Protean eGov Technologies Limited



STANDARD OPERATING PROCEDURE (SOP)

Initiation and Authorization of Online Death Withdrawal request by Nodal Office

Version 1.4

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REVISION HISTORY

Sr. No.	Date of Revision	Version No.	Section Number	Description of Change
1	-	1.0	-	Initial Version
2	08.02.2024	1.1	-	Mandatory Name verification during Penny Drop
3	12.08.2024	1.2	-	Implementation of Penny Drop at the time of initiation of Death Withdrawal request. Request will get captured only in case of successful penny drop & name match of all claimants and annuitant
4	20.12.2024	1.3	-	Contents (w.r.t. Online bank details verification) reviewed and updated
5	22.07.2025	1.4	-	Withdrawal Timeline updated and quality monitoring process added.



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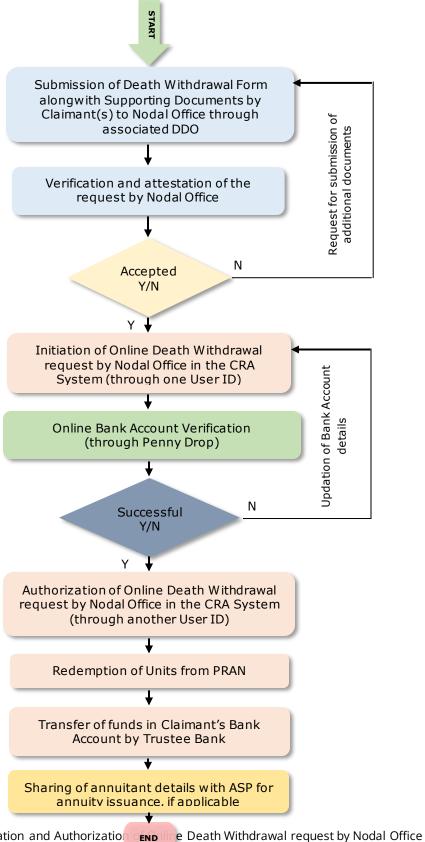
1. Abbreviations

Abbreviation	Expansion
ASP	Annuity Service Provider
CRA	Central Recordkeeping Agency
DDO	Drawing & Disbursing Officer
DTO	District Treasury Office
DTA	Directorate of Treasuries & Accounts
Nodal Office	PAO/PRAO/DTO/DTA registered under NPS
NPS	National Pension System
PAO	Pay and Accounts Office
PFRDA	Pension Fund Regulatory & Development Authority
PRAN	Permanent Retirement Account Number
PRAO	Principal Accounts Office



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2. Process Flow - Processing of Online Death Withdrawal Request





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3. Preface:

As per the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (Exits & Withdrawals under NPS) Regulations 2015 and amendments thereto, in case of Death of NPS Subscriber (before attaining the age of superannuation), at least 80% of the accumulated pension wealth of the Subscriber shall be mandatorily utilized for purchase of annuity and balance pension wealth (maximum 20%) shall be paid as lumpsum to the nominee(s) or legal heir(s).

In case of Death of NPS Subscriber (after attaining the age of superannuation), at least 40% of the accumulated pension wealth of the Subscriber shall be mandatorily utilized for purchase of annuity and balance pension wealth (maximum 60%) shall be paid as lumpsum to the nominee or nominees or legal heirs.

In case, total pension wealth in the NPS Account of the deceased Subscriber is less than or equal to Rs. 5 Lakh, nominee/legal heir have an option to withdrawal entire (100%) of pension wealth.

The annuity (Pension) shall be paid to the Spouse of the Subscriber (if any) for the lifetime. In case, **spouse is not there/not alive**, annuity shall be paid to living dependent mother and then to living dependent father of the deceased Subscriber. After the coverage of all such family members, the purchase price of the annuity shall be returned to the surviving children of the Subscriber and in absence of children, the legal heirs of the Subscriber as applicable.

In cases, where Spouse is not there/not alive and the parents of the deceased Subscriber (father and mother) are not alive or alive, but not dependent, then the purchase price (amount to be used for Annuity Purchase) shall be returned to the surviving children of the Subscriber and in the absence of children, the legal heirs of the Subscriber as applicable.

If Subscriber expires after processing lump sum portion but before purchasing annuity, then the annuity (Pension) shall be paid to the Spouse/Mother/Father of the Subscriber (if any) for the lifetime. In such case, Annuity Withdrawal request will be processed under Death withdrawal category. Family member need to submit Death Withdrawal Form along with supporting documents to Nodal Office to process online death annuity withdrawal request by referring this SOP.

For the Central Govt. Subscribers covered under Central Civil Services (CCS) Rule 2021 and eligible for family pension, Death Exit request will not be processed through this withdrawal module.



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4. Procedure for Processing Online Death Withdrawal requests by Nodal Office

The brief steps to be followed by Nodal Office

Pre-requisite for Processing of Death Withdrawal request:

- ✓ Death Withdrawal Form duly filled and signed by Nominee/Legal heir.
- ✓ Copy of death certificate of the subscriber (Duly attested by Nodal Office)
- ✓ KYC (Identity and Address proof) documents, and Bank Proof of Nominee/Legal heir/Annuitant.
- ✓ In case of Minor nominee, copy of documents stating date of birth of Minor (Birth Certificate, School Certificate, etc.), KYC documents of Guardian.
- ✓ PAN of Nominee/Legal heir/Annuitant wherever applicable.
- ✓ In case of multiple nominees, Relinquishment deed from nominee who is willing to release and relinquish his/her respective shares in the claim under NPS and Indemnity bond from nominee who is claiming the NPS corpus. Relinquishment deed and Indemnity bond should be on minimum Rs. 100 stamp paper and duly notarized.
- ✓ Additional documents required by Nodal Office in support of Death Claim.
- ✓ Bank details should be correct/valid During request initiation, Bank Account no., Bank IFS Code and Name of the Nominee/Annuitant/Legal heir will be verified through online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop facility). If Online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop) fails, request initiation will not be allowed. Hence, Bank account number and Bank IFS Code should be active and operative. Also Name of Nominee/Annuitant/Legal heir as per CRA and bank record should match.
- ✓ Nominations should be as per Clause 32 of PFRDA (Exits & Withdrawals under NPS) Regulations 2015

Verification & Attestation of Physical Death Withdrawal Form

- ✓ The Nodal Office shall verify the Physical Death Withdrawal Form & Supporting Documents [such as Death Certificate, KYC Documents (Id Proof & Address Proof), Bank Account Proof and other required documents] submitted by the Claimant(s). The Death Withdrawal Form is available on CRA website www.npscra.nsdl.co.in.
- ✓ Nodal Office, upon receiving the withdrawal request, shall take the necessary steps to identify the Claimant(s). It is the responsibility of the Nodal Office to check the veracity of the supporting documents submitted by the claimant(s) along with claim and may obtain additional supporting documents if required to ensure that claim amount is given to the legitimate claimant(s).
- ✓ On successful verification, the Nodal Office shall attest the withdrawal Form and supporting documents. Also, note that the clear/legible scanned documents will have to upload while capturing Death Withdrawal request.



