

COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF  
SCHEDULED CASTES AND  
SCHEDULED TRIBES

(2022-2023)

(SEVENTEENTH LOK SABHA)

SEVENTEENTH REPORT

ON

Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy)

“Role of autonomous bodies/educational Institutions including Central Universities, Engineering Colleges, IIMs, IITs, Medical Institute etc. in socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with special reference to pre-matric/post-matric scholarships in Navodaya Vidyalayas/Kendriya Vidyalayas”

Presented to Lok Sabha on 05.08.2022

Laid in Rajya Sabha on 05.08.2022



LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT  
NEW DELHI

5 August, 2022 / 14 Sravana, 1944 (Saka)

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**COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES  
AND SCHEDULED TRIBES (2022-23).**

**Dr.(Prof.) Kirit Premjibhai Solanki - Chairperson**

**MEMBERS - LOK SABHA**

2. Shri Girish Chandra
3. Shri Santokh Singh Chaudhary
4. Shri Guman Singh Damor
5. Shri Anil Firojiya
6. Shri Tapir Gao
7. Shri Rattan Lal Kataria
8. Smt. Goddeti Madhavi
9. Smt. Pratima Mondal
10. Shri Ashok Mahadeorao Nete
11. Shri Vincent H. Pala
12. Shri Chhedi Paswan
13. Shri Prince Raj
14. Shri A. Raja
15. Shri Upendra Singh Rawat
16. Smt. Sandhya Ray
17. Shri Jagannath Sarkar
18. Shri Ajay Tamta
19. Shri Rebati Tripura
20. Shri Krupal BalajiTumane

**MEMBERS - RAJYA SABHA**

21. Shri Abir RanjanBiswas
22. Shri Neeraj Dangi
23. Smt. Kanta Kardam
24. Shri Samir Oraon
25. Shri Anthiyur P. Selvarasu
26. Shri Ram Shakal
27. Dr. V.Sivadasan
28. Dr. Sumer Singh Solanki
29. Shri Kamakhya Prasad Tasa
30. Shri Nabam Rebia

**SECRETARIAT**

- |    |                    |   |                             |
|----|--------------------|---|-----------------------------|
| 1. | Shri D.R. Shekhar  | - | Joint Secretary             |
| 2. | Shri P.C. Choulda  | - | Director                    |
| 3. | Shri V.K. Shailon  | - | Deputy Secretary            |
| 4. | Ms. Pooja Kirthwal | - | Assistant Committee Officer |

## INTRODUCTION

I, the Chairperson, Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes having been authorised by the Committee to finalise and submit the Report on their behalf, present this Seventeenth Report (Seventeenth Lok Sabha) on the subject "Role of autonomous bodies/educational Institutions including Central Universities, Engineering Colleges, IIMs, IITs, Medical Institutes, Navodaya Vidyalayas and Kendriya Vidyalayas etc. in socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with special reference to pre-matric/post-matric scholarships in Navodaya Vidyalayas/Kendriya Vidyalayas" pertaining to the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy).

2. The Committee took evidence of the representatives of the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) on 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2022. The Committee wish to express their gratitude to the officers of the Ministry of Education (Department of School Education & Literacy) for placing before the Committee the material and information the Committee required in connection with the examination of the subject.

3. The Report was considered and adopted by the Committee on 04.08.2022

4. For facility of reference and convenience, the observations/recommendations of the Committee have been printed in bold letters in chapter II of the Report.

New Delhi

                    , 2022  
, 1944(Saka)

**DR.(Prof.) KIRIT P. SOLANKI**  
Chairperson,  
Committee on the Welfare of  
Scheduled Castes and  
Scheduled Tribes.

## REPORT

### CHAPTER - I

#### INTRODUCTORY

Inclusive growth demands that all social groups have equal access to the services provided by the State and equal opportunity for upward economic and social mobility. It is also necessary to ensure that there is no discrimination against any section of our society. In India, certain social groups such as the SCs, STs, OBCs and Minorities have historically been disadvantaged and vulnerable. Our Constitution contains various provisions for the development of such marginalized groups. Their individual and collective growth, however, cannot be ensured without providing educational opportunities to them. Accordingly, the Ministry of Education has adopted a multi-pronged approach for the socio-economic development of these groups by taking various initiatives: social empowerment through educational development; economic empowerment through employment enhancing avenues like skill development; protection through effective implementation of protective legislation. These initiatives are discussed in detail in the following paragraphs:-

#### (i) **Constitutional Provisions**

2. The Indian Constitution is committed to the equality of citizens. The Directive Principles of the State Policy also promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes/ Scheduled Tribes (SCs/STs). To achieve 'Equality' with many facets, special provisions have been made in the Constitution of India. Article 46 of the Constitution states that, "The State shall promote, with special care, the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and, in particular of the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of social exploitation". Articles 15 (4), 15 (5), 16(4), 16 (4A), 16 (4B), 164(1) proviso, 275 (1) first proviso, 243 D, 243 T, 330, 332, 335, 338 to 342 and the entire Fifth and Sixth Schedules of the Constitution deal with special provisions for implementation of the objectives set forth in Article 46.

#### (ii) **National Policy on Education**

3. NPE gives special emphasis on the removal of disparities and equalizing educational opportunity by attending to the specific needs of those who have been denied

equality so far. The National Policy on Education 1986, as amended in 1992, has been the guiding document for the policies of the Central Government in the education sector.

**(iii) National Education Policy, 2020**

4. The Ministry of Education has announced the National Education Policy, 2020 (NEP, 2020), with the approval of the Union Cabinet on 29.7.2020. This Ministry has communicated to all States/UT Governments for implementation of NEP 2020 in letter and spirit. Ministry of Education organized 'Shikshak Parv' from 7<sup>th</sup> September to 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2021 on various themes and implementation of NEP 2020 aimed at eliciting suggestions. There has been wide publicity with a positive and overwhelming response from stakeholders on NEP 2020.

5. NEP 2020 clearly mentions Divyang and Socially & Economically Disadvantaged Groups at Chapters 6 and 14. NEP stresses on increasing access for Divyang students and envisages that there is an urgent need for additional special educators for certain areas of school education, such as for subject teaching for children with disabilities/Divyang children at the Middle and Secondary school level, including teaching for specific learning disabilities. The Policy also recognizes the importance of creating enabling mechanisms for providing Children With Special Needs (CWSN) or Divyang, the same opportunities of obtaining quality education as any other child. A rich variety of educational software, for all the above purposes, is to be developed and made available for Divyang students in all major Indian languages. The Policy envisions ensuring equitable access to quality education to all students, with a special emphasis on Socio-Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs) by earmarking suitable Government funds for the education of SEDGs, setting clear targets for higher GER (Gross Enrolment Ratio) for SEDGs, enhancing gender balance in admissions to HEIs, providing more financial assistance and scholarships to SEDGs in both public and private HEIs, conducting outreach programmes on higher education opportunities and scholarships among SEDGs etc.

The special features of NEP 2020 includes:-

1. Ensuring Universal Access at All Levels of schooling from pre-primary school to Grade 12;
2. Ensuring quality early childhood care and education for all children between 3-6 years;
3. New Curricular and Pedagogical Structure (5+3+3+4);

4. No hard separations between arts and sciences, between curricular and extra-curricular activities, between vocational and academic streams;
5. Establishing National Mission on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy;
6. Emphasis on promoting multilingualism and Indian languages; The medium of instruction until at least Grade 5, but preferably till Grade 8 and beyond, will be the home language/mother tongue/local language/regional language.
7. Assessment reforms - Board Exams on up to two occasions during any given school year, one main examination and one for improvement, if desired;
8. Setting up of a new National Assessment Centre, PARAKH (Performance Assessment, Review, and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development);
9. Equitable and inclusive education - Special emphasis given on Socially and Economically Disadvantaged Groups (SEDGs);
10. A separate Gender Inclusion fund and Special Education Zones for disadvantaged regions and groups;
11. Robust and transparent processes for recruitment of teachers and merit based performance;
12. Ensuring availability of all resources through school complexes and clusters;
13. Setting up of State School Standards Authority (SSSA);

**(iv). Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship schemes**

6. The Committee have been informed that pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are centrally sponsored schemes which are governed by the guidelines issued by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs respectively.

The guidelines issued by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs for pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship Schemes are annexed at **ANNEXURE-I** and **ANNEXURE-II** respectively.

**KENDRIYA VIDYALAYA SANGATHAN**

7. It has been stated the KVS function through its General Body called the Sangathan comprising of 31 Members. Its Board of Governors has 25 Members and 4 Standing Committees have been constituted by the Board to assist the BOG viz. the Academic Advisory Committee, Finance Committee, Works Committee and Administration & Establishment Committee. Minister of Education is the ex-officio Chairman of the Sangathan. The Board of Governors is the executive body through which the Sangathan discharges its responsibilities to fulfill the objectives. The policies and guidelines issued by the Sangathan and its Board of Governors are executed by the Commissioner who is the Executive Head of the Sangathan.

8. As per the existing Government policy, 15% reservation to Scheduled Caste & 7.5% reservation to Scheduled Tribe is provided to the candidates in admission in Class-I. The

children belonging to SC/ST are also admitted under the RTE provisions to the extent of 25% in Class-I along with other disadvantaged groups. All SC/ST students are exempted from payment of Tuition Fee. CBSE Board examination fee in respect of SC/ST students is paid by KVS.

9. The Committee have been informed that total enrolment of students in Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan is 14,35,562 as on 31-12-2021, out of which 2,87,784 students belong to SC category and 90,173 students belong to ST category and their percentage representation is 20.04 % and 6.28 % respectively.

10. It has also been informed that KVS has 1248 KVs, including three KVs abroad, wherein nine KVs have hostel facilities. Moreover, the enrolment for the hostels is also less and as such the students who desire of seeking admission in the hostel are accommodated. Further, the seats are reserved in the hostels for SC & ST students as per the norms.

#### **NAVODAYA VIDYALAYA SAMITI**

11. It has been stated that Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas (JNV) are run by the Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti which is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Education, Govt. of India and has been registered as a Society under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860.

Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti has its Headquarters at Noida, UP and has 8 Regional Offices at Bhopal, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Hyderabad, Lucknow, Patna, Pune and Shillong. These Regional Offices in turn supervise and facilitate the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas in the Districts. Starting with 2 model Schools (now JNVs) in the year 1985 - 86 i.e. Jhajjar (Haryana) & Amaravati (Maharashtra), as on date, 650 JNVs are functional in the country against the 661 sanctioned JNVs.

#### **Establishment of Additional JNVs for SC & ST:**

13. It has also been informed that Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisage for opening a Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each District of the country to provide good quality modern education-including a strong component of culture, inculcation of values, awareness of the environment, adventure activities and physical education to the talented children predominantly from the rural areas without regard to their family's socio-economic condition.



At present, 661 JNVs have been sanctioned, which includes 10 additional JNVs for Scheduled Castes (SC) concentrated Districts and 10 for Scheduled Tribes (ST) concentrated Districts of different States.

**Admission of SC & ST Candidates in JNVs:**

14. The Committee have been informed that for admission in Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, reservation of seats in favour of children belonging to Scheduled Castes (SC) and Scheduled Tribes (ST) are provided in proportion to their population in the District concerned, provided that such reservation will not be less than the national average (15% for SC and 7.5% for ST) but subject to maximum of 50% for both the categories (SC & ST) taken together. These reservations are interchangeable and over & above the candidates selected under open merit. The category wise enrollment of the students in JNVs as on 31.12.2021 is as under:

Number	Boys	Girls	Rural	Urban	Gen	OBC	SC	ST
293825	172815	121010	249792	44033	56737	103316	73538	60234
%	58.82	41.18	85.01	14.99	19.31	35.16	25.03	20.50

Therefore, the representation of Scheduled Castes (SC) & Scheduled Tribes (ST) categories in JNVs is more than the specified reservation criteria.

