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## The Haryana Parivar Pehchan Act, 2021: Role in good governance

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### Abstract

The 8-digit Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) is meant for each family across the state to enable smooth and automatic delivery of several citizen-centric services launched by the state government from time to time; through which the state government aims to monitor each of the approximately 54 lakh families living across the state. Under this each family will be considered a single unit and allotted a 8-digit unique identification number according to the Haryana Parivar pehchan Patra Act, benefits of the schemes shall automatically be transferred to the family. PPP aims to build a comprehensive, reliable and accurate database of families residing in the state which can be further utilized by various line departments for welfare delivery across the state. It shall contain details such as the family's structure, its residential details, social and economic details of each member of the family.

**Keywords:** parivar-pehchan patra, automatic delivery, comprehensive, reliable

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### Introduction

The primary objective of Parivar Pehchan Patra (PPP) is to create authentic, verified and reliable data of all families in Haryana. PPP identifies each and every family in Haryana and keeps the basic data of the family, provided with the consent of the family, in a digital format. Each family will be provided an eight digit family ID. The family ID will be linked to the birth, death and marriage records to ensure automatic updation of the family data as and when such life events happen. Family ID will link existing, independent schemes like scholarships, subsidies and pensions, so as to ensure consistency and reliability and at the same time enabling automatic selection of beneficiaries of various schemes subsidies and pensions. The data available in family ID database will be used to determine eligibility through which automatic self -selection of beneficiaries will be done for receiving benefits. Therefore, once the database of families is created, families need not then apply to receive benefits under each individual schemes. Further, once the data in the PPP database is authenticated and verified, a beneficiary will not be required to submit any more documents. PPP continuously verifies data provided by a family through various sources electronically and through field verification wherever necessary. Once such verification is completed the field is treated as "verified". Fields which are already verified in PPP cannot be edited. Only a one -time change is allowed once the citizen signs and uploads the PPP documents on the portal. The identification of beneficiaries and recipients for delivery, subsidies and services has been a challenge for the state government. Ineligible beneficiaries are often recipients of government support targeted at various segments of society while otherwise eligible beneficiaries are overlooked. While Aadhaar has helped in establishing the identify of beneficiaries, it has not helped in the proper and correct determination of eligibility of beneficiaries for delivery of benefits, subsidies, schemes and services or in the provision of services. The problem is compounded because each scheme, subsidy, benefit or service comes with its own set of eligibility conditions that can differ from each other substantially. Targeting of beneficiaries is also affected because each scheme, subsidy, benefit or services specific threshold eligibility and considers all beneficiaries with in the threshold equally whereas the true object of Antyodaya i. e. to reach the poorest of the poor, would require micro -level targeting aiming at the most needy even within the threshold levels of eligibility.

### Entitled to Obtain PPP

The following type of families are entitled to obtain of PPP.

- 1. Permanent Family:** Any family currently residing in Haryana is required to enrol in PPP. Such a family shall be issued a permanent 8 digit family ID.
- 2. Temporary Family:** Any family residing outside Haryana but applying for any service, schemes of the state shall also be required to enrol themselves in PPP. Such a family shall be issued a 9 -digit temporary family ID which shall initiated with the letter "T".

### Benefits of a Parivar Pehchan Patra

- 1. Family as a Unit:-**Union governments Aadhaar card contains individuals details and does not cater to the entire as a unit.

2. **Smooth services delivery:-** Governments services and schemes such as social security pensions, ration cards and birth, death, caste and income certificate etc. are being delivered by various departments of the Haryana governments through PPP.
3. **Benefits for Migrant Workers:-** Registration IDs are provided to those who live in Haryana but not completed residency requirements.
4. **No visits to Government Offices and Submission of Application:-** PPP will enable pro -active delivery of certain government service, schemes and benefits. Citizens will not have to go to any government office or make any application for a number of government services, schemes or benefits but will be able to receive them at the doorstep even without submission of documents.
5. **No needs of Submission of Documents:-** Once fully function, authenticated data in PPP shall enable citizen to avail service and benefits of different schemes /services without submission of documents.
6. **Anywhere Anytime Services:-** A citizen can obtain services online or form anywhere and need not visit a specific government office for the purpose.

### Objectives

- To entitle a family to obtain Parivar Pehchan by providing information composed of specified data field.
- To specify the process for verifying or authenticating each data field in the information and take consequential action thereof.
- To require Parivar pehchan number to be provided for determining the eligibility for, or the provision of, any benefit subsidy, scheme or provided by or on behalf of the state government or any organisation owned and controlled by the state government and by any local authority.
- To provide verification of authentication of the information linked to the Parivar Pehchan number to the state government or any organization owned and controlled by the State Government and by any local authority to enable such Government, organisation or local authority to provide the benefit, subsidy, scheme or service.
- To establish the Family Information Data Repository consisting of the information provided and the status of verification or authentication thereof.
- To establish the Parivar Pehchan Authority in pursuance of the objectives above and empowering the authority to collect, update correct, verify, authenticate and maintain the information in the Family Information Data Repository.
- To mandate the Parivar Pehchan Authority to take appropriate measures for the security and confidentiality of the information in the Family Information Data Repository.
- To specify offences and penalties for contravention of relevant statutory provisions.