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• Initiation and Authorization of Online Death Withdrawal request in CRA

- ✓ On successful verification of Death Withdrawal Form and supporting documents, Nodal Office shall initiate withdrawal request in the CRA system through One User ID.
- ✓ Bank details should be correct/valid During request initiation, Bank Account no., Bank IFS Code and Name of the Nominee/Annuitant/Legal heir will be verified through online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop facility). If Online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop) fails, request initiation will not be allowed.
- ✓ Mandatory Upload of valid and legible Death Withdrawal Form, Copy of death certificate of the Subscriber, KYC Documents (Identity & Address Proof) and bank proof of Nominee/Annuitant/Legal heir and other additional documents required by Nodal Office.
- ✓ Authorization of request by Nodal Office in the CRA system through another User ID.

Online Exit Module has been implemented in the CRA system to facilitate Nodal Offices to process Exit requests of underlying NPS Subscribers. This document describes the detailed procedure to be followed by the Nodal Offices for initiation and authorization of Online Death Withdrawal requests in the CRA system.



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5. <u>Steps to initiate Online Death Withdrawal request in CRA System by Nodal Office</u>

Process of initiation and authorization of Online Death Withdrawal request where family members (Spouse/Mother/Father of deceased Subscriber) are alive.

Nodal Office User will access CRA System www.cra-nsdl.com using one User ID & Password as given below in **Figure 1.** In case of Nodal Office, it will be Aadhar based login.



Figure 1

On successful login, User needs to click on Menu "Exit Withdrawal Request" and select Sub Menu "Initiate Withdrawal Request" as given below in Figure 2.

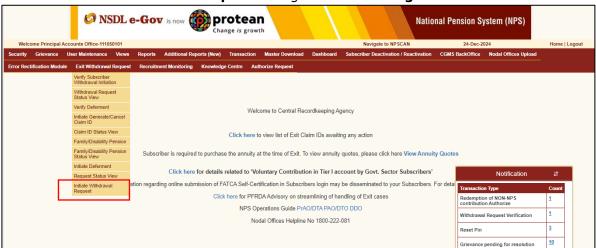


Figure 2

User needs to select the option "Death Withdrawal" as given below in Figure 3.



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Figure 3

User needs to select the "Initiate Request" option to initiate the death withdrawal request and enter PRAN of the Subscriber and click on "Submit" button as given below in Figure 4.

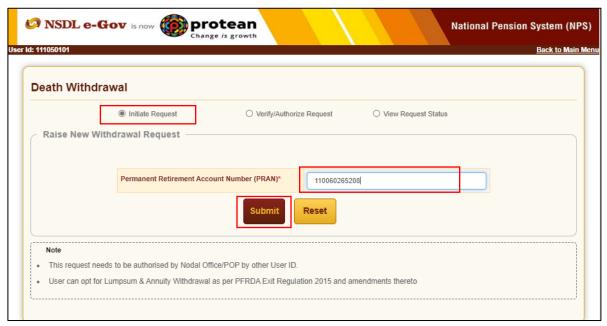


Figure 4

At this stage, User needs to accept declarations. On acceptance of declarations, User needs to click on "OK" button. Please refer below **Figure 5**.



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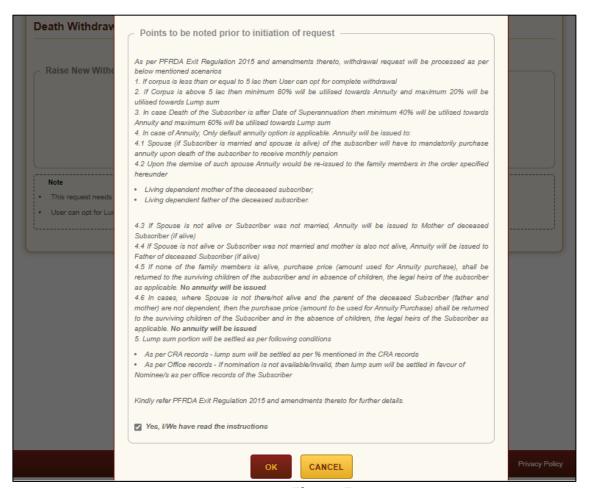


Figure 5

At this stage, User needs to capture Date of Death of the Subscriber and click on "Submit" button. Please refer below Figure 6.



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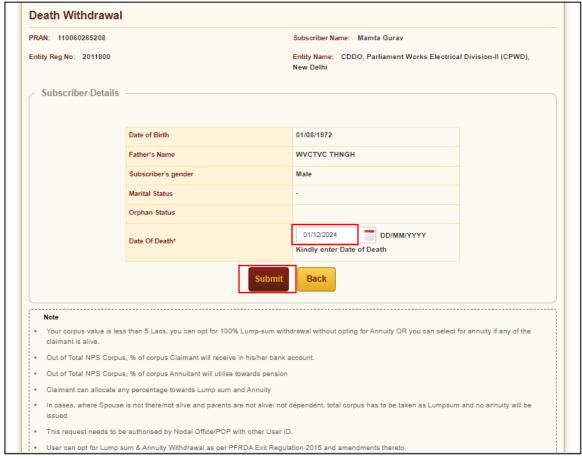


Figure 6

A new page will be displayed and User needs to provide the percentage towards withdrawal & annuity in **Section C** and the Family Members details in **Section E**. Please refer below **Figure 7**. In case, total corpus is less than or equal to Rs. 5 Lakh, an option to withdraw entire (100%) of pension wealth will be available.



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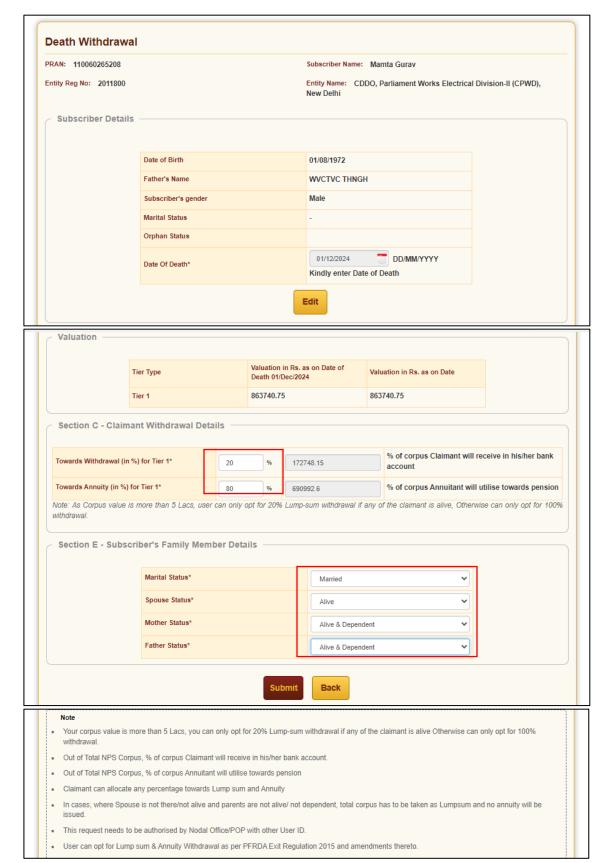


Figure 7



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On submission of details, a confirmation Window will be displayed as per below Figure 8.