**Facilities provided to SC & ST students of NVS:**

15. It has also been stated that as per the policy of NVS, quality education in the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas, including boarding & lodging as well as expenses on uniform, textbooks, bedding items, stationery, daily use items and expenditure on journey (TA/DA) to participants in official activities etc., are free for all the students of JNVs including SC/ST students. Further, the Scheduled Castes (SC) & Scheduled Tribes (ST) students are also exempted from payment of Board examination fee.

16. Upon enquiring regarding the concrete steps taken for effective implementation of reservation i.e. 15% for SC and 7.5 % for ST for students, teaching and non-teaching staff in Government run schools such as Navodaya Vidyalayas (NVS) and Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVS), the Ministry in their written reply informed that Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti follows the rules/instructions formulated by Govt. of India on the subject matter- "Reservations & Concessions", which provide for quantum of reservation as well as other such instructions for ensuring reservation of different social categories.

17. The said instructions also provide a set mechanism for affecting the reservation policy. As per the aforesaid rules, currently a reservation of 15% for Scheduled Castes and 7.5% for Scheduled Tribes is to be ensured in such category of posts. Samiti ensures that appropriate vacancies for Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes categories are reserved for all the vacancies notified for recruitment on direct basis as well as promotion and admission of students.

18. Further in respect of Kednriya Vidyalaya Sangathan, the rules and regulations issued by Government of India from time to time for providing reservations for Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) in the matter of recruitments as well as in promotions i.e. 15% for SCs & 7.5% for STs are followed.

19. With regard to admissions, KVS strictly follows reservation i.e 15% for SC and 7.5% for ST candidates in all fresh admissions. The total enrolled students in Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs) all over India as well as abroad are 14,35,562 students as on 31.12.2021 out of which 2,87,784 students belong to SC category and 90,173 Students belong to ST category and their percentage representation is 20.04 % and 6.28 % respectively.

20. The Committee in a written questionnaire enquired regarding the total number of NVS/KVS functioning in rural tribal areas. Also whether there is any scheme to allot more funds to such schools which could be used for creating more opportunities in skill education such as provision for more computers thereby enhancing the Computer knowledge of young minds including those of SC/ST students. In response thereto the ministry informed that Navodaya Vidyalaya Scheme envisages for opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya in each district of the country to provide good quality modern education to the talented children, predominantly from the rural areas, without regard to their family's socio-economic condition.

21. The Committee have been further informed that almost all the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are located in rural areas of the country. Also, all the Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas have been equipped with good ICT (Information Communication & Technology) infrastructure including desktop computers / laptops and smart classrooms etc. The students can use the digital devices and ICT infrastructure available in JNVs.

Grant released during the last years under SC/ST component is tabulated below:

Sl.No.	Year	Revenue (rupees in crores)		Capital (rupees in crores)		Total (rupees in crores)
		SCSP	STSP	SCSP	STSP	
1.	2018-19	427.78	210.63	39.56	28.22	706.19
2.	2019-20	413.15	206.46	34.94	19.27	673.82
3.	2020-21	84.00	161.00	16.00	39.00	300

22. In respect of KVS, the Committee was apprised that there are 1248 Kendriya Vidyalayas across the country including 03 KVs abroad (i.e. KV Tehran, KV Kathmandu and KV Moscow), out of which 1247 KVs are functioning and 01 KV i.e. Anantnag, Jammu & Kashmir is not functional. However, Kendriya Vidyalayas are not opened on the criteria of rural tribal areas.

Grant released during the last years under SC/ST component is tabulated below:

Sl.No.	Year	Revenue (rupees in crores)		Capital (rupees in crores)		Total (rupees in crores)
		SCSP	STSP	SCSP	STSP	
1.	2018-19	297.80	160.07	16.06	8.55	482.48
2.	2019-20	527.90	230.40	9.71	5.33	773.34
3.	2020-21	505.32	264.44	7.00	14.00	790.76

23. The Ministry in their written reply has informed that there is no separate scheme formulated for SC/ST category students in Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti to enhance the propagation of quality education. However, all students are provided good quality modern education and equal opportunities for improving their skills and capacities.

24. It was also informed that Kendriya Vidyalayas ensures quality education for all children through its various programmes and activities of Ministries/Departments of Govt. of India apart from classroom transactions & assessment. Following programmes/activities of KVS & other Ministries & Departments are being coordinated for holistic development of students including ST and SC:

For Promotion of Science & Technology & Mathematics- Participation of students in INSPIRE (Innovation in Science Pursuit for Inspired Research) Awards MANAK (Million Minds Augmenting National Aspirations and Knowledge), JNNSMEE (Jawaharlal Nehru National Science Mathematics and Environment Exhibition), NCSC (National Children's

Science Congress), JIGYASA, Atal Tinkering Labs ,KVPY, Science & Mathematics Olympiad, e-Prajna etc.

- a. For Promotion of Games & Sports & Health – Participation of students in School Level ,Regional level, KVS National Level, SGFI, Khelo India competitions, NCC etc.
- b. For Promotion of language, Ethos , Culture & Art & others : Participation of students in Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat, Kala Ustav, Seema Darshan, Bharat Scouts & Guides, Youth Parliament, Activities through Digital Language Labs etc.
- c. Encouraging students to participate in various competitions being conducted by different Ministries/ Departments of Govt. of India for holistic development of students.

25. The Committee enquired regarding the criteria of providing pre-matric/post-matric scholarships to SC/ST students in NVS/KVS. The Ministry in their written replies stated that the Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are centrally sponsored schemes which are governed by the guidelines issued by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs respectively.

26. Eligibility criteria for providing Scholarship under the Pre-Matric and Post-Matric Scholarship Schemes for SC/ST students, *inter-alia*, include the following:

- (i) The student should belong to SC/ST community respectively.
- (ii) Scholarship will be provided to the student whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2.5 lakh during the last financial year.
- (iii) The Institution in which student is studying should be recognized one as per the Scheme guidelines.

The Ministry in their written replies provided the details of the total amount being provided under pre-matric/post-matric scholarships to SC/ST students in NVS/KVS which are given at **Annexure-III**. Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti provides good quality modern education to all the students (including SCs & STs students), free of cost including boarding, lodging, uniform, bedding items, medical facility, daily use items, counseling support etc. No separate monetary scholarship is given to any of the students of Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas.

27. In response to the query whether there is any proposal to enhance the amount of these scholarships. The Ministry informed that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has informed that Post-Matric Scholarship schemes for SC students has been revised in

2020. The revised scheme guidelines is for the duration of 2021-22 to 2025-26. Thus, there is no proposal under consideration at present to enhance the amount of scholarships.

As regards the ST students, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed that there is no proposal under consideration at present to increase the amount of scholarships.

28. Regarding the present financial criteria for pre matric/post-matric scholarship being provided to SC and ST students vis-à-vis criteria applicable for OBC students and EWS students, it was informed by the Ministry that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs have informed that under Pre-Matric Scholarship Schemes for SC/ST students and OBC students, Scholarship is being provided only to the students whose parental income from all sources should not exceed Rs. 2.5 lakh per annum.

29. During the evidence, the Hon'ble Chairperson pointed out:

“मैं फिर यह कहता हूँ कि ढाई लाख रुपये एस.सी., एस.टी. के बच्चों की है। इतने सालों में छः पे कमीशनस हो गए। हर पे कमीशन में सैलरी बढ़ती है। क्लास-IV को भी इसका लाभ नहीं मिलता है। ओबीसी और आर्थिक रूप से पिछड़े लोगों के दायरे को छः लाख रुपये से बढ़ा कर आठ लाख रुपये किया गया। इसलिए इनका दायरा भी आठ लाख रुपये होना चाहिए। यह लॉजिकल है, लेकिन आपने इसमें कोई संज्ञान नहीं लिया।”

30. To this Secretary Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment stated:

“Sir, we have fixed the limit of Rs.8 lakh for reservation to economically weaker sections. That means, anybody below that is poor. Then we fought in the Supreme Court defending this limit of Rs.8 lakh.”

31. Hon'ble Chairperson further stated that:

“.....does this financial burden increase only when it comes to SC and ST students? आपने जब ओबीसी के लिए छः लाख रुपये किया और फिर बाद में ई.डब्ल्यू.एस. आया, आपने दोनों के लिए आठ लाख रुपये किया। तब क्या यह क्राइटेरिया नहीं होता है कि यह कोई फाइनेंशियल बर्डन है? क्या सिर्फ एस.सी./एस.टी. के बच्चों के लिए यह है? अगर आपने उसी समय अपने विभाग की ओर से यूनिफॉर्म किया कि उनके लिए 6 लाख रुपये से 8 लाख रुपये कर दिया है, तो एस.सी./एस.टी. का भी 6 लाख रुपये से 8 लाख रुपये कर दिया जाए। अगर आपने उसी समय प्रस्ताव रखा होता तो मैं समझता हूँ कि यह बात उसी समय खत्म हो जाती।”

32. The Committee further enquired whether the Government has any proposal to increase the parents' income limit of beneficiaries covered under pre-matric/post-matric scholarships scheme for SC/ST students. In response thereto Ministry in their written reply stated that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has informed that Post-Matric Scholarship schemes for SC students has been revised in 2020. These revised scheme

guidelines is for the duration of 2021-22 to 2025-26. Thus, there is no proposal under consideration at present to increase the income limit of beneficiaries in this regard. Further, As regards the ST students, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has informed that there is no proposal under consideration at present to increase the income limit of beneficiaries in this regard.

## CHAPTER –II

### OBSERVATIONS/RECOMMENDATIONS

1. The Committee would like to impress upon the fact that pre-matric scholarship is aimed at minimising the incidence of Scheduled castes and Scheduled Tribes students dropping out in Class IX-X, while post-matric scholarship is meant to enable such students to complete their higher education. The Committee note that the number of SC/ST beneficiaries who received pre-matric scholarships for the year 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 were 10234, 10195, 10634, 9892 and 7436 respectively in Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan. The Committee are quite perturbed to see that number of children receiving scholarships is quite meagre. Further from the year 2017-18 to 2021-22 the figures are on a constant downfall. It appears that the Centre's pre-matric scholarship scheme has not been not tapped to its fullest thereby depriving deserving students including SC/ST students of a monthly monetary benefit to further their prospects in education. This clearly indicates that funds earmarked for pre-matric scholarships under the Centre's scheme are being underutilized. The Committee would like to be apprised of reasons for such poor number w.r.t to the beneficiaries availing the benefits of pre-matric scholarships. The Committee would like to stress that scholarship at pre-matric level will encourage parents from Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes communities to send their wards to school, lighten their financial burden on school education and sustain their efforts to support their children to complete school education. As per the data furnished by the Ministry, the figures pertaining to post-matric scholarships are equally dismal. The number of SC/ST beneficiaries who received post-matric scholarships for the year 2017-18, 2018-19, 2019-20, 2020-21 and 2021-22 were 690, 818, 20124, 21212 and 852 respectively in Kendriya Vidhyalaya Sangathan. The Committee are alarmed to note that figures pertaining to post-matric scholarships have nosedived in comparison to pre-matric scholarships. It is rather a matter of grave concern that the number of SC/ST children vying for post matric courses are on decline. The Committee would like to stress that post-Matric Scholarship Scheme serves as a catalyst in terms of increasing the aspirations of the beneficiaries to go for further higher education. Thus, the Committee may be apprised reasons regarding relatively lesser number of SC/ST beneficiaries of post-matric scholarships in comparison to pre-matric scholarships. The Committee may also be

provided information about the number of SC/ST beneficiaries who received pre-matric and post-matric scholarship among various States.

