



OFFICE OF THE PRINCIPAL
KHAGARIJAN COLLEGE

P.O : Chotahaibor, Nagaon(Assam), PIN:-782003

ESTD: 1972

Office-03672-230085, Mobile:9864403390, 8638726781

E-mail:khagarijancollege1@gmail.com

Ref.No :-

Date: -

From,
Dr. Ramesh Nath, M.Sc, B.Ed, Ph.D
Principal & Secretary

Supporting Document for

5.1.1:

Percentage of students benefited by scholarships and freeships provided by the institution, government and non-government bodies, industries, individuals, philanthropists during the last five years

Principal
Khagarijan College

Principal
Khagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

DHE Guidelines for Freeship

(76)



GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT (C) DISPUR, GUWAHATI-6

P.B
30/7/18

No. AHE-489/2018 Pt./229

Dated Dispur, the 26th July, 2018

C O R R I G E N D U M

The following Para/Clauses in the Govt. Office Memorandum No.AHE.489/2018 Pt. 229 dated 25-05-2018 is hereby corrected as follows

Para No.	Existing	Please read as
Para-2	"In case of H.S. and B.A./B.Sc/B.Com course, those students whose fees were waived last year will also be eligible to avail the scheme for the second year admission. For M.A./M.Sc./M.Com, the benefit of the scheme is applicable for Previous Year/ 1 st semester admission only for the current academic year and the scheme will not cover those who are being admitted into second year of M.A./M.Sc./M.Com, this session."	"In case of H.S. and B.A./B.Sc/B.Com course, those students whose fees were waived earlier will also be eligible to avail the scheme for the second year and third year admission. For M.A./M.Sc./M.Com, the benefit of the scheme is applicable for Previous Year/ 1 st semester admission only for the current academic year and the scheme will also cover those who are being admitted into second year of M.A./M.Sc./M.Com this session and whose fees were waived last year."
Para-7	Fee to be waived under the Scheme during 1 st Year and 2 nd Year Admissions	Fee to be waived under the Scheme during 1 st Year, 2 nd Year and 3 rd Year Admissions.
Para-7 Column-1 2 nd row	2 nd Year	2 nd and 3 rd Year admission
Para-7 Column-2 2nd row	M.A./M.Sc./M.Com	Previous and final year admission
Para-7 Column-3 2nd row	1 st year Admission in the session 2018-19	1 st year Admission in M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. for the session 2018-19 and for those admitted with no fee during the session

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Para-8	Only on receipt of recommendation from the committee, the student can avail 2 nd year fee waiver. This will be effective from the session 2019 (applicable to those who benefited under the scheme during 2018 session). Students availing the second year fee waiver benefit during the Current Year shall submit photograph of the sapling planted by them during 2017 to the College authority and the college authority shall scrutinize the authenticity of the same and allow the candidate accordingly.	Only on receipt of recommendation from the committee, the student can avail subsequent year fee waiver. This will be effective from the session 2019 (applicable to those who benefited under the scheme during 2016-17 and 2017-18 session). Students availing the fee waiver benefit during the Current Year shall submit photograph of the sapling planted by them earlier to the College authority and the college authority shall scrutinize the authenticity of the same and allow the candidate accordingly.
Para-9	This should be done from the Academic Year 2017-18 Last Year.	This should be done from the Academic Year 2016-17 onward.

The other terms and condition laid down in the order will remain the same

Sd/-
(Ajay Tewari, IAS)
Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department.

Memo No AHE.489/2013, Pt. 229-A

Dated Dispur, the 26th July, 2018

Copy to:-

1. The PS to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble CM
2. The PS to the Hon'ble Minister, Education, Assam for information
3. P.S. to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department for kind intimation of the Principal Secretary
4. P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Finance Department for kind intimation of the Principal Secretary
5. The Director of Higher Education, Assam for necessary action; He will

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DHE Guidelines for Freeship

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT (C) GUWAHATI-06.

No. AHE.639/2018/11

Dated Dispur, the 29th May, 2019

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub: Scheme for Waiver of admission fees tuition fees etc. for Students taking Admission in H.S., Degree and M.A./M.Sc./M.Com Course.