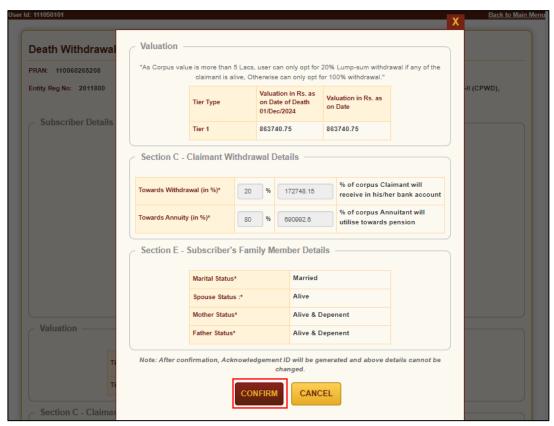


Figure 8

On confirmation, an Acknowledgement Number will be generated. Please refer below Figure 9.

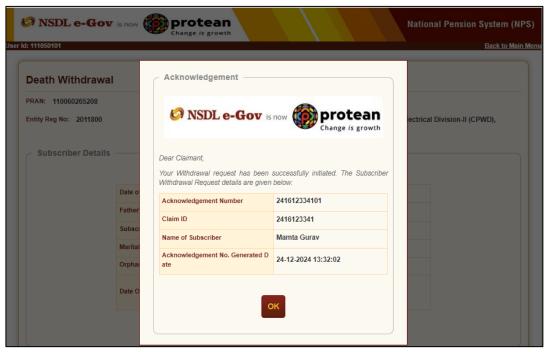


Figure 9

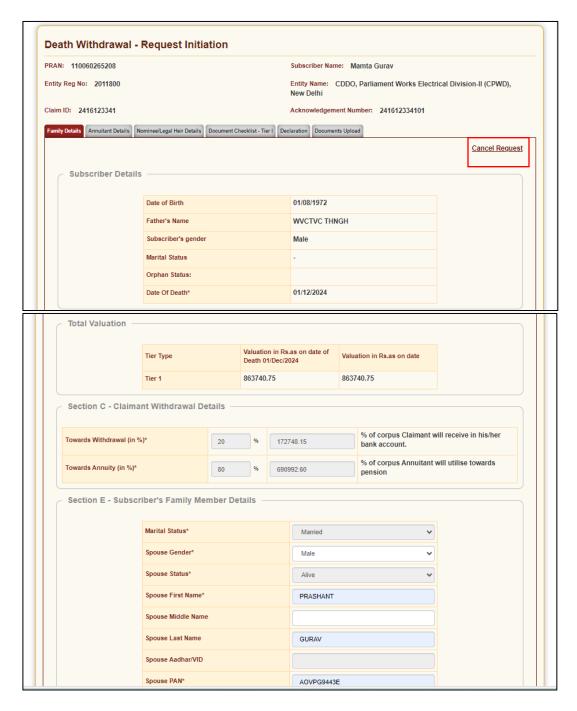
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Once Acknowledgement Number is generated, User needs to capture/submit details under **different TABs.** User needs to provide the Subscriber's Family Details such as spouse, mother and father's details under "**Family Details**" TAB.

If Nodal office desires to cancel the Death Withdrawal request after generation of Acknowledgement Number, Nodal Office can cancel the Death Withdrawal request from Initiator login ID by clicking on 'Cancel request' tab. Refer below Figure 10.





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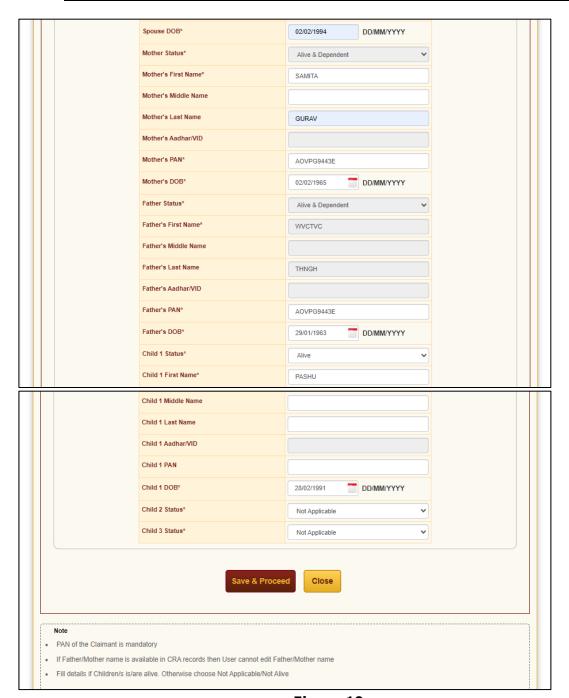


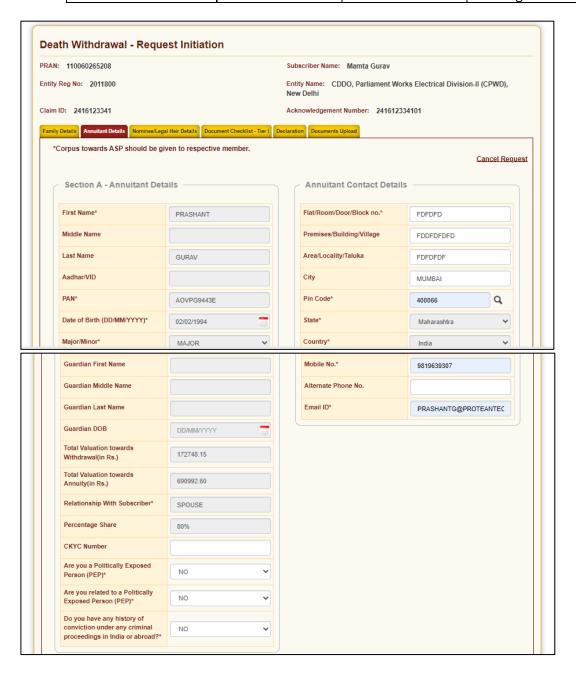
Figure 10

In next "Annuitant Details" TAB, User needs to capture annuitant details such as contact details, bank details etc.