2. The Committee are of the unanimous opinion that awareness about the pre-matric/post-matric scholarships scheme is a major concern as it is most likely to benefit those who are aware of it. The most disadvantaged and marginalized households in the society are especially SC/ST communities and less likely to be benefited from the scheme if the level of awareness about the scheme remains low. Many a times, most of the beneficiaries are not aware of the eligibility criteria, application procedure and documents required to apply for pre-matric/post-matric Scholarships. The Committee feel that the apparent lack of detailed information about the scheme at the school level still continues as a major issue which plagues the access of pre-matric/post-matric scholarships to the targeted groups. Even the interested students loose out on the chance off availing pre-matric/post-matric scholarships timely due to unawareness of the basic features/ components of these Scholarship Schemes. The beneficiaries sometimes have equally poor in their knowledge of the modes of disbursement of pre-matric/post-matric Scholarship amount and the procedures for renewing their pre-matric/post-matric Scholarship. Therefore the Committee is of the view that the basic features of the scheme may also be made available in vernacular language also so that students at all levels may utilize the scheme optimally. The Committee would like to recommend that since Schools/educational institutions where the targeted beneficiaries are enrolled play a pivitol role in disseminating the related information, they should be provided with detailed information about the pre-matric/post-matric Scholarship scheme, procedures of processing applications (including preference and selection criteria) and sanctioning of scholarships, the selection process and criteria, cut-off scores for preparing the final list of selected students. The Schools and teachers once privy to such information can relay the same to the students under their patronage so that all can avail the scholarship benefits. The Committee would like to recommend that Centre should direct all the State governments to share significant details regarding the pre-matric/post-matric Scholarship with the Kendriya Vidyalayas and other government schools so that the same can be disseminated to the eligible students on regular basis. Further the magnitude of awareness may also be raised by print and electronic media as the same are much more impactful in drawing the attention



of school going teenagers. The Committee note that as per the guidelines issued for the pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship, it has been stated that State Governments need to ensure effective implementation. This includes opening facilitation centers to ensure beneficiaries enroll into the scheme at the time of admission, development of scholarship portals and carrying out field inspections, social audits etc. It is therefore recommended that Centre should call upon compliance reports from various State Governments regarding implementation of pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship scheme. The Committee would also like to be apprised regarding the fund utilization by various states under the pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship scheme for the last five years highlighting the underperforming States in this regard. The Committee would also like to invite the views of the Ministry as to whether the fund allocation under these schemes needs further enhancement so as to widen the net of its coverage among the students. The Committee would also like to be apprised regarding cases wherein discrepancies have been noticed during the disbursement of pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship among various States. The State Government may be advised to adopt efficacious method for utilization of funds to achieve the target.

3. The Committee note that the per-matric scholarship amount for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs is per month is Rs 225 and Rs 525 for day scholars and hostellers respectively for 10 months. Further an amount of Rs 750 and Rs 1000 per annum is also disbursed under this scheme for books and as *ad hoc* grant for day scholars and hostellers respectively. Post-matric scholarship amounts for Scheduled Castes as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment for degree & post graduate level professional courses are Rs 13500 and Rs 7000 yearly for day scholars and hostellers respectively, Degree & post graduate level professional courses are Rs 9500 and Rs 6500 yearly for day scholars and hostellers respectively, Graduate & post graduate courses are Rs 6000 and Rs 3000 yearly for day scholars and hostellers respectively and for all post matriculation (Post Class X level) non-degree courses are Rs 4000 and Rs 2500 yearly for day scholars and hostellers respectively. Likewise Post-matric scholarship amounts for Scheduled Tribes as per the guidelines issued by Ministry of Tribal Affairs for degree & post graduate level professional courses are

Rs 1200 and Rs 550 monthly for day scholars and hostellers respectively, Degree & post graduate level professional courses are Rs 820 and Rs 530 monthly for day scholars and hostellers respectively, Graduate & post graduate courses are Rs 570 and Rs 300 monthly for day scholars and hostellers respectively and for all post matriculation (Post Class X level) non-degree courses are Rs 380 and Rs 230 monthly for day scholars and hostellers respectively. It has been informed that Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has revised guidelines for Post-Matric Scholarship schemes in 2020. As per Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and Ministry of Tribal Affairs there is no proposal under consideration at present to increase the amount of scholarships. The Committee would like to recommend that to offset the impact of inflation, the scholarship amount for various categories of beneficiaries needs to be revised in order to cater the expenses required to meet the basic cost of pre-matric and post-matric level of education in a given year. The Committee would like to further recommend that guidelines regarding setting up of Committee at State level on yearly basis may be formulated to review the amount of scholarship disbursed and recommend the revision in the amount of pre-matric and post-matric scholarship yearly keeping up with the increased costs of education during that particular financial year. The State Level Committee may also be directed to submit detailed report in pursuance of the same. The Committee would like to point out that the beneficiaries of pre-matric and post-matric Scholarship are usually children belonging to socio-economically weaker sections and have poor financial background. The Scholarship amount is the only thing that keeps them afloat and provides for a hope to acquire education in economically skewed scenario. It is therefore need of the time that amount of scholarship may be increased for both the schemes to keep at par with the ongoing inflation rates. The Committee would like the Ministry to consider drafting a proposal for the enhancement of the scholarship amount considering the fact that we are stepping into 75<sup>th</sup> year of independence and its high time that the school children who are the future of our country should be provided economic independence to enable them to acquire education to the least.

4. The Committee are of the view that the ceiling of parents' income limit of Rs. 2.5 lakh should be raised considering the current cost of living and economic growth rates. The Committee are dismayed to note that while the ceiling limit for economically weaker sections has been increased from 6 lakhs to 8 lakhs, the same

parameters have not been applied for SC/ST students. The Committee would like to censure this discriminatory action of the Ministry. The Committee firmly believes that enhancing the ceiling limit of parents' income would benefit SC/ST students. This will also increase the number of beneficiaries who could come under the ambit of pre-matric and post-matric scholarship scheme. This step will surely cater to benefit larger numbers of eligible beneficiaries. Further, the utilization of budgetary allocation for pre-matric and post-matric scholarship would be materialized as the number of beneficiaries under the ambit of scheme will increase. The Committee are of understanding that the Government is considering the proposal of raising the parents' income limit for students belonging to SC/ST from Rs 2.5 lakh to 8 lakh and to bring it at least at par with EWS/OBC students. The Committee would like to thus recommend that the proposal regarding raising the ceiling limit of parents' income be pursued by the Ministry in all earnestness otherwise achieving the goal of providing the pre-matric and post-matric scholarship to the eligible beneficiaries would prove to be a distant dream. The Committee would also like to recommend that financial implication post raising the parents' income limit be worked out *vis-à-vis* projected increase in the number of beneficiaries under the pre-matric and post-matric scholarship scheme. Accordingly it is advisable that the Ministry may seek enhancement of budgetary allocation for the purpose.

New Delhi

5 August , 2022  
14 Sravana, 1944(Saka)

DR.(Prof.) KIRIT P. SOLANKI  
Chairperson,  
Committee on the Welfare of  
Scheduled Castes and  
Scheduled Tribes.

ANNEXURE-I

**CENTRALLY-SPONSORED  
SCHEME OF  
PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP  
FOR SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS STUDYING IN  
CLASSES 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup>  
GUIDELINES**



**MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE & EMPOWERMENT**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA**

**19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2017**

**CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR  
SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS STUDYING IN CLASSES 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup>.**

(EFFECTIVE FROM 19<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2017)

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**SCHEME OF PRE MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SCHEDULED CASTE  
STUDENTS STUDYING IN CLASSES 9<sup>TH</sup> & 10<sup>TH</sup>  
(EFFECTIVE FROM 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017)**

**1. BACKGROUND**

Article 46 of Part IV ("Directive Principles of State Policy") of the Constitution enjoins upon the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Article 38(2) of the same Part also enjoins upon the State to minimize inequities in income and to endeavour to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst individuals but also amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations.

**2. OBJECTIVES**

Objectives of the scheme are:

- (a) To support parents of SC children for education of their wards studying in classes IX and X so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the elementary to the secondary stage is minimized, and
- (b) To improve participation of SC children in classes IX and X of the pre-matric stage, so that they perform better and have a better chance of progressing to the post-matric stage of education.

**3. SCOPE**

Scholarship under the Scheme will be available for studies in India only and will be awarded by the Government of the State/Union Territory to which the applicant belongs i.e. where he is domiciled.

**4. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**

- (i) Student should belong to Scheduled Caste.
- (ii) His/ her Parent/Guardian's income should not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum.
- (iii) He / she should not be getting any other Centrally-funded Pre Matric Scholarship. However benefit of National Means-cum- Merit scholarship scheme of D/o School

Education, Ministry of Human Resource Development can be availed by the beneficiaries of Pre-Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC students.

(iv) In pursuance to the provision of Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act 2016, a student is required to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar or undergo Aadhaar Authentication. If not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, student is required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment.

(v) She/ he should be a regular, full time student studying in a Government School or in a School recognized by Govt. or a Central/State Board of Secondary Education.

(vi) Scholarship for studying in any class will be available for only one year. If a student has to repeat a class, she / he would not get scholarship for that class for a second (or subsequent) year.

#### **5. ANNUAL PARENTAL/GUARDIAN'S INCOME**

Scholarships will be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2, 50,000/- (Rupees two lakh fifty thousand only) per annum.

NOTE 1: So long as either of the parents is alive, only income of the parents, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account only and of no other member even though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken. Such students whose parent's income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of the earning parents and resultantly comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such sad incidence takes place. Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after lapse of last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

NOTE 2: House rent allowance received by the parents of a student shall be exempted from the computation of 'income' if the same has been permitted to be exempted for the purpose of Income tax.

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NOTE 3: Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

#### 6. VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The value of scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:-

- (i) scholarship and other grant,
- (ii) additional allowance for students with disabilities studying in private un-aided recognized Schools.

The details are as follows:

Rates of scholarship and other grant will be as follows:

Item	Day Scholars	Hostellers
Scholarship (Rs. p.m.) (for 10 months)	225	525
Books and Ad hoc Grant (Rs. p.a.)	750	1000

- (iii) Additional Allowances for SC students with disabilities studying in private unaided Schools-

Under the Centrally-sponsored Scheme of 'Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage' (IEDSS) implemented by the M/o HRD, financial assistance is already being given under its "Student Oriented Component" to students with disabilities studying at the Secondary stage in Govt., local body and Govt. aided schools. However, students in un-aided schools are not covered under IEDSS.

Therefore, SC students with disabilities, studying in classes IX & X in private un-aided recognized schools, will be eligible for allowances under this Scheme, as follows:

Allowances for students with disabilities studying in Private un-aided Schools	Amount (In Rs.)
(i) Monthly Reader Allowance for Blind students	160
(ii) Monthly Transport Allowance for students with disabilities (as defined in the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995), if such students do not reside in the hostel which is within the premises of the Educational Institution.	160
(iii) Monthly Escort Allowance for Severely Disabled (i.e. with 80% or higher disability) Day Scholars/Students with low extremity disability.	160
(iv) Monthly Helper Allowance admissible to any of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in the hostel of an Educational Institution who may need the assistance of a helper.	160

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(v) Monthly Coaching Allowance to Mentally Retarded and Mentally ill Students.	240

**Note:** The disability as defined under the Persons with disabilities (equal opportunities, Protection of rights and full participation Act, 1995) Act has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Govt./UT Administration.

#### **7. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

- (i) All eligible Scheduled Caste candidates will be given scholarships as prescribed in this Scheme.
- (ii) Candidates belonging to one State but studying in another State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authority in that State.

#### **8. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS**

- (i) The scholarship will be payable for 10 months in an academic year.
- (ii) The award once made will continue subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed for Class X after the student passes Class IX.

#### **9. PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP**

- (i) Scholarship is payable from 1st April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year (including scholarship during holidays), provided that if the scholar secures admission after the 20th day of a month, the amount will be paid from the month following the month of admission.
- (ii) In case of renewal of scholarship, it will be paid from the month following the month up to which scholarship was paid in the previous year.
- (iii) The Government of the State/Union Territory Administration, to which they belong, in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard, will pay the scholarship money to the selected students.

#### **10. CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF THE AWARD**

- (i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the student. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution/School at any time that a

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student has by reasons of his/her own act of default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarships or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.

(ii) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government/ UT Administration. The student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.

(iii) A student is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government/ UT Administration, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by him/her.

