical attendance and treatment as an indoor patient in a hospital, Rs. 50000/-,

(ii) for medical attendance and treatment as an OPD patient in a hospital, Rs. 5000/-.

(3) The sanctioning authority in the case of an employee working in the headquarters of a Directorate shall be the Head of the Directorate, where the claim does not exceed Rs. 50000/- for indoor treatment and Rs. 5000/- in case of OPD

treatment, and the Secretary of the Department where the claim exceeds these limits.

(4) The sanctioning authority in case of all other employees shall be the head of Office where the claim does not exceed Rs. 30000/- for indoor treatment and Rs. 3000/- for OPD treatment, the Head of the Directorate where the claim exceeds these limits but does not exceed Rs. 50000/- for indoor treatment and Rs. 5000/- for OPD treatment, and the Secretary of the Department in all other cases.*

***Amendments:-**

No 8015-F (MED)

dt. 30-07-10

Notification

The Governor is pleased to make the following amendment to the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008:

In clause (13) insert the following sub-clause after sub-clause (4) -

“(5). The Sanctioning authority for reimbursement of the costs of medical attendance and treatment in all the cases of the employees working in the Calcutta High Court shall be the Registrar General.

(6). The Sanctioning authority in the case of an employee working in the Public Service Commission, West Bengal shall be the Secretary of the Commission, where the claim does not exceed Rs.50,000/- for indoor treatment and Rs.5,000/- in case of OPD treatment and the Chairman of the Commission where the claim exceeds these limits.

By order of the Governor,

Sd/-

(C. M. Bachhawat),

Principal Secretary to the
Government of West Bengal

14. Treatment in a hospital or institution outside the State-

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained elsewhere in this scheme, the Government may recognise speciality hospitals and institution outside the State for treatment of specific diseases.

(2) Prior approval of the Secretary of the department shall be obtained before receiving medical attendance and treatment in these hospitals or institutions.

(3) Claim for reimbursement of the cost of medical attendance and treatment in these hospitals or institutions shall be allowed on the basis of the rates of various services provided by and investigations and procedures carried out by these hospitals/ institutions in the course of medical attendance and treatment.

***Government Decision:-**

As per Clause-14 of the West Bengal Health Scheme, 2008, Secretary of a department may allow a Government employee/ Government pensioner or family members to receive medical treatment in a Speciality Hospital outside the State, as recognised under notification no. 3473-F dt. 11-05-09. But such permission may be given when treatment in such a hospital is essential and referred by a recognised hospital. To determine essentiality of the treatment outside the State the West Bengal Health Scheme Authority should be consulted. (Vide memo no. 9205-F (MED), dated 05.10.09)

15. Medical advance- (1) The sanctioning authority for reimbursement of the cost of medical attendance and treatment may grant medical advance on submission of a certificate estimate from the hospital in which medical attendance and treatment is received as an indoor patient.

(2) The Advance shall not exceed 80 per cent of the estimated cost of medical attendance and treatment.

(3) The medical advance shall be adjusted against the admissible cost of medical attendance and treatment, excess, if any, shall be refunded by the employee. If medical attendance and treatment is not received within 60 days of receipt of medical advance, the entire advance shall be refunded by the employee on the expiry of this period.

16. Applicability of benefit of Scheme to retired Government employees and their family members- The benefit of the Scheme shall be applicable for the retired State Government employees and their family members, to such extent and on such terms and conditions as may be specified.

17. Operational guidelines, clarifications, etc. - (1) The Finance Department, in consultation with the Health and Family Welfare Department wherever necessary, shall issue operational guidelines, clarifications, etc. for implementation of the scheme.

(2) If any difficulty arises in the course of implementation of the scheme, it shall be referred to the Finance Department and the decision of the Finance Department thereon shall be final.