At this stage, Online Bank Account Verification will be carried out. Bank details and Name of the annuitant will be verified through online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop facility). **If Online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop) fails, Death Withdrawal request will be rejected.** Hence, Bank account number and Bank IFS Code should be active and operative. Also Name of annuitant as per CRA and bank record should match. Please refer below **Figure 11 and Figure 12.**



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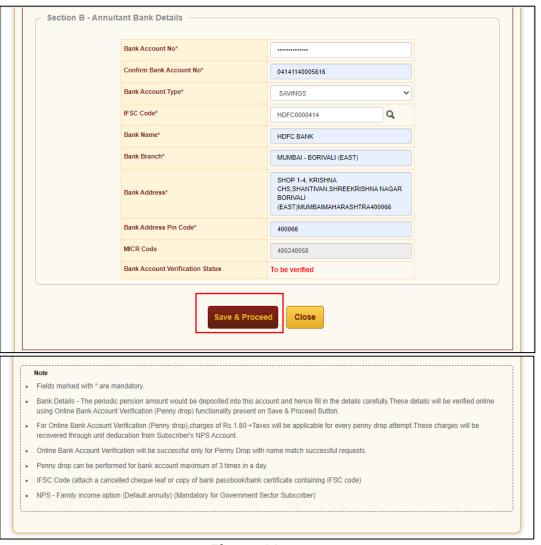


Figure 11

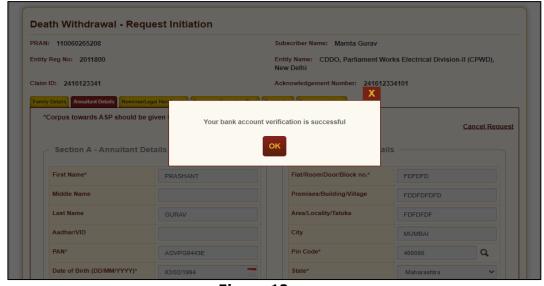
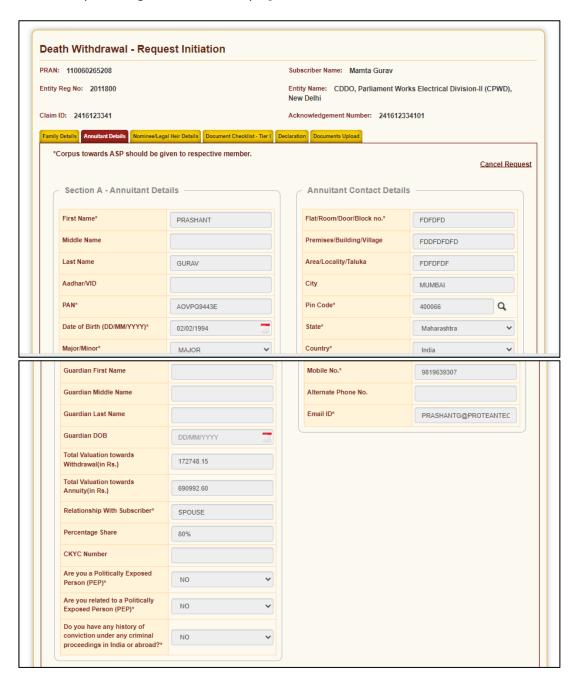


Figure 12



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Once Annuitant details are **saved**, a new page will be displyed wherein User needs to provide Claimant Annuity Details in **Section D** i.e. Annuity Service Provider (ASP) Name, Scheme and Annuity Frequency. Also, on successful bank account verification, Bank account verification status will be shown as "Verified". Please refer below **Figure 13.** User can View the Annuity Quotes of all ASPs by Clicking Link on Annuity Quotes.





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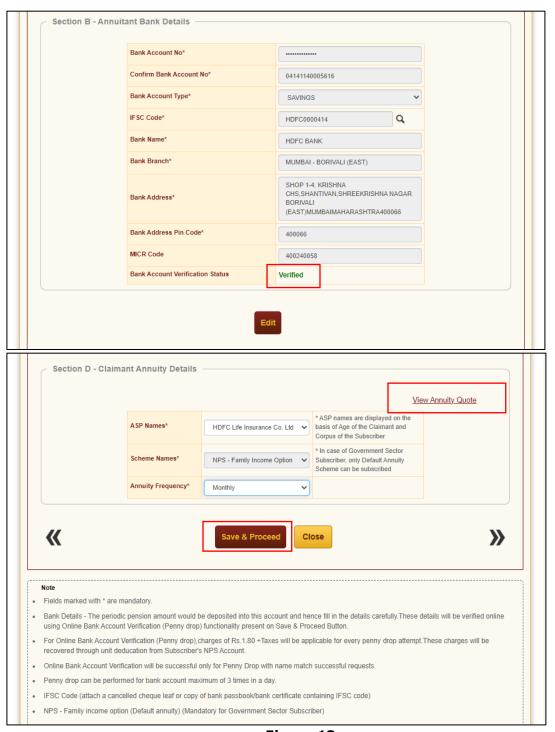


Figure 13

User will click **Save & Proceed**. User needs to provide Nomination/Legal Heir details in next TAB. The nominee details registered in CRA will be displayed to the User. If the nominee details are same, User will select the continute with existing nomination as **Yes.** If there is a change in nomination or User wants to add legal heir details, then User needs to select the continue with existing nomination as **No.** In such case, User will be required to capture new nominee/legal heir details. System will show Last Nomination update date in Subscriber Master. Last Nomination updated date should not be after date of Death of Susbcriber. **Office is required to refer the**

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clause 32 of nomination under PFRDA (Exit & Withdrawal under NPS), 2015 for valid nomination. Please refer below Figure 14.

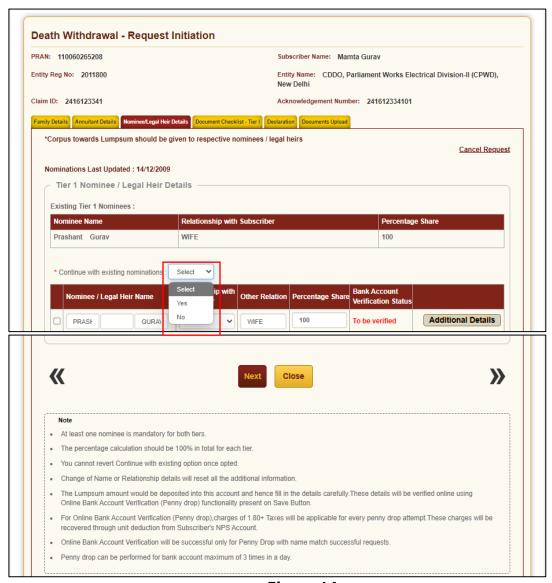


Figure 14

Once User selects the "Yes" or "No" option regarding Nomination, a new Information Window regarding nomination/legal heir will be Displayed. User needs to read and click on "OK" button if wishes to proceed. Please refer below Figure 15.