#### **11. PUBLICITY OF THE SCHEME & INVITING APPLICATIONS**

11.1 The Scheme will be implemented through State Governments/U.T. Administrations. All the State Governments/UT Administrations will, at the appropriate time, suitably publicise the Scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in local language, in the leading newspapers of the State and through their respective websites and other media outfits. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority, as mentioned below before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

11.2 State Govt. would prescribe a suitable application form in the local language and place it on its websites. School authorities will get these forms filled by the eligible students and send them to Block / District level authorities. State Governments/UT Administrations will delegate powers to sanction scholarships under the scheme to appropriate Block/ District level authorities/ Heads of Institution, as appropriate.

#### **12. APPLICATION PROCEDURE**

(i) An application for scholarship can be made online on the respective State/ UT scholarship portal where available and in hard copy otherwise. Where applying on

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line, the documents may be scanned and uploaded. Hard copy of application uploaded will be submitted as per the requirement of portal where application has been made. Every application either online or in hard copy will compulsorily include:

- a. One copy of the application for scholarship in the prescribed form.
- b. One passport size photograph with signature of the student thereon (for fresh scholarship).
- c. One self attested copy of certificates, diploma, degree etc. in respect of all examinations passed.
- d. A certificate of Caste duly signed by an authorized Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar.
- e. Income declaration of self employed parents/guardian should be in the form of a certificate issued by Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer. Employed parents/ guardians should obtain consolidated certificate from Revenue officer for any other additional source of income.
- f ) In pursuance to the provision of Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act 2016, a student is required to furnish proof of possession of Aadhaar or undergo Aadhaar Authentication. If not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, student is required to make application for Aadhaar enrolment.
- g. Application for scholarship should be submitted by the student by 30<sup>th</sup> November of the academic year in which he/ she is studying, provided that for valid reasons State authorities may extend the last date.

(Note: Where hard copy is submitted all copies should be self attested.)

(ii) Application complete in all respects, shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution/School, being attended or last attended by the candidates and shall be forwarded by the Head of Institution, after scrutiny and with his recommendation, to the sanctioning authority, mentioned in para 11.2.

### **13. MODE OF DISBURSAL OF SCHOLARSHIP**

In order to ensure timely and correct payment of scholarship amount to the beneficiaries, State Governments/UT administrations should ensure payment of scholarship through their accounts in post offices/banks. All State Govts/UT Administrations will implement a computerized management system of scholarships,

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including 'e-payment' system. The Ministry of Social Justice vide notification number 428 dated Feb,16,2017 has notified aadhaar as identity document under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act 2016 for all Scholarship Schemes w.e.f. 16th February 2017. The States henceforth will make provisions for capturing details of Aadhaar, aadhaar EID and other alternative documents as provided for in the said notification on their respective Scholarship portals or otherwise.

#### **14. PATTERN AND CONDITIONS OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (CA)**

14.1 The Scheme is Centrally Sponsored Scheme and implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which will receive 100% central assistance from Government of India for expenditure under the Scheme, over and above their Committed Liability. The level of Committed Liability of respective State Government / Union Territory administration in a New Finance Commission (FC) cycle annually will be equivalent to the total of the demand on the State as well as the Central Government in the terminal year of the previous Plan period/ Finance Commission (FC) cycle, provided that when a State has made no demand on the Centre in the terminal year of the Plan period/ Finance Cycle or the demand made by a State is lower than in any of the previous years of the plan period / Financial Cycle, in that case the highest demand made in any of the previous financial years of the Plan/ Finance Cycle will be considered as demand of the State on Centre for the purpose of computation of Committed Liability for the next Financial Cycle. The committed Liability so computed will be co-terminus with the FC cycle and will be required to be borne by them by making provision in their own budget.

14.2 Many States/UTs are presently implementing Pre-matric Scholarship Scheme of some kind for SC students, from their own resources. If a State Govt. is already giving pre-matric scholarship to SC students of classes IX-X, it will have to either:

- i) continue to provide scholarship at that rate, over and above the Scholarship under the proposed CSS, or
- ii) if it chooses to reduce its own expenditure on its Scheme, utilize the saving so effected only on other educational programmes for SCs.

14.3 Upto 1.5 % of total Central expenditure towards Scholarship, would, be utilized on administrative expenditure, Management, Monitoring & Evaluation etc. The funds would be utilized for this purpose, by the Central Govt. or it would be released to

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States/UTs, over and above the Scholarship amount, on the basis of proposals received from them in this regard. However, no new posts would be created under this component.

#### **15. TRANSFER OF COMMITTED LIABILITY TO STATES/UTs**

Since this Scheme was introduced during the first year of XII Plan i.e. 2012-13, committed liability has been transferred, for the first time, to State Govts / UT Admns at the end of XII Five Year Plan i.e. w.e.f. 1.4.2017. Subsequently, committed liability in the Scheme will be transferred to the States/UTs during the first year of the succeeding plan period/ Finance Commission Cycle.

#### **16. PROCEDURE FOR CLAIMING AND RELEASE OF CENTRAL ASSISTANCE (CA)**

16.1 CA will be released to the States/UTs, in two installments. First installment of CA would be released on ad-hoc basis, as far as possible, during the second quarter of the year (April- June) subject to satisfactory utilization of Central assistance, released in the past, if any. State Governments/UT Administrations will be expected to submit their complete proposals for CA under the Scheme by 31st December each year, which would be released to them, subject to fulfillment of all the conditions. Next year's claim will have to be accompanied with a Utilization Certificate along with Audited Statements for the previous year's CA. Unspent or unaccounted for balance, if any, from the previous year's grant will be adjusted, while releasing the next year's grant.

- a. The aggregated demand of the State/ UT to Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment should be submitted in the prescribed format.
- b. Demand for CA submitted beyond 31<sup>st</sup> December will not be entertained.
- c. The demand for the current Financial Year should be in respect of student's scholarship for the corresponding academic year. Arrears due to non release of CA of previous years should be shown separately.

16.2 State Governments/ UT Administrations will be expected to ensure timely and regular disbursement of scholarships to students through Bank /Post office accounts, preferably on monthly basis. Pending release of CA, the scholarships would be expected to be paid out of the State Budget, against which reimbursement can be claimed. In no case the disbursement of the scholarship to students should be held up due to any delay in the release of CA.

#### **17. MONITORING:**

State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme will:

i) furnish data of beneficiaries and expenditure under the scheme, to Government of India, regularly in the Quarterly Progress Reports whose proforma would be separately prescribed. Financial assistance given under the scheme shall not be utilized for any other purpose.

ii) make beneficiaries database which may be integrated with UIDAI by (a) embedding Aadhaar numbers (UID numbers) in it, (b) using the UIDAI enabled bank account (UEBA) for crediting the scholarships and (c) using the UIDAI authentication services for beneficiary identification.

iii) ensure that an institution-wise list of awardees, with necessary particulars, for award of scholarships is displayed on the web-site of NIC at District level.

iv) designate Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) at the State and District levels to redress students' scholarship-related grievances.

#### **18. CHANGE IN THE PROVISIONS OF THE SCHEME:**

The provisions of this Scheme can be changed at anytime at the discretion of the Government of India.

#### **19. EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION/ ALTERATION OF MODALITIES**

a. For the purposes of effective implementation of the Scheme, States/UTs may formulate guidelines for assessing eligibility of beneficiaries & institutions and modalities for Direct benefit transfer, which shall be in accordance with the objectives of the Scheme provided that the States shall not be at liberty to impose any guideline which enhances or has the effect of enhancing the liability of the Centre under the Scheme.

b. The Centre may call for reports from time to time and issue guidelines for effective implementation. The guidelines and eligibility norms of the scheme may also be changed by Central government as deemed necessary.

#### **20. EVALUATION**

The performance of the scheme will be evaluated by Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (GOI) at least once every three years, to begin with.

#### **21. TRANSITORY PROVISION FOR EXISTING BENEFICIARIES**

Identified beneficiaries of scholarships under the existing Pre- Matric Scholarship Scheme for SCs will also get the benefit of the revised rate of scholarship from effective date of revision of the scheme i.e. 19<sup>th</sup> September, 2017.

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## GUIDELINES

# POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCHEDULED CASTES FOR STUDIES IN INDIA (2020-2021 to 2025-26)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE &  
EMPOWERMENT  
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment  
(March, 2021)

SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS  
TO THE STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCHEDULED CASTES FOR



## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

STUDIES IN INDIA (PMS-SC)  
(With effect from 2020-2021)

### 1. Objective

1.1 The objective of the scheme is to appreciably increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio of SC students in higher education with a focus on those from the poorest households, by providing financial assistance at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.

### 2. Scope

2.1 These scholarships are available for studies in India only and the awardees are selected by the State Government/Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs (i.e. the State/UT in which permanently settled or domiciled, as per the terms of domicile decided by the State).

2.2 This is applicable to all the students who are currently beneficiaries of the scheme as well as fresh admissions.

### 3. Definitions

a) "**Group 1: Degree and Post Graduate level professional courses**" shall mean: all Professional courses in Medicine, Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary & Allied Sciences, Management, Business Finance /Administration, Computer Science/ Applications (ii) Post Graduate Diploma courses in various branches of Management & Medicine (iii) C.A./I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc. (iv) M.Phil., Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral Programmes (D.Lit., D.Sc. etc.) of Group I, Group II and Group III courses. (v) L.L.B, Integrated L.L.B, L.L.M

b) "**Group 2: Other Professional Courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate**" shall mean all Professional Courses leading to Degree, M Ed. / M. Pharma., Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B Pharma.), Nursing (B Nursing), BFS, other para-medical branches like rehabilitation, diagnostics etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management & Catering, Travel/Tourism/Hospitality Management, Interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g. Banking, Insurance, Taxation etc.) for which entrance qualification is minimum Sr. Secondary (10+2) and

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

Vocational stream, ITI courses and Polytechnic where entrance qualification is Class XII or above.

c) "**Group 3: Graduate and Post Graduate course**" shall mean: courses not covered under Group 1 & Group 2 e.g. B.A / B.Sc. / B.Com etc. M.A / M. Sc / M.Com etc.

d) "**Group 4: All post-matriculation (Post Class X level) non-degree courses**" shall mean: All post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. Senior secondary certificate (class XI and XII); both general and vocational stream, ITI courses, 3 year diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.

*Note: The list of courses in various groups is indicative and States/UTs may add courses as per laid down standard in the State/UT.*

e) "**Compulsory non-refundable fees**" shall mean: fee payable for enrolment/registration, tuition, games, Union, Library, Magazine, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the institution or University/Board, but does not include Refundable deposits like caution money, security deposit will, however, be excluded.

f) "**Demand**" for a year indicates the total fund requirement for release of scholarship to all eligible students under the scheme as per the entitlements for that particular year.

g) "**Freeship Card**" shall mean: A card issued by the State Govt./UT Administration that entitles a student eligible for scholarship under this Scheme, to take admission in an institution, without pre-payment of tuition fee and hostel fee.

### 4. Eligibility of Educational Institutions

4.1 Only such educational Institutions which maintain the laid down academic standards shall be covered under the scheme. The following conditions regarding the courses offered, performance of the institution, Aadhaar based attendance system are also required to be adhered to by the Institutions/Universities/Colleges in order to be eligible under the scheme:

- i. Only Institutions/Colleges with the 'AISHE Code/UDISE' Code' shall be eligible for the scholarship scheme. Based on the AISHE/UDISE-Code of the institution, all details of the institution such as - registration, affiliation and accreditation, courses being offered and number of seats approved for each course - will be pulled from the AISHE/UDISE server on to the scholarship portal automatically.

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

- ii. All participating higher education institutions shall get NAAC/NBA accreditation before 2024, for continuation in the scheme from 2025-26 onwards.
- iii. The scholarship benefits shall be linked with Aadhaar based attendance system. Therefore, the college/institution will maintain Aadhaar based attendance on a daily basis and will submit attendance details on the portal.
- iv. The institutions will submit half-yearly self-audited reports to the State Governments in a prescribed format which shall be separately issued.
- v. The institutions should be willing to honour the FREESHIP CARD issued by the State/District Authority through the scholarship portal and admit the student without insisting on pre-payment of the college/tuition fee or hostel fee. This would be paid by the student on release of the scholarship amount by the Government as per the provisions of this scheme. In this regard, the State Governments will coordinate with the institutions located in their respective States.