### Parivar Pehchan Authority their powers and Function

According to the section 10 of the Haryana Parivar Pehchan Act, 2021 the state government is empowered to established the Haryana Parivar Pehchan Authority for development the policy, procedure, technology and systems for generating and issuing or Parivar Pehchan number to families residing in the state. The Authority shall collect, update, manage and maintain information of the family and its members in the form of specified data fields in the Family Information Data Repository and develop and implement mechanisms, processes and systems for authenticating or verifying such information. It shall provide verified and authenticated data based on the Parivar Pehchan number to all government department, government agencies and local authorities for identification of beneficiaries or determination of eligibility or provision of any scheme, service, benefit or subsidy. It shall also maintain the security and confidentiality of data and information held by it in the Family Information Data Repository.

### Constitutions of Authority

The Authority shall consist of the following members, namely

1. Chief Minister as chairperson,
2. Deputy Chairperson;
3. Chief Secretary to Government Haryana, ex- officio;
4. Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary to government Haryana as the case may be, Revenue and Disaster Management Department ex-officio.
5. Additional Chief secretary or Principal secretary to government Haryana as the case may be, Finance Department ex -officio;
6. Additional Chief Secretary or Principal Secretary to government Haryana as the case may be Citizen Resources information.
7. Such officers of the state government not below the rank of principal Secretary and not exceeding two, as the state government may, nominate, from time to time, ex-officio.
8. Such experts, not exceeding five, as the State Government may from time to time and on the recommendation of the Authority, nominate from the field of information and communication technology, cyber security, network security, data analytics, data security, data management, data warehousing, privacy or constitutional law, finance and economics.
9. Chief Executive Officer, Member-secretary.

**Power and Functions of Authority –**

- To develop the policy, procedure, technology and systems for generating and issuing Parivar Pehchan number to families.
- To collect, update, manage and maintain information of the family and its members in the form of specified data field and develop and implement mechanisms processes and system for authenticating or verifying such information.
- To direct the government department concerned or government agency or local authority to define procedures technology and data standards to enable the integration of the database maintained and held by the authority with that of the department or agency of the state government providing such benefit, subsidy, scheme or service
- To provide authentication or verification to any government department or government agency or local authority in respect of the information collected or held by it for the purpose of any benefit, subsidy, scheme or service and levy such fee, as may be prescribed.
- To specify the manner data standard, technology systems and related processes for use of Parivar Pehchan number and the information contained in the Family Information Data Repository for the purpose of determining eligibility for or the provision of any scheme, service, subsidy or benefit provided or implemented by or on behalf of the state Government or any Government agency or local authority and other purposes for which the Parivar Pehchan number may be used.
- To prepare, develop, and maintain the policy for data security, information security, technology safeguards and network security protocols and standards in relation to the Family Information Data Repository held by it.

**Good Governance**

1. **Efficiency:** PPP would store data securely in a central database. The data would be taken from the citizens on self -declaration and would be verified electronically or by physical verification. It a verified and updated eligibility data, would ensure that time and resources spent for selection of scheme beneficiaries would be reduced, thereby bringing in efficient.
2. **Transparency:** Use of information Technology and reliable data shall ensure that benefits of scheme delivery is done to rightful beneficiaries.

**PPP VS Aadhaar**

While Aadhaar represents an individual as a unit, a PPP represents of a family as a unit and this is where PPP is important because, most of our government schemes are structured around the family, not around an individual.

**Conclusion**

Parivar Pehchan number is a unique identifier for each family composed of a unique set of alpha -numeric characters with attached information composed of such data fields as is generally required for the identification of beneficiaries or determination of eligibility or provision of any scheme, services, benefit or subsidy offered or funded, in whole or in part, by the State Government or any organisation owned and controlled by the state government or any local authority. The information attached with the Parivar Pehchan number will be provided voluntarily by the head of the family or any adult member of the family. Each data field attached with the Parivar Pehchan number will be authenticated and verified through electronic means by checking with other available accurate and reliable databases or by physical verification where it is not possible to authenticate it through electronic means. Once authenticated and verified, the data field and information can automatically from the basis for identification of beneficiaries or determination of eligibility or provision of any scheme, services, benefit or subsidy without the need for any further documentation or proof. The Parivar Pehchan number will be the references key for linking all databases of the State Government, Government agency or local authority.

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