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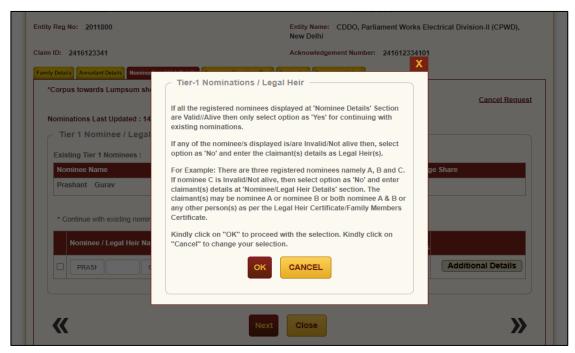


Figure 15

User selects Continue with existing nomination as **Yes**. At this stage, User needs to capture Additional details related to nominees/legal heir by clicking on "**Additional Details**" option. Please refer below **Figure 16**.

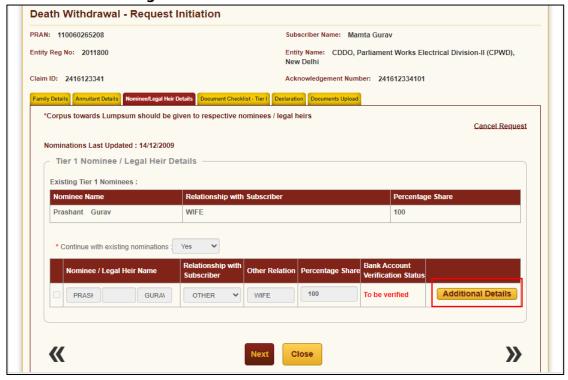


Figure 16



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Once User Clicks on "Additional Details" option, a new Window will be displayed wherein, User needs to provide Address & Bank details of nominee/legal heir and Click on "Save" button. Please refer below Figure 17.

At this stage, Online Bank Account Verification will be carried out. Bank details and Name of the Nominee/Legal heir will be verified through online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop facility). If Online Bank Account Verification (Penny drop) fails, Death Withdrawal request will be rejected. Hence, Bank account number and Bank IFS Code should be active and operative. Also Name of Nominee/Legal heir as per CRA and bank record should match. Please refer below Figure 17 and Figure 18.

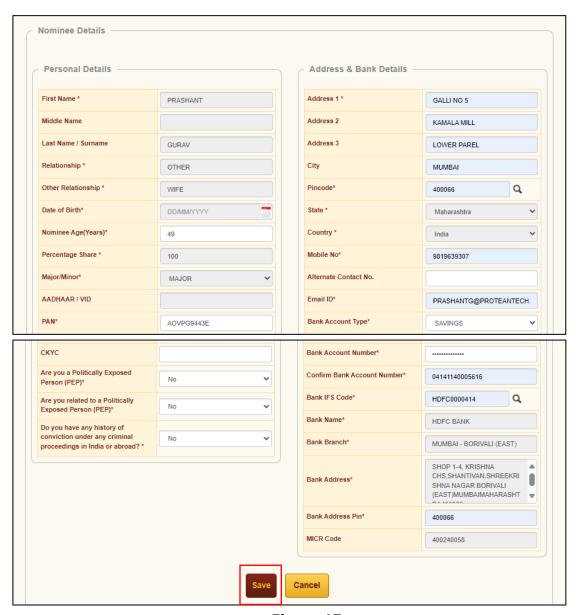


Figure 17



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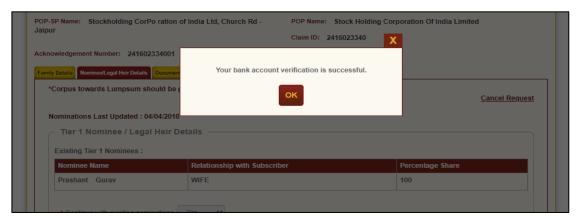


Figure 18

At this stage, on successful bank account verification, Bank account verification status of Nominee/Legal heir will be shown as "Verified". User needs to click on "Next" button to proceed further. Please refer below Figure 19.

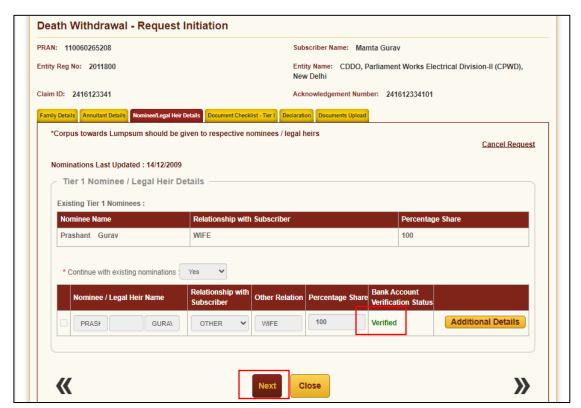
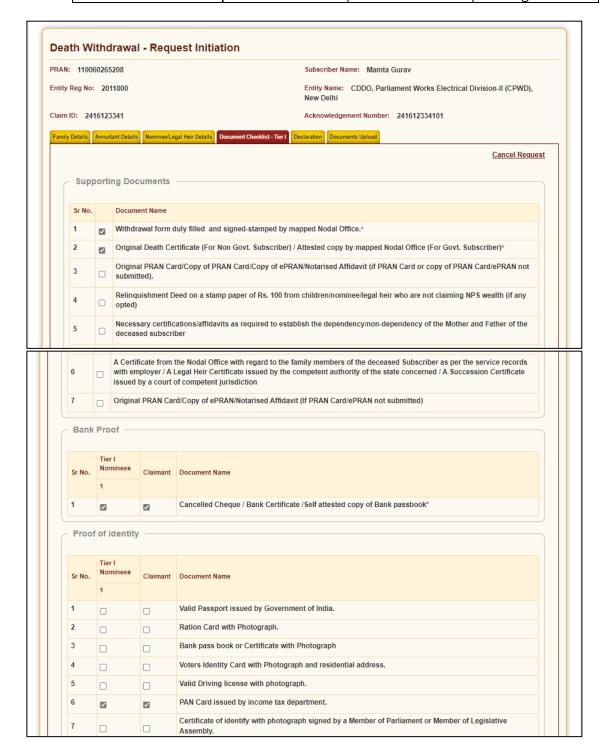


Figure 19

In next "**Documents Checklist" TAB**, User needs to confirm the Withdrawal Form, supporting documents related to exit request, Bank Proof, Identity & Address Proof and proceed further. Please refer below **Figure 20.**