4.2 Scholarships will be given for the study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses (Intermediate/Senior Secondary, Diploma, long-term Vocational Training Certificate, Graduate, Post Graduate courses etc.) pursued in recognized Institutions/ Universities/ Colleges falling in any of the following 9 categories:

- i. Institutions of National Importance;
- ii. Central University/ State University/ Autonomous colleges recognized by UGC and Universities /Colleges recognized under section 2(f) of UGC Act;
- iii. Deemed Universities;
- iv. All Private Universities recognized by State/Centre;
- v. Private Professional Institutions affiliated to a recognized Central/State University and covered by a Fee Fixation Committee as mandated by Supreme Court;
- vi. Recognized schools/colleges for Classes XI and class XII;
- vii. Diploma granting Institutions as recognized by State/UT Governments;
- viii. Vocational Training Institutes affiliated to National Council of Vocational Training (NCVT);
- ix. Institutions affiliated/ approved by the appropriate bodies like NMC/AICTE etc. or any regulatory body established by State/UT/Centre.

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Provided that where a particular number of seats for a particular course have been recognized / authorized by the concerned regulatory authority, the scholarships shall be restricted to those numbers and courses.

### **s. Conditions of Eligibility of Students**

5.1 The scholarships are open to Nationals of India only.

5.2 Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes so specified in relation to the State/Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs /domiciled as determined by the State/UT and who have passed the Matriculation or Higher Secondary or any higher examination of a recognized University or Board of Secondary Education will be eligible.

5.3 Scholarships will be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,50,000/- (Rupees Two lakh Fifty thousand only) during the last Financial Year. Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission only to courses which are continuing for more than one year. The income certificate shall be issued by the Authority as decided by the State Government.

5.4 The ceiling on age limit for admission as regular student in different classes should be decided by concerned Institutions.

5.5 Candidates who, after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject e.g. Intermediate Science after Intermediate Arts or B.Com after B.A. or M.A in one subject after M.A in other subjects will not be eligible.

5.6 Students, who pursue their studies through correspondence/online courses, are also eligible. The term correspondence includes distant and continuous education for courses in Central/ State Universities only. Non-refundable fees shall be paid and no academic allowance will be paid.

5.7 All the children of any parent/guardian will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme.

5.8 A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/stipend, the student can exercise his/her option for either of the two scholarships/stipends, whichever is more beneficial to him/her, and should inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the students under this scheme from the date he/she accepts another scholarship/stipend. The student can however, accept free lodging or a grant or ad-hoc monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.

5.9 All seats filled through arbitrary and non-transparent processes (including management quota, NRI quota, spot admissions etc.) without following the merit criteria as decided by the State Government are not eligible for these scholarships. The fees claimed against management quota seats, spot admission seat in any Institution /University will not be reimbursed. In case of any contradiction on the classification of seats or non-clarity on the classification of seats in the State/UT, the following criteria may be followed:

- i) If there is no arbitrariness/ discretion in the admission process and the fee for the course is fixed by the Fee Fixation/Fee Rationalization committee set up by the competent authority, the said seats may not be considered as the Management Quota Seats. However, the State Governments may satisfy themselves of the following before release of scholarships:
  - i. That the applicants claiming the scholarship have been admitted through a transparent process which involved calling of applications through advertisements, preparation of ranks, selection of candidates on merit list, and publication of selection list and others as deemed fit by the State Government;
  - ii. That the fees for courses are duly approved by the Fee Fixation/Fee Rationalization Committee set up by the competent authority.

5.10 Students shall be encouraged to have Aadhaar linked Bank accounts to facilitate payments through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge.

## 6. Role of the State Governments

6.1 Although many SC students have availed benefits under this scheme and have occupied high positions in the society, still the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) of SCs in higher education (23.0%) lags behind the national average (27.0%). It is the endeavour of the Government to raise the GER of SCs in higher education from 23.0 % to the national average in the next five years. Similarly, the GER in Senior Secondary education of SCs has to increase from the current 56% to the national average in the next five years. Towards this end, special focus of the implementing agencies is required to achieve the goal.

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

6.2 All the SC students with annual income of up to Rs 2.50 lakh per annum would be eligible under the scheme. However, the State Government will additionally make special efforts to identify the poorest households from various sources and enroll the eligible students under the scheme in a mission mode. Further, these students would be monitored on regular basis so that they continue with their studies. Such students shall include (i) students from SC households with three or more deprivations as per SECC-2011 (ii) students from SC households where one or both the parents are illiterate and (iii) the students who have passed 10th standard from a State Government/ Municipality/Local Body school. In this regard, States/UTs will launch special campaigns to identify and cover such students.

6.3 States/UTs may adopt methodology suitable to the local conditions for identification of such students e.g. SC majority districts/blocks/villages may be taken first for identification of poorest students or students leaving class 10<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> class may be tracked in association with the education department or data emanating from other Central/State schemes indicating the dropouts rates or other sources as deemed fit. Every State Government shall undertake a campaign every year in March/April to identify such students and mentor them to enrol and avail scholarships. Such students will be helped for identification of courses also as per their skills.

6.4 Awareness drive shall be undertaken by the State Governments/UTs about the scheme through the Gram Panchayats Notice Boards, school committees, and discussions in the parent-teacher association meetings and other public awareness measures, in order to extend its coverage and also minimize any misuse by unscrupulous elements.

6.5 The States are required to take up identification of the students for fresh enrolment by taking up systematic drive covering all the higher secondary schools and encouraging the pupils who have dropped out after Class 12th to come back to higher education.

6.6 It is essential that the fresh enrolments to the extent possible are made in the courses which are having employment potential. For this purpose, the State may do an exercise in consultation with the Higher Education Department of the State Government, and the State Skill Mission for identifying courses which would improve the employment potential of the students. It is strongly advised that fresh enrolment may be made in these courses. Such skill courses should be long term courses with periodicity of at least 1 year and conducted by the institutions as per Para 4 of the scheme guidelines.

6.7. State Government will ensure that the beneficiary, at the time of admission, applies for the scholarship also. In this regard, the State Government may open facilitation centers

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

or nominate a nodal officer in the educational institutions so that the entry into the student database for renewals and fresh admissions can be done in a stipulated timeframe.

6.8 The State Governments shall put in place a scholarship portal that has all features as prescribed in para 13 of these guidelines and share the data on a real-time basis with the Central portal.

6.9 The State/Central Government shall have robust monitoring systems, including field inspections, social audits, data analytics etc. so that timely payments are made to eligible beneficiaries.

6.10 States/UTs shall ensure that Fee Rationalization/Fixation Committees are set up for all courses

### 7. Components of the Scholarship

7.1 The scholarship includes the following components for the complete duration of the course.-

- i. Compulsory non-refundable fees including tuition fee, as fixed by the Fee Fixation/Rationalization Committee of the State Government
- ii. Academic allowance

Category of courses	Yearly (In Rs)	
	Hostellers	Day Scholars
Group 1: Degree and Post Graduate level professional courses	13500	7000
Group 2: Other Professional Courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate	9500	6500
Group 3: Graduate and Post Graduate courses not covered under Group I & Group II	6000	3000
Group 4: All post-matriculation (Post Class X level) non-degree courses	4000	2500

Note 1. Ten percent extra allowances shall be provided for Divyang students.

Note 2. Students pursuing C.A. /I.C.W.A. /C.S. /I.C.F.A. shall be treated as day scholars for the purpose of academic allowance. Students studying through correspondence/online courses shall not be eligible for academic allowance.

Note 3. The academic allowance as above shall be applicable from the year 2021-22. For the year 2020-21 the allowances as applicable under the earlier guidelines shall apply.

## **Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines**

7.3 The Academic Allowance will be linked with the Consumer Price Index Number for Industrial workers. The Annual increment will be applicable w.e.f. April of each year and will be based on Index for the period January-December of the preceding year. The first revision would be applicable w.e.f. April, 2022 and in this regard Department will issue separate orders on Annual basis.

7.4 The State Governments may, if they so decide, top up the academic allowance from their own resources.

### **8. Freeship Card and process for issue**

8.1 All eligible students shall be entitled to take admission in the institutions without pre-payment of tuition fees and hostel fees as per the Scheme Guidelines. To enable this, a FREESHIP CARD will be issued by the State Government to the eligible students, as per procedure detailed below. This Freeship card shall make the student eligible to study in the institution without pre-payment of the fees, and on the condition that as and when amount is released to the student's account, the institution would be intimated to collect the same from the student.

8.2 The student shall, well before the expected date of admission, register for issuance of a Freeship Card on the respective scholarship portal giving the details like the Aadhaar number, the name of the course in which he/she wants to take admission (e.g. MBBS, B.Sc., Class XI etc.) and an undertaking that the institution's charges would be paid within 7 working days from the date of receipt of the scholarship amount in his/her account. For the purpose of registration of Freeship Card, the portals shall remain open throughout the year.

8.3 The verification of the income, caste and merit details should be automatically done from the databases which are linked online for instant verification. The process should be entirely paperless. Until the above system is brought into effect, the documents may be scanned and uploaded which include: passport size photograph, copy of each of the certificates for diploma, degree etc. in respect of all examinations passed, Caste certificate duly signed by the authorized officer, valid Income certificate issued by the competent authority as prescribed by the State Govt. etc.

8.4 After the registration on the Portal, if the student is found eligible, all States/UTs will complete the verification process within 30 days from the receipt of the registration request from the students and issue the Freeship Card through the IT portal, mentioning the course



## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

for which application is made so that the eligible students are not denied admissions due to delay in depositing tuition fees. It should be possible for the student to download the Free Ship Card from the portal itself. Once complete digitization of all the required certificates is done, such Freeship Card shall be automatically generated immediately on registration, if the student is found eligible.

8.5 The Freeship Card shall contain the details given in Annexure-1, and shall be digitally signed. For the purpose of admission, the Freeship card will remain valid for period of one year from the date of issue.

8.6 If a student wants to change his/her course before taking admission in an institution, he can do so by logging on IT portal and a fresh Freeship Card shall be issued automatically for all eligible students.

8.7 In case of renewal students, there shall be no need for fresh registration for the Freeship card and a card once issued to him/her shall be valid for the entire duration of the course.

### 9. Application for Scholarship and Verification

9.1 **Application-on-the-day-of-admission:** The institutions shall ensure that all students admitted to their institution and having Freeship Cards issued as detailed in para 8 of these Guidelines, apply on the IT portal for the scholarship on the same day as the date of admission into the institution.

9.2 On the day of admission itself, the institution shall verify on the scholarship portal that the student has taken admission in the institution with the same course as mentioned on the Free ship card and is now a bonafide student of the institution.

9.3. In case of renewal students, the student shall be auto-renewed based on the attendance and confirmation from the institution of the student having been promoted to the next class and having joined back the same course as hosteller/day scholar, as the case may be.

### 10. Funding Pattern of the Scheme

10.1 There will be a 60: 40 sharing ratio between the Centre and States (90:10 in case of North Eastern States) of the average demand for the scheme for three year period 2017-18 to 2019-20 (to be considered as the base period), with a 5% overall annual increase each

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

year in the Central assistance for all States put together in absolute terms w.r.t. base period. The above shall be applicable from 2020-21 onwards and the scheme will be continued upto the financial year 2025-26.

10.2 Thus, for the purpose of determining the demand for the year 2020-21, the average demand of 2017-18 to 2019-20, or the actual demand for 2020-21, whichever is lesser, will be considered for each State/UT. For subsequent years i.e. 2021-22 & onwards, the Central assistance for all States put together will be limited by a 5% annual increase over the average demand for the scheme for the base period of 2017-18 to 2019-20, which shall be ensured by the Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) while appraising the States' Annual Action Plans. The Ministry will have the flexibility of adjusting the allocation of funds between the States subject to the total allocation approved, without disrupting the 60:40 sharing ratio between the Centre and the States.

10.3 If the total fund requirement is over and above the annual 5% limit, the central share will be limited to that and the additional requirement of funds, if any, shall be met by the State Governments from their own resources.

10.3. All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme will maintain the data of all the beneficiaries on their online portal and will distinctly mention the amount of scholarship under various components as mentioned in the Scheme.

### 11. Payment Mechanism

11.1 The entire scholarship amount - both from the State and Central Government - including the tuition fees, academic allowance and any other admissible allowance will be paid directly into the account of the students **ONLY** through DBT preferably through an Aadhaar Based Payment System (Aadhaar Payment Bridge) from 2021-22. The States shall preferably release the payments through PFMS System so that the accounts of the students are not required to be validated again.

11.2 Starting from 2021-22, the Central share in the scheme would also be released on DBT mode directly into the bank accounts of the students, after ensuring that the concerned State Government has released their share.

11.3 All the States/UTs/Centre would adhere to the following timelines for processing of the applications and release of scholarship amounts:

## **Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines**

- The scholarship portals would remain open throughout the year so that all eligible students can register for the Freeship Card and apply for the scholarships.
- Disbursal of scholarships for all applications (fresh/renewals) shall be made in one instalment as per the following schedule:

Dates of receiving of applications	Date by which State share (40%; 10% in case of NE States) should be released	Date by which Central share (60%; 90% in case of NE States) should be released
From 1 <sup>st</sup> April to 31 <sup>st</sup> July	15 <sup>th</sup> August	30 <sup>th</sup> August
From 1 <sup>st</sup> August to 30 <sup>th</sup> November	30 <sup>th</sup> December	26 <sup>th</sup> January
From 1 <sup>st</sup> December to 31 <sup>st</sup> January*	28 <sup>th</sup> February	15 <sup>th</sup> March
From 1 <sup>st</sup> February to 31 <sup>st</sup> March*	With 75 days of application	Within 90 days of application

\*Portal shall remain open only for submission of applications for scholarships for courses where admission is after November.

11.4 There shall be no delays in payment of the scholarships, For this purpose the State shall ensure that their installments are disbursed to the students by the timelines defined in previous para so that the Central share can also be released in time.

11.5 The Ministry of Social Justice vide notification number 428 dated Feb.16,2017 has notified Aadhaar as identity document under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act 2016 for all Scholarship Schemes w.e.f. 16<sup>th</sup> February 2017.

11.6 The authentication through Aadhaar would be compulsory at the time of renewals, if not provided earlier at the time of admission.

## **12. Duration and Renewal of Awards**

12.1 The award once made will be payable up to the completion of the course subject to satisfactory academic performance and attendance of 75% in every academic year. The attendance will be verified through Aadhaar based attendance System.

12.2 If a scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness, the award may be renewed subject to production of medical certificate from prescribed authority and acceptance of the same by institution /college.

12.3 If, according to the Regulations of a University/Institution, a student is promoted to the next higher class even though he/she may not have actually passed in lower class and is

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required to take examination of the junior class again after sometime, he/she will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he/she is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for scholarship. Further, in case a student fails in any class and then again joins the same class as a regular student, he/she will be eligible for scholarship for one additional year or the actual period, whichever is lower.

### 13. IT Framework

13.1. The scheme shall be run on an online platform with robust cyber security measures that would assure transparency, accountability, efficiency, and timely delivery of the assistance without any delays. The National Scholarship Portal (NSP) would be suitably modified for this purpose.

13.2. If any State is already a running online portal that fulfils all the laid down parameters, they can continue with it, but share the data on real-time basis to the National Scholarship Portal or any other portal as specified by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment in due course through instructions for enabling constant monitoring. Therefore, all States/UTs implementing the scheme will migrate to online processing of disbursement of scholarships, where not already done. The scholarship portal should mandatorily have the following features:

- a) The IT portal shall be integrated with the AISHE/UDISE portal for pulling the data about the institution in which the student has taken admission.
- b) At the time of registration for Freeship Card, every student should provide an Aadhaar ID/Aadhaar EID and other alternative form of ID as per this Ministry's notification no. 428 dated 16.02.2017 which will enable elimination of duplication and false claims. The Aadhaar authentication is mandatory in case of renewals, if not provided at the time of admission. The Aadhaar number entered by the students should go through demo-auth on real-time basis before allowing entry into the registration portal.
- c) The States shall undertake fool-proof verification of the eligibility, caste status, Aadhaar identification and bank account details on the online portal.
- d) There shall be no upload of any documents or any certificates into the system. All data should be auto-verified by linking databases through digilocker or any such

## Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines

mechanism, such as (i) school boards' results, including the CBSE/ICSE along with the certificates maintained by them; (ii) database of income certificates, domicile and caste certificates issued by State/District Administration and (iii) databases maintained by the Universities and Colleges, using Aadhaar number as the link.

- e) All verification process of the students should be done using the above authenticated databases automatically using the digital process with little or no manual intervention. There should be no system of verification by the institutions or even the district level officers. Till such time such a system is put in place, the manual verification shall be completed within 30 days from the date of application, with a provision for 'presumed approval' if the same is not completed within 30 days.
- f) A suitable system will be put in place for taking Aadhaar based attendance system which is non-intrusive and automatic. Till such a system is finalized by the Central Govt., the institution shall upload the attendance of the scholarship holder every month in the Attendance module that would be developed in the IT system.
- g) There shall be no system of calling for the bank account details of the students and authenticating it. All payments should preferably go through Aadhaar Based Payment System (APB – Aadhaar Payment Bridge) after checking the Aadhaar number with the NPCI mapper.
- h) The renewals should be automatic based on promotion to the next class and having the required attendance, subject to confirmation of the student having joined back the same course as hosteller/day scholar, as the case may be. There should not be any requirement for the student to apply for renewals.
- i) A performance module to monitor the progress of student as well as performance of the institution should be suitably designed and incorporated.
- j) Apart from this, the States shall maintain a complete database of the beneficiaries under various other scholarship schemes to ensure de-duplication of the beneficiaries.
- k) The portal shall incorporate an online grievance redressal mechanism linking all the authorities responsible for implementation on the scholarship portal.
- l) There shall be a provision indicating the students of the poorest households, as per the parameters provided under the Scheme, selected for scholarship.
- m) The portal will make arrangements so that the students, once declared blacklisted, may not be able to apply for scholarship again.

## ***Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines***

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### **14. Annual Action Plan**

14.1 Every participating State/UT, on or before 28<sup>th</sup> February of the preceding year, will prepare a State level Annual Plan for the PMS-SC scheme. In case the State has any other initiative on similar lines to PMS-SC, this may be mentioned separately in the Action Plan. The Action Plan should give clearly the targets, eligibility, proposed coverage separately for poorest households, processes for identification, identification of courses having employment potential, systems for monitoring etc.

14.2 The Department will constitute an Project Appraisal Committee to appraise and approve the Annual Action Plans. These plans would be appraised at the Centre and the outlay for each State would be finalized before 15<sup>th</sup> April, of every year as per the annual increase indicated under the funding pattern. The constitution of the committee will be informed through separate instructions.

### **15. Performance of the States/UTs**

15.1 The performance of the States/UTs would be measured annually on certain parameters like (i) payments as per the given time schedule (ii) coverage from the poorest households (iii) academic outcomes of the scholarship-holders (iv) Implementation of Aadhaar based attendance (v) Digitization of various certificates required for determining eligibility etc.

15.2. The States/UTs would be ranked on the above parameters and top performing States will be awarded. The details in this regard will be prepared after consultations, and will be shared through instructions in due course.

### **16. Announcement of the Scheme by States/UTs**

16.1 All the State Governments/UT Administrations will announce starting from April, the details of the Scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the State and through their respective websites/ Scholarship portals and other modes of media. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority on the portal specified for this purpose before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

### **17. Process of Registration and Application for the student**

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17.1 The student shall, well before the expected date of admission, register on the online scholarship portal for issue of a Freeship Card as detailed in Para 8.2 of these Guidelines.

17.2 On admission to the institution to a course mentioned in the Freeship Card, the student shall apply, on the day of the admission itself, for scholarship, giving details of the Freeship card and the course and institution admitted to.

17.3 Students continuing their courses for which they have already been sanctioned scholarship in the previous year, i.e. renewal students, shall, be automatically renewed for scholarship as detailed in para 8.7.

### **18. Evaluation/Social Audit and follow up action**

18.1. There shall be thorough evaluation of the outcomes of the scheme in regular intervals to ascertain the effectiveness of scheme implementation and for tracking the progress of the students. This may include conduct of social audits once a year, annual third-party evaluation, and half-yearly self-audited reports from each institution.

18.2. The social audits are to be conducted by the Social Audit Units of the State Governments formed by the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India duly meeting the cost from the administrative cost of the scheme.

18.3. The State Government shall also set up a robust monitoring mechanism for monitoring the academic progress of the students enrolled to the scheme.

18.4. The students who are found to be lagging behind should be provided remedial coaching so that their academic outcome shall not be less than the average academic outcomes. The State Action Plan should contain clear provisions for this.

18.5. In order to ensure proper accountability, physical verifications at various levels viz. Block/District/State levels shall be done by the States/UTs covering at least 10% of the institutions/students, chosen randomly through an algorithm. All private institutions offering courses at the level of graduation or above shall, however, be mandatorily inspected annually.

### **19. Administrative Charges**

19.1. The administrative cost for administration, monitoring and evaluation shall be limited to 1% of the annual outlay.

19.2. Each State/UT shall project the requirement of funds for undertaking the monitoring of the implementation, in its Annual Action Plan. In case, funds are required for Book,

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## **Post Matric Scholarship for SCs: Scheme Guidelines**

these may be indicated under the Administrative charges. This would be considered by the PAC, ensuring that the total outflow on this count does not exceed 1% of the annual outlay.

19.3. The PAC shall give first priority in approving administrative charges for development of IT infrastructure, setting up of Technical Support Group cum Project Monitoring Unit at the Central/State level and social audits.

### **20. Mechanism for redressal of grievances**

20.1. There shall be an online grievance redressal mechanism linking all the authorities responsible for implementation on the scholarship portal.

20.2. The student shall be able to lodge a grievance either through the portal or by a mobile app.

20.3. Every institution shall have a Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO) who is responsible for entertaining the grievances and resolving them by following up with the appropriate authority.

20.4. The non-resolution of the grievance at the institution level in a given time frame shall automatically be escalated to the district and later to the State level for resolution.

### **21. Other Conditions for the Award**

21.1. If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his/ her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government. The student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.

21.2. A scholarship awarded may be cancelled if the scholar changes the subject of the course of study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the institution of study, without prior approval of the State Government. The Head of the Institution shall report such cases to the State which will stop payment of the scholarship money. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the State Government.

21.3. A scholar is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by him/her.

21.4. The provisions of this scheme can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.

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**Government of India  
Ministry of Tribal Affairs**

**GUIDELINES**

**CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP FOR  
NEEDY SCHEDULED TRIBE STUDENTS STUDYING IN CLASSES IX & X**

(EFFECTIVE FROM 01-07-2012)

**1. BACKGROUND**

Article 46 of Part IV ("Directive Principles of State Policy") of the Constitution enjoins upon the State to promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, in particular, of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. Article 38(2) of the same Part also enjoins upon the State to minimize inequities in income and to endeavor to eliminate inequalities in status, facilities and opportunities, not only amongst individuals but also amongst groups of people residing in different areas or engaged in different vocations.

**2. OBJECTIVES**

Objectives of the scheme are:

- (a) To support parents of ST children for education of their wards studying in classes IX and X so that the incidence of drop-out, especially in the transition from the elementary to the secondary stage is minimized, and
- (b) To improve participation of ST children in classes IX and X of the pre-matric stage, so that they perform better and have a better chance of progressing to the post-matric stage of education.

**3. SCOPE**

Scholarship under the Scheme will be available for studies in India only and will be awarded by the Government of the State/Union Territory to which the applicant belongs i.e. where she/he is domiciled.