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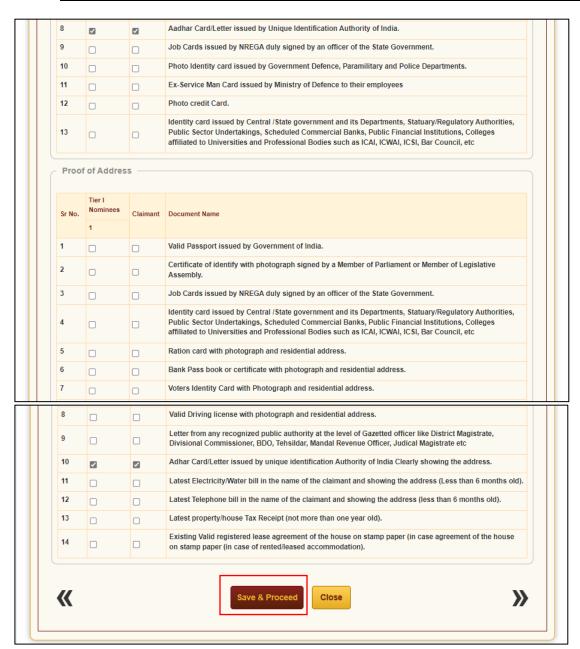


Figure 20

The next TAB is for **Delcaration**. The User needs to accept the declaration to process the withdrawal request and click on **"Save and Proceed"** button. Please refer below **Figure 21.**



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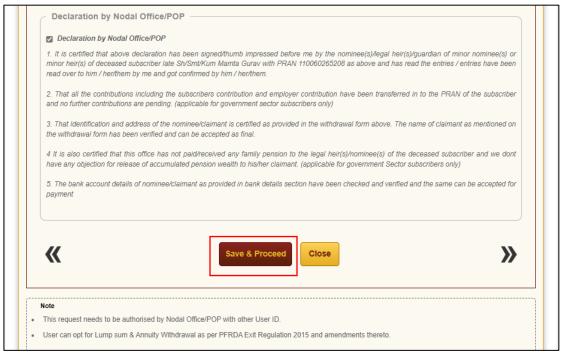


Figure 21

A new Information window will be opened regarding scanned documents Upload. User needs to click on "OK" button. Please refer below Figure 22.

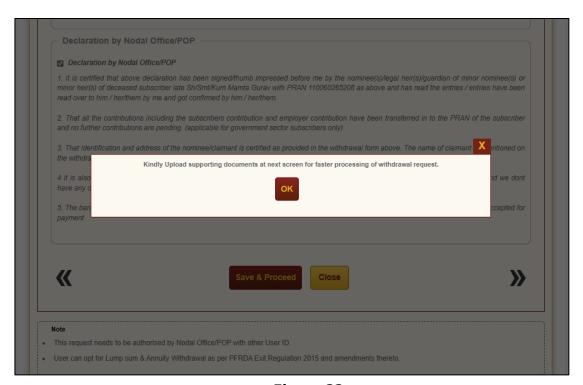


Figure 22

At "**Documents Upload" TAB**, it is the responsibility of Nodal Office to upload valid, complete and legible documents such as Death Withdrawal Form, copy of death certificate, KYC Documents

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(Identity & Address Proof) and bank proof of Nominee/Annuitant/Legal heir and other additional documents required by Nodal Office as selected in document checklist for seamless processing of Exit. Please refer below **Figure 23.**

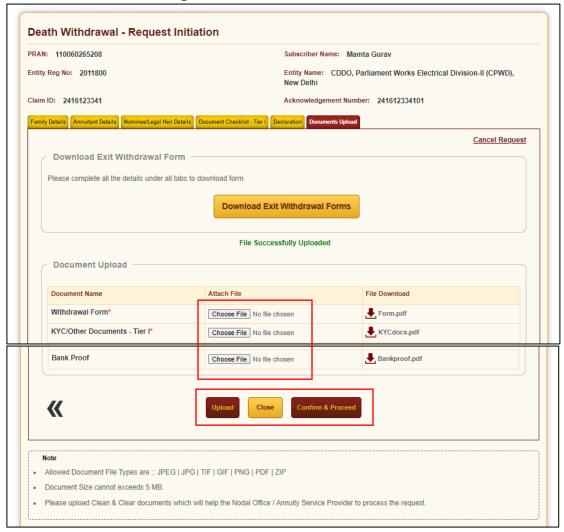


Figure 23

After providing complete details under different TABs & uploading scanned documents, User needs to re-confirm all the details entered /selected. Each TAB will be displayed to the User for confirmation. User needs to click on "**Next" button** to proceed further.

Once details under all TABs are confirmed, the User needs to confirm the withdrawal request under "**Documents Upload"** Tab, as shown below in **Figure 24**.



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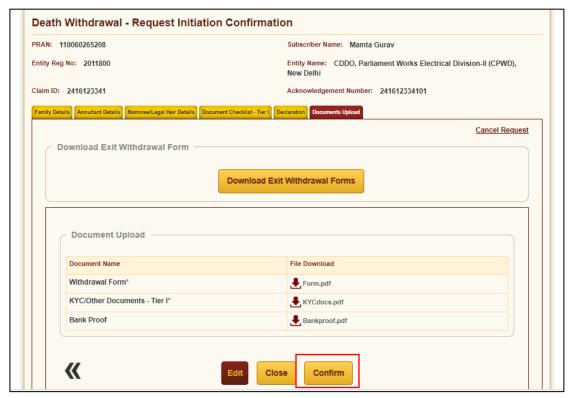


Figure 24

A final confirmation message will be displayed to User. Once User clicks on "Proceed" button, a message for successful initiation of request will be displayed to User. Please refer Figure 25 & Figure 26.

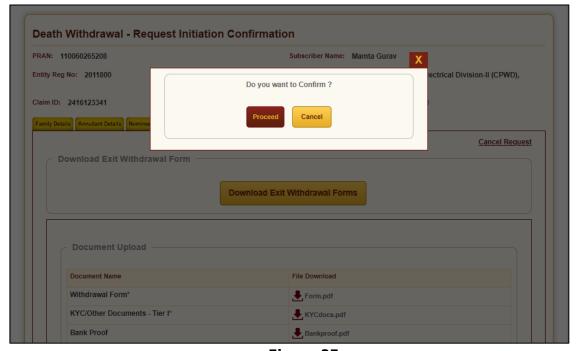


Figure 25



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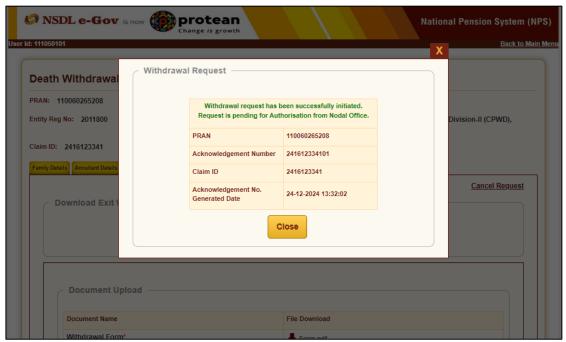


Figure 26

The second User of the Nodal Office will authorize the request in the CRA System.