**4. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**

- (i) Student should belong to Scheduled Tribe
- (ii) Her/his Parents'/Guardian's income should not exceed Rs. 2.00 lakh per annum.

(iii) She / he should not be getting any other Centrally-funded Pre-Matric Scholarship.

(iv) She/ he should be a regular, full time student studying in a Government School or in a School recognized by Govt. or a Central/State Board of Secondary Education.

(v) Scholarship for studying in any class will be available for only one year. If a student has to repeat a class, she / he would not get scholarship for that class for a second (or subsequent) year.

#### 5. ANNUAL PARENTS'/GUARDIAN'S INCOME

Scholarships will be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupees two lakh only) per annum.

NOTE 1: So long as either of the parents is alive, only income of the parents, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account only and of no other member even though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken. Such students whose parent's income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of earning parents and resultantly comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such sad incidence takes place. Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after lapse of last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

NOTE 2: House rent allowance received by the parents of a student shall be exempted from the computation of 'income' if the same has been permitted to be exempted for the purpose of Income tax.

NOTE 3: Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

#### 6. VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The value of scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:-

- (i) scholarship and other grant,
- (ii) additional allowance for students with disabilities studying in private un-aided recognized Schools.

The details are as follows:

Rates of scholarship and other grant will be as follows:

Item	Day Scholars	Hostellers
Scholarship for 10 months (Rs. per month)	150	350
Books and Ad hoc Grant (Rs. per annum)	750	1000

**(iii) Additional Allowances for ST students with disabilities studying in private unaided Schools**

Under the Centrally-sponsored Scheme of 'Inclusive Education of the Disabled at Secondary Stage' (IEDSS) implemented by the M/o HRD, assistance @Rs.3000/- p.a. is already being given under its "Student Oriented Component" to students with disabilities studying at the Secondary stage in Govt., local body and Govt. aided schools. However, students in un-aided schools are not covered under IEDSS. Therefore, ST students with disabilities, studying in classes IX & X in private un-aided recognized schools, will be eligible for allowances under this Scheme, as follows:

Allowances for students with disabilities studying in Private un-aided Schools	Amount (in Rs.)
(i) Monthly Reader Allowance for Blind students	160
(ii) Monthly Transport Allowance for students with disabilities (as defined in the Persons with Disabilities Act 1995), if such students do not reside in the hostel which is within the premises of the Educational Institution.	160
(iii) Monthly Escort Allowance for Severely Disabled (i.e. with 80% or higher disability) Day Scholars/Students with low extremity disability	160
(iv) Monthly Helper Allowance admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopedically handicapped student residing in the hostel of an Educational Institution who may need the assistance of a helper.	160
(v) Monthly Coaching Allowance to Mentally Retarded and Mentally ill Students	240

**Note:** The disability as defined under the Persons with disabilities (equal opportunities, Protection of rights and full participation Act, 1995) Act has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Govt./UT Administration.

**7. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES:**

(i) All eligible Scheduled Tribe candidates will be given scholarships as prescribed in this scheme

(ii) Candidates belonging to one State but studying in another State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authority in that State.

#### **8. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS**

(i) The scholarship will be payable for 10 months in an academic year.

(ii) The award once made will continue subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed for Class X after the student passes Class IX.

#### **9. PAYMENT OF SCHOLARSHIP**

(i) Scholarship is payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year, provided that if the scholar secures admission after the 20<sup>th</sup> day of a month, the amount will be paid from the month following the month of admission.

(ii) In case of renewal of scholarship, it will be paid from the month following the month upto which scholarship was paid in the previous year.

(iii) The Government of the State/Union Territory Administration, to which they belong, in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard, will pay the scholarship money to the selected students.

#### **10. CONDITIONS FOR CONTINUATION OF THE AWARD**

(i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the student. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution/School at any time that a student has by reasons of his/her own act of default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarships or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.

(ii) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government/ UT Administration. The student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.

(iii) A student is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government/ UT Administration, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by him/her.

**SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS TO  
THE STUDENTS BELONGING TO SCHEDULED  
TRIBES FOR STUDIES IN INDIA**

**REGULATION GOVERNING THE AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIP  
(APPLICABLE FROM 01.07.2010)**



**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS  
NEW DELHI.**

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF TRIBAL AFFAIRS**

**SCHEME OF POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS TO THE STUDENTS  
BELONGING TO SCHEDULED TRIBES FOR STUDIES IN INDIA**

**REGULATION GOVERNING THE AWARD OF SCHOLARSHIP  
(APPLICABLE FROM 01-07-2010)**

**I. OBJECT**

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the Scheduled Tribe students studying at post matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.

**II. SCOPE**

These scholarships are available for studies in India only and are awarded by the Government of the State/Union Territory Administration to which the applicant actually belongs i.e. where permanently settled.

**III. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY**

- (i) The scholarships are open to nationals of India.
- (ii) These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognised post-matriculation for post-secondary courses pursued in recognised institutions with the following exceptions :

"Scholarships are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft Maintenance Engineer's Courses and Private Pilot Licence courses, courses at Training – Ship Dufferin (Now Rajendra), courses of training at the Military College, Dehradun and courses at pre-examination training centres of all India and State levels."

- (iii) Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Tribes so specified in relation to the State/Union Territory to which the applicant actually belongs (i.e. permanently settled) and who have passed the Matriculation or Higher

Secondary or any higher examination of a recognized University or Board of Secondary Education, will be eligible.

- (iv) Candidates who after passing one stage of education are studying in the same stage of education in a different subject e.g. I.Sc after I.A. or B.Com after B.A. or M.A. in other subject will not be eligible.
- (v) Students who, after having completed their educational career in one professional line, wish to study for another profession e.g. LLB after B.T./B.Ed. will not be eligible. From the academic year 1980-81, however, studies in two professional courses are allowed.
- (vi) Students studying in Class XI of Higher Secondary Schools which have a continues school course of 12<sup>th</sup> class will not be eligible. However, in cases where the X class examination of such courses is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students after passing tenth class can join other courses, such students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the award of scholarships.
- (vii) Students pursuing post-graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are not allowed to practice during the period of their course.
- (viii) Students who after failing or passing the under graduate/post-graduate examinations in Arts/Science/Commerce join any recognised professional or technical certificate/diploma/degree courses will be awarded scholarships if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned except courses in *Group I*, and no further change in the course will be allowed.
- (ix) Students who pursue their studies through correspondence courses are also eligible. The term correspondence includes distant and continuing education.
- (x) Employed students who take leave without pay for the entire duration of the course and study as full time students will be eligible for scholarships.

From the academic year 1980-81, employed students whose income combined with the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed the maximum prescribed income ceiling are made eligible to post-matric scholarships to the extent of reimbursement of all compulsorily payable non-refundable fees.

- (xi) All children of the same parents/guardians will be entitled to receive benefits of the scheme.
- (xii) A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other scholarship/stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/stipend, the student can exercise his/her option for either of the two scholarships/stipends, whichever is more beneficial to him/her and should inform the awarding authority through the Head of the Institution about the option made. No scholarship will be paid to the students under this scheme from the date he/she accepts another scholarship/stipend. The student can however, accept free lodging or a grant or adhoc monetary help from the State Government or any other source for the purchase of books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging in addition to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.
- (xiii) Students who have already received coaching in any of the pre-examination training centres with financial assistance from the Government will not be eligible.

**NOTE 1 :** Since it is clearly mentioned under the item III (condition of eligibility) of these regulations that the scholarship will be given for the study of all recognised post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognised institutions, the list of courses grouped (I to IV) is, thus, only illustrative and not exhaustive. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations are, thus, themselves competent to decide the appropriate grouping of courses at their level as advised vide Ministry of SJ & E's letter No.11017/13/88-Sch.Cell, dated 3.8.1989.

IV.

#### MEANS TEST

Scholarships will be paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed *Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rs. two lakh only)* per annum.

**NOTE 1:** So long as either of the parents (or husband in the case of married unemployed girl student) is alive, only income of the parents/husband, as the case may be, from all sources has to be taken into account and of no other member even



though they may be earning. In the form of income declaration, income is to be declared on this basis. Only in the case where both the parents (or husband in the case of married but unemployed girl student) have died, the income of the guardian who is supporting the student in his/her studies has to be taken. Such students whose parents' income is affected due to unfortunate death of one of earning parents and resultant comes within the income ceiling prescribed under the scheme, shall become eligible for scholarship, subject to their fulfilling other conditions of eligibility, from the month in which such sad incidence takes place. Applications for scholarships from such students can be considered even after lapse of last date of receipt of applications, on compassionate grounds.

**NOTE 2:** House rent allowance received by the parents of a student shall be exempted from the computation of 'income' if the same has been permitted to be exempted for purpose of Income-tax.

**NOTE 3:** Income certificate is required to be taken once only i.e. at the time of admission to courses which are continuing for more than one year.

**NOTE 4:** The revised income ceilings account for Consumer Price Index for Industrial workers *upto October, 2009*. Income Ceiling would be revised once in every two years linking it with Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers *for the month of October of the year, preceding the year of revision and will be made effective from April.*

#### V. VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP

The value of scholarship includes maintenance allowance, provision for students with disabilities, reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees, Study Tour Charges, thesis typing/printing charges and book allowance for students pursuing correspondence courses, for complete duration of the course.

The details are given below:-

(i) Maintenance Allowance:

Group	Courses	Rate of Maintenance Allowance (in Rupees per month)	
		Hostellers	Day Scholars
Group I	<p>(i) Degree and Post Graduate level courses including M. Phil., Ph.D. and Post Doctoral research in Medicine (Allopathic, Indian and other recognized systems of medicines), Engineering, Technology, Planning, Architecture, Design, Fashion Technology, Agriculture, Veterinary &amp; Allied Sciences, Management, Business Finance /Administration, Computer Science/ Applications.</p> <p>(ii) Commercial Pilot License (including helicopter pilot and multiengine rating) course.</p> <p>(iii) Post Graduate Diploma courses in various branches of management &amp; medicine.</p> <p>(iv) C.A./I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc.</p> <p>(v) M. Phil., Ph.D. and Post Doctoral Programmes (D. Litt., D.Sc. etc.) :-  a) In existing Group II courses  b) In existing Group III courses</p> <p>(vi) L.L.M.</p>	1200	550

<b>Group II</b>	(i) Graduate/ Post Graduate courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B Pharma), Nursing (B Nursing), LLB, BFS, other para-medical branches like rehabilitation, diagnostics etc., Mass Communication, Hotel Management & Catering, Travel/Tourism/Hospitality Management, Interior Decoration, Nutrition & Dietetics, Commercial Art, Financial Services (e.g. Banking, Insurance, Taxation etc.) for which entrance qualification is minimum Sr. Secondary (10+2). (ii) Post Graduate courses not covered under Group-I e.g. M.A./M.Sc./M.Com./M. Ed./M. Pharma etc.	820	530
<b>Group III</b>	All other courses leading to a graduate degree not covered under Group I & II e.g. BA/B Sc/B Com etc.	570	300
<b>Group IV</b>	All post-matriculation level non-degree courses for which entrance qualification is High School (Class X), e.g. senior secondary certificate (class XI and XII); both general and vocational stream, ITI courses, 3 year diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.	380	230

**NOTE 1: Commercial Pilot License Course (CPL):** CPL course is covered under Group 'I'. The number of awards for CPL will be 10 per annum. The selection of 10 ST students for CPL course will be made through Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA). Applications for CPL course will be invited through advertisement. Interested ST students may apply for selection for grant of scholarship for pursuing

*CPL course.* Selected candidates shall be provided a maintenance allowance at rates applicable to *Group 'I'* courses i.e. *Rs.1200/-* per month for hostelers and *Rs.550/-* per month for day scholars. In addition all compulsory fees, including flight charges are to be provided as fee.

**NOTE 2 :** M.Phil and Ph.D courses are post-graduation courses. Scholarship to such students may be paid at the rates of maintenance allowance for *Group 'I'* or *'III'* depending on the course under these groups.

**NOTE 3 :** Normally the term 'Hostel' is applicable to a common residential building and a common mess for the students run under the supervision of the educational institution authorities. In case the college authorities are unable to provide accommodation in the college Hostel, an approved place of residence can also be treated as Hostel for the purpose of this scheme. The place will be approved by the Head of the Institution after due inspection and keeping in view the rules and regulations laid down by the University, if any. In such case, a certificate to the effect that the student is residing in an approved place of residence as he is unable to get accommodation in the college hostel should be furnished by the Head of Institution.

It is further clarified that such deemed hostels should consist of such accommodation as is hired at least by a group of 5 (five) students living together, usually with common mess arrangements.

**NOTE 4.** Scholars who are entitled to free board and/or lodging will be paid maintenance charge at  $1/3^{rd}$  of the rate for Hostellers

**(II) Additional Provision for ST students with disabilities**

**(A) Reader Allowance for blind Scholars**

<u>Level of Course</u>	<u>Reader Allowance (Rs. Per month)</u>
<i>Group I, II</i>	240
<i>Group III</i>	200
<i>Group IV</i>	160

**(B) Provision of transport allowance upto Rs.160/- per month for disabled students, if such student does not reside in the hostel, which is within the premises of educational institution. The disability as per the Persons with Disabilities (Equal**

Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995 is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-cured, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation and mental illness.

(C) Escort Allowance of Rs.160/- per month for severely handicapped day scholar students with low extremely disability.

(D) Special Pay of Rs.160/- per month is admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in hostel of an educational institution, who may need the assistance of a helper.

(E) Allowance of Rs. 240/- per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students.

The provisions in (B) to (D) will also apply to leprosy -cured students.

Note 1: The disabled students belonging to Scheduled Tribes covered under the Scheme can also get such additional benefits from other Schemes, which are not covered under the scheme.

Note 2: The disability as defined under the said Act has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Govt./UT Administration.

### (iii) Fees

Scholars will be paid enrolment/registration, tuition, games, Union, Library, Magazine, Medical Examination and such other fees compulsorily payable by the scholar to the institution or University/Board. Refundable deposit like caution money, security deposit will, however, be excluded.

**NOTE:** Compulsory non-refundable fee charged by recognized institutions against free and paid seats of recognized courses can be fully reimbursed as per the fee structure approved by the competent State/Central Government authority. However, while sanctioning scholarship against paid seat, State Governments would make the income verification compulsory.

(iv) **Study Tours**

Study tour charges upto a maximum of *Rs.1600/-* per annum, limited to the actual expenditure incurred by the student on transportation charges etc. will be paid to the scholars studying professional and technical courses, provided that the head of the institution certifies that the study tour is essential for the scholar for completion of his/her course of study.

(v) **Thesis Typing/Printing Charges**

Thesis typing/printing charges upto a maximum of *Rs.1600/-* will be paid to research scholars on the recommendation of the Head of the Institution.

(vi) **Correspondence courses including distance and continuing education**

The students pursuing such courses are also eligible for an annual allowance of *Rs.1200/-* for essential/prescribed books, besides reimbursement of course fees.

VI.

**SELECTION OF CANDIDATES**

- (i) All the eligible Scheduled Tribes candidates will be given scholarships subject to the application of Means Test prescribed in these Regulations.
- (ii) Candidates belonging to one State but studying in other State will be awarded scholarships by the State to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent authorities in that State. In the matter of exemption from fees or other concessions also they will be treated as if they were studying in their own State.

VII.

**DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS**

- (i) The award once made will be tenable from the stage at which it is given to the completion of course subject to good conduct and regularity in attendance. It will be renewed from year to year provided that within a course which is continuous for a number of years, the scholar secures promotion to the next higher class irrespective of the fact whether such examinations are conducted by a University or the Institution.
- (ii) If a Scheduled Tribe scholar pursuing *Group I* course fails in the examination for the first time, the award may be renewed. For second and subsequent

failure in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.

- (iii) If a scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness and/or on account of any other unforeseeable event, the award may be renewed for the next academic year on submission of medical certificate and/or other required sufficient proof to the satisfaction of the Head of the Institution and his/her certifying that the scholar would have passed had he/she appeared in the examination.
- (iv) If according to the Regulations of a University/Institution, a student is promoted to the next higher class even though he/she may not have actually passed in lower class and is required to take examination of the junior class again after sometime, he/she will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he/she is promoted if the student is otherwise eligible for scholarship.

#### VIII.

#### PAYMENT

- (i) Maintenance allowance is payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year (including maintenance allowance during holidays), provided that if the scholar secures admission after the 20<sup>th</sup> day of a month, the amount will be paid from the month following the month of admission.
- (ii) In case of renewal of scholarship awarded in the previous years, maintenance allowance will be paid from the month following the month upto which scholarship was paid in the previous year, if the course of study is continuous.
- (iii) The Government of the State/Union Territory Administration, to which the student belongs, in accordance with the procedure laid down by them in this regard, will pay the scholarship money to the selected students.
- (iv) Scholarship will not be paid for the period of internship/housemanship in the M.B.B.S. course or for a practical training in other course if the student is in receipt of some remuneration during the internship period or some allowance/stipend during the practical training in other course.

IX.

OTHER CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD

- (i) The scholarship is dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholars. If it is reported by the Head of the Institution at any time that a scholar has by reasons of his/her own act of default failed to make satisfactory progress or has been guilty of misconduct such as resorting to or participating in strikes, irregularity in attendance without the permission of the authorities concerned etc., the authority sanctioning the scholarship may either cancel the scholarship or stop or withhold further payment for such period as it may think fit.
- (ii) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statements, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered, at the discretion of the concerned State Government. The student concerned will be blacklisted and debarred for scholarship in any scheme forever.
- (iii) A scholarship awarded may be cancelled if the scholar changes the subject of the course of study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the Institution of study, without prior approval of the State Government. The Head of the Institution shall report such cases to them and stop payment of the scholarship money. The amount already paid may also be recovered at the discretion of the State Government.
- (iv) A scholar is liable to refund the scholarship amount at the discretion of the State Government, if during the course of the year, the studies for which the scholarship has been awarded, is discontinued by him/her.
- (v) The regulations can be changed at anytime at the discretion of the Government of India.

X.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SCHEME

All the State Governments will announce in May-June, the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the State and through other media outlets. All requests for application forms and other particulars should be addressed to the Government of State/Union



Territory Administration to which the scholars actually belong. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

XI.

**PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING**

- (i) An application for scholarship should comprise:
  - (a) One copy of the application for scholarship in the prescribed form (separate application forms as have been prescribed for 'fresh' and renewal scholarship by concerned States/UTs).
  - (b) One copy of the passport size photograph with signatures of the student thereon (for fresh scholarship).
  - (c) One attested copy of certificates, diploma, degree etc. in respect of all examinations passed.
  - (d) A certificate (in original) of Caste duly signed by an authorised Revenue Officer not below the rank of Tehsildar.
  - (e) An income declaration by the self-employed parents/guardians, stating definite income from all sources by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper. Employed parents/guardians are required to obtain income certificate from their employer and for any additional income from other sources, they would furnish declaration by way of an affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper.
  - (f) A receipt in acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year on the form attached to the application only duly counter-signed by the Head of the Institution concerned, if the applicant was in receipt of a scholarship under this scheme in the preceding year.
- (ii) Application complete in all respects shall be submitted to the Head of the Institution, being attended or last attended by the candidates and shall be addressed to an officer specified for this purpose by the Government of State/Union Territory to which the student belongs, in accordance with the instructions issued by them from time to time.

XII.

**FUNDING PATTERN OF THE SCHEME**

The Scheme is implemented by the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations, which receive 100% central assistance from Government of India, over and above their respective Committed Liability. The level of Committed Liability of respective State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for a year is equivalent to the level of actual expenditure incurred by them under the Scheme during the terminal year of the last Five Year Plan Period and is required to be borne by them for which they are required to make required provision in their own budget. The North Eastern States have, however, been exempted from making their own budgetary provisions towards Committed Liability from Ninth Plan Period (1997-2002) onwards and the entire expenditure under the Scheme in respect of them will be borne by Government of India.

**NOTE :** Additional Committed Liability on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010 shall be passed on to State Governments/U.T. Administrations at the end of the XII Five - Year Plan period (w.e.f. 01-04-2017), and not after the XI Plan period.

*All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the Scheme will:-*

- (i) furnish data of beneficiaries and expenditure under the scheme, to Government of India, regularly in the Quarterly Reports prescribed for this purpose. Financial assistance given under the Scheme shall not be utilized for any other purpose.*
- (ii) designation Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) at the State and District levels to redress students' scholarship-related grievances.*

### **XIII. BOOK BANK FOR SCHEDULED TRIBE STUDENTS**

#### **OBJECT**

The object behind the Scheme is to establish Book Banks in each Medical (including Indian systems of Medicine and Homeopathy), Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Polytechnics, Law Course, Chartered Accountancy, MBA and Bio-Sciences to Scheduled Tribe students who can not afford expensive education but for adequate state support. The inability of these students to buy costly text books, results in large number of failures and drop outs which retards the upliftment of Scheduled Tribes.

#### **SCOPE**

These 'Book Banks' are to be set up in all the Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Law and Veterinary Degree Colleges and Institutes imparting Chartered Accountancy, MBA and alike Management Courses and Polytechnics where Scheduled Tribe students receiving Post Matric Scholarship under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to Scheduled Tribes for studies in India belonging to the parent state or from other state, are studying. Purchase of books for these 'Book Banks' will be restricted to the prescribed text books for the entire courses for recognized Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary, Law Courses, Chartered Accountancy, MBA, Bio-Sciences and Polytechnic courses being pursued by ST students therein. The set of text books will be purchased for 2 such ST students at various stages except in respect of Post-graduate courses and Chartered Accountancy where it will be one set for each student. However, the ratio of sets and students will have to be adjusted to the total number of sets that could be procured within the total resources allocated to the State concerned. The State Government may constitute an expert group consisting of members from selected colleges of different regions to decide the adequate number of text books in a set (not reference books) required for each course. Thereafter estimate may be worked out keeping in view the price of cheap Indian editions. The State Government may

constitute a set within the total cost of text books. The life period of one set of books has been fixed at 3 years.

**XIV. COURSE-WISE PATTERN OF ASSISTANCE**

Central assistance to States/UTs for setting up of Book Banks is limited to the following ceiling or actual cost of a set, whichever is less:-

**I. Degree Courses Cost of one set  
(1 set for 2 students)**

1.	Medical	Rs. 7,500/-
2.	Engineering	Rs. 7,500/-
3.	Veterinary	Rs. 5,000/-
4.	Agriculture	Rs. 4,500/-
5.	Polytechnic	Rs. 2,400/-

**II. Post-Graduate Course**

(A). Post Graduate courses in Medical, Engineering, Agriculture and Veterinary courses and such other technical/alike courses as are approved by the Universities/Institutes of higher learning.	Rs. 5,000/- 1 set per student
(B). Law courses, L.L.B. (3 years and 5 years) L.L.M. (2/ years)	Rs. 5,000/- 1 set per student
(C). Chartered Accountancy (inter-mediate and final)	Rs. 5,000/- 1 set per student
(D). M.B.A. (2 years) and similar courses	Rs. 5,000/- 1 set per student
(E). Bio-Science	Rs. 5,000/- 1 set per student

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (HQs)									
Details of Pre-Matric Scholarship provided to students of KVS by Govt. (From 2017-18 to 2021-22)									
2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (In Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (In Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees) as on 31.01.2022
10234	19570688	10195	17222568	10634	22296521	9092	21552570	7436	6773035

Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (HQs)									
Details of Post-Matric Scholarship provided to students of KVS by Govt. (From 2017-18 to 2021-22)									
2017-18		2018-19		2019-20		2020-21		2021-22	
No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (In Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (In Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees)	No. of Beneficiaries received scholarship (SC/ST)	Amount received (in Rupees) as on 31.01.2022
690	2073593	818	4496050	2012	7569855	2121	8505305	852	821585