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6. <u>Steps to Authorize Online Death Withdrawal request in CRA System by Nodal Office</u>

To authorize Online Death Withdrawal request, Nodal Office User will access CRA System www.cra-nsdl.com using another User ID & Password as given below in **Figure 27.** In case of Nodal Office, it will be Aadhar based login.



Figure 27

User needs to click on Menu "Exit Withdrawal Request" and select Sub-Menu "Initiate Withdrawal Request". Please refer below Figure 28.

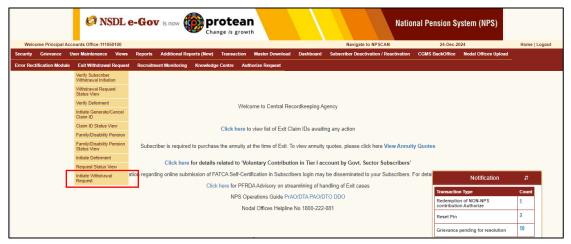


Figure 28

At this stage, User needs to select the **Death Withdrawal** option as given below in **Figure 29.**



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Figure 29

User needs to select the 'Verify/Authorize Request' option to authorize death withdrawal request and enter the PRAN of the Subscriber and click on 'Submit' button as given in below Figure 30.

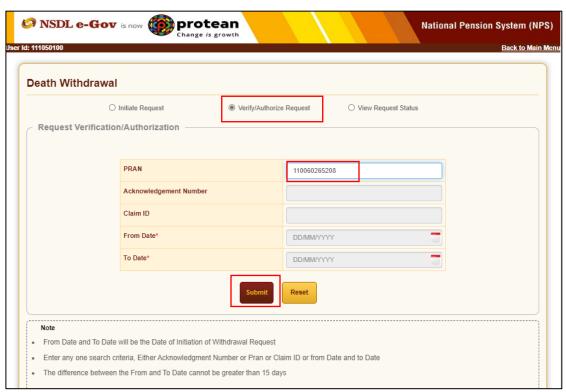


Figure 30

At this stage, a table is displayed to the User containing Acknowledgment Number, Claim ID, PRAN, Request Date, Initiated By, Last action taken, Pending With and Action. User needs to click on Hyperlink provided on "Accept/Rejected" under Action Tab to view and verify details entered/selected at the time of initiation of withdrawal request. Please refer below Figure 31.



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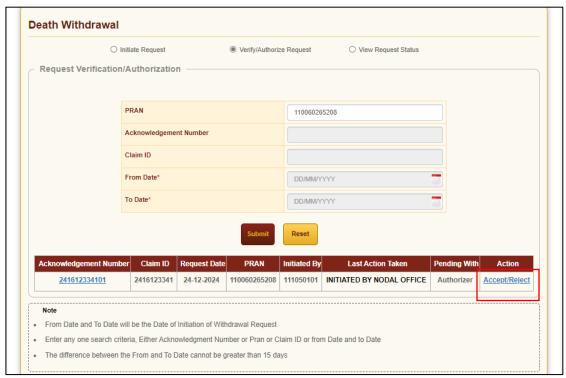
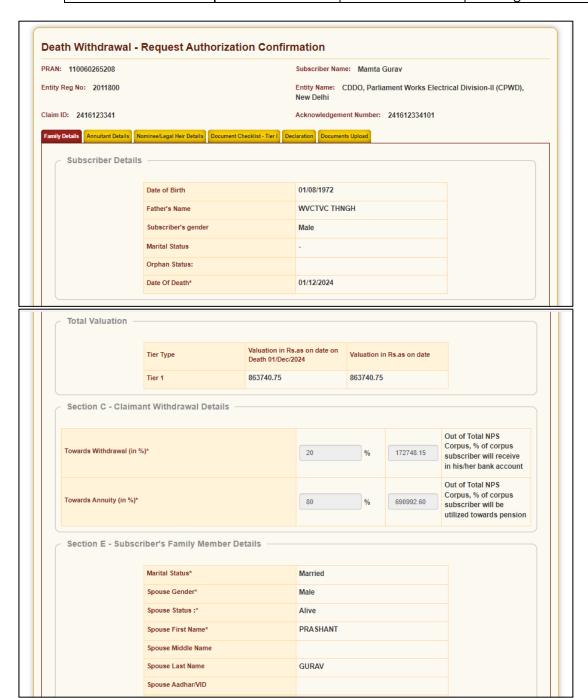


Figure 31

At this stage, User needs to verify all the details entered / selected at the time of initiation of request under different TABs like Family Details, Annuitant Details etc. Each TAB will be displayed to the User for Verification. User needs to click on **Next button** to proceed further as shown in below **Figure 32.**



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Figure 32

Once details under all TABs are verified, under last TAB – **Documents Upload**, the User needs to click on "**Approve/Reject**" button as shown below in **Figure 33**.



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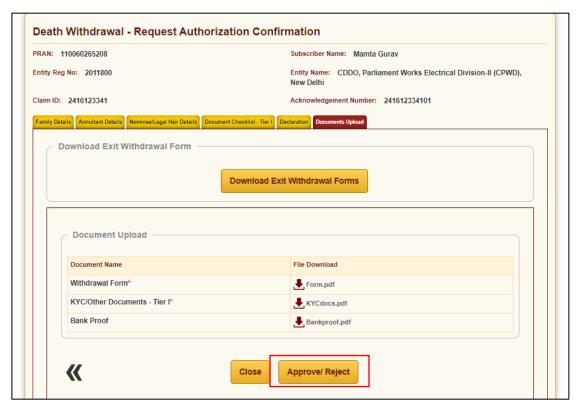


Figure 33

At this stage, if details provided/entered while initiating withdrawal request are correct, then User needs to click on "Accept" radio button and then click on "Approve" button.

If details entered/provided are not correct, User needs to click on "Reject" radio button and then click on "Approve" button. In case of rejection of request, Reason for Rejection is mandatory. Please refer below Figure 34.



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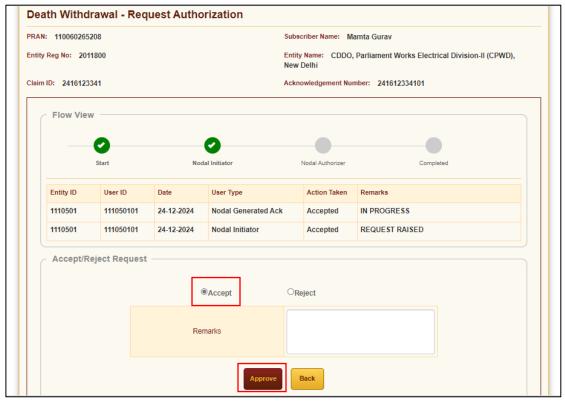


Figure 34

A final confirmation message will be displayed to User. Once User clicks on "Approve" button, a message for successful authorization of request will be displayed to User. Please refer Figure 35 & 36.

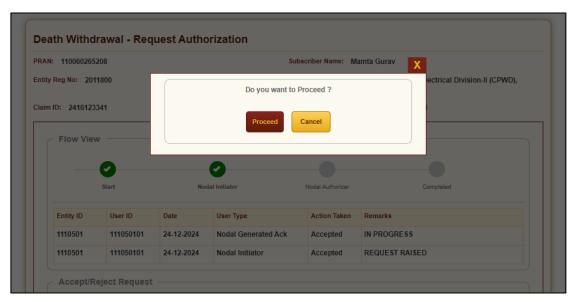


Figure 35



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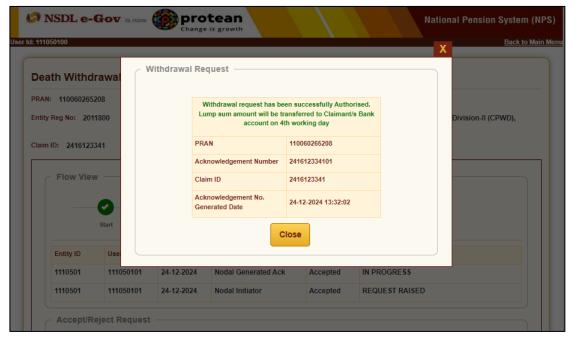


Figure 36

On successful authorization of Death Withdrawal request by Nodal Office, same will get executed in the CRA system. Accordingly, Lump sum and Annuity share (if applicable) will be transferred to Beneficiary's Bank Account within stipulated withdrawal timeline as mentioned below point 8.



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7. Annuity Issuance Process:

On execution of death withdrawal request in CRA, the annuitant's (Spouse/Mother/Father) details and scanned documents will be shared with Annuity Service Provider (ASP) opted by annuitant. If the annuitant's details and scanned documents are correct, annuity policy will be issued by ASP.

If documents uploaded are not sufficient/incorrect or any additional documents required, then ASP may contact annuitant for completion of annuity formalities. Alternatively, if required, annuitant may contact ASP. The complete contact details of ASPs are available on CRA Website (www.npscra.nsdl.co.in).

On completion of annuity formalities, ASP will confirm Annuity request of the annuitant online in the CRA system. On Successful authorization of Annuity request by ASP, same will get executed in the CRA system and funds (Annuity Corpus) will be transferred to ASP's Bank Account by Trustee Bank (Axis Bank) within stipulated withdrawal timeline as mentioned below point 8(f).



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8. Withdrawal Timeline (Lump sum and Annuity):

Lump sum and Annuity Withdrawal: -

- a. The process of Lump sum and Annuity withdrawal involves redemption of applicable units from Subscriber's NPS account and then transfer of lump sum funds in beneficiary's Bank Account & Annuity funds (if applicable) in selected Annuity Service Provider's (ASPs) Bank Account. Lump sum and annuity withdrawals are processed in two different settlement cycle.
- b. In CRA system, redemption of units happens only on working day (excluding Saturday, Sunday and holidays) which is called a Settlement Day. The settlement cycle runs between 10.30 AM* to 12.30 PM*.
- C. If withdrawal request is authorized by Nodal Office before cut-off time of settlement (before 10.30 AM), then withdrawal request is considered in same day settlement cycle (T). The redemption of lump sum share units happens on same working day (Day T) with NAV of same working day (Day T) and then fund transfer happens on Day of redemption + 2 working days. For example, if withdrawal request is authorized by Nodal Office on January 2, 2024 (at 9.30 am), the request will get considered for processing on same day, redemption of lump sum share units will happen on January 2, 2024 with NAV of January 2, 2024 and fund transfer will happen on January 4, 2024.
- d. If withdrawal request is authorized by Nodal Office after cut-off time of settlement (after 10.30 AM*), then withdrawal request is considered for processing on next day settlement cycle (T). The redemption of *lump sum share* units happens on next working day (Day T+1) with NAV of next working day (Day T+1) and then fund transfer happens on Day of redemption + 2 working days. For example, if request is authorized by Nodal Office on January 2, 2024 (at 01.30 pm), the request will get considered for processing on next working day, redemption of lump sum share units will happen on January 3, 2024 with NAV of January 3, 2024 and fund transfer will happen on January 5, 2024.
- e. After completion of settlement cycle of lump sum withdrawal (stated in point C/D) by 12.30 PM, subscriber and annuitant details are made available in the CRA system to selected ASP on the day of settlement of lumpsum after 12.30 PM (i.e in case of Point C on January 2,2024 after 12,30 PM, and in case of point D on January 3, 2024 after 12.30 PM). Selected ASP can view the subscriber and annuitant details in their ASP login for further processing.
- f. On completion of annuity formalities, ASP confirms annuity request in CRA system, and it gets considered in next settlement cycle (Day T). Accordingly, annuity share units get redeem in Day T & funds transfer to ASP's bank account on T +2 days (T being date of settlement) for issuance of annuity. For example, i) if annuity request is submitted/authorised by ASP on January 9, 2024 (at 02.30 pm), the request will get considered for processing on next working day settlement cycle, redemption of annuity units will happen on January 10, 2024 with NAV of January 10, 2024 and fund transfer will happen on January 12, 2024. ii) If annuity request is submitted/authorised by ASP on January 9, 2024 (at 09.30 am), the request will get considered for processing on same working day settlement cycle, redemption of annuity units will happen on January 9, 2024 with NAV of January 9, 2024 and fund transfer will happen on January 11, 2024



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Annuity policy shall be issued by ASP within T+2 working days of receiving the funds at their end

Point to Note – Quality Check:

As part of the remittance monitoring process, documents / validations (as per the PFRDA regulations) are checked and if found successful, funds are transferred to the respective beneficiary's bank account as per the settlement process and timelines as stipulated above. If not, funds are kept on hold.

Cases for which funds are kept on hold are shared with respective Nodal Offices/POPs for necessary clarification/documents. On receipt of response from the Nodal Office/POP along with valid supporting documents, reverification is carried out and if documents/clarifications are found to be in order, funds will be transferred within 3 working days of receipt of response from the Nodal offices/POP.

Submission of Physical Documents:

Physical Death Withdrawal Form and supporting documents are not required to be submitted by Nodal Office to Protean-CRA for storage purpose. Nodal Office needs to upload clear/legible withdrawal form and supporting documents in CRA system while processing online death withdrawal.

^{*} Cut-off time for considering request for settlement may extend due to various factors.