Hon'ble Finance Minister, Assam while presenting the Annual Budget for the Financial Year 2019-20 has announced in para 48 to 49 of the Budget Speech 2019-20 that to this effect, we had announced several benefits including provision of admission fee waiver to upto degree level students whose parents' annual income is less than Rs. 1 lakh. From 2019-20, for free admission, we will enhance the parental income level of Rs. 1 lakh to Rs. 2 lakh.

1. **Aim:** The aim of the scheme is access to the poor students of the State and to help them achieve the benefits of Higher Education.
2. **Scope and Applicability:** The Scheme will be applicable to the students seeking admission into 1st Year of H.S./B.A./B.Sc./B.Com and M.A./M.Sc./M.Com courses. Students taking admission in any self-financing course are not eligible under this scheme. In case of H.S. and B.A./B.Sc./B.Com course, those students whose fees were waived earlier will also be eligible to avail the scheme for the second year and third year admission. For M.A./M.Sc./M.Com the benefit of the scheme is applicable for Final Year for those whose fees were waived earlier.

3. **Institutes incorporated under the scheme :**

- i. All Provincialized and Govt. Colleges
- ii. Gauhati University, Guwahati
- iii. Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh
- iv. Bodoland University, Kokrajhar
- v. Cotton University, Guwahati
- vi. Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit & Ancient Studies University, Naibari
- vii. Women's University, Jorhat.

This scheme will not cover Private Colleges, Private Universities and Central Universities situated in Assam. The Scheme will be applicable to students pursuing higher education in Colleges and Universities of Assam in the categories stated above.

4. **Applicability :**

Category of students eligible under the scheme:

1. Students whose parental annual income is less than Rs. 2.00 lakh from all source will be eligible to avail the scheme.

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A declaration from the students that neither of the parents (father or mother) of the student is an employee of State/Central Govt. Department or its Undertaking. Such form shall be devised by the concerned Registrars/Principals. If such a declaration is found to be false, the admission shall be cancelled and fee shall be realized from such students.

6. **Power of Admission Committees:** The Admission Committees of the concerned Colleges and Universities shall have the power to enquire into the income of the family in case of doubt in regard to students and if the committee is of the view that the income of the parents exceeds Rs, 2.00 Lakh, the Committee may recommend cancellation of admission notwithstanding documents submitted by the student. Such enquiry may commence suo moto by the institute or on a complaint received against any student availing benefit under this scheme. The Category of Institutes coming under the purview of the Scheme shall constitute such committees comprising of Senior Teachers. The Principal/ Registrar of the institution shall observe due diligence and will not allow any undeserving candidates. The Director of Higher Education will make random check of income certificate and disciplinary action may be taken against the student/ official, or principal.

7. **Fee to be waived under the Scheme:**

Year	Category of Admission	Nature of Fees to be Waived
1 st Year/ New Admission	Higher Secondary, B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./ and M.A./M.Com/M.Sc. Session 2019-20	All Fees that a College or University realizes from Students in Normal Course rate not to exceed than the fee realized Last year i.e 2018-19 session
2 nd Year and 3 rd Year admission	For those admitted in B.A./B.Sc./B.Com. with no fee during the session 2017-18 and 2018-19.	Colleges will realize only Magazine fees, Games & Sports fees and College Week Fees. All other fees will be exempted. This benefit will accrue to those students who were admitted under this scheme during 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19 session
Final year admission	M.A./M.Sc./M.Com. for the session 2019-20 for those admitted with no fee during the session 2018-19	

8. **Duties and Responsibilities of Students availing the Scheme :**

Students seeking admission into 1st year will plant a sapling at his/her College or at his/her home and shall give photograph of the same to the college, The student has to nurse the sapling and while seeking admission into second year shall give photograph of the same tree that was planted during previous year. A Scrutiny Committee shall be constituted comprising teachers from Biology background who shall examine the photographs and will assess the genuineness of the Photographs and growth of the plant. If the College does not have science

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Principal
Khagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

9. **Responsibility of Colleges and Universities:** All Colleges and Universities will be required to upload the names of students admitted availing fee waiver benefit, in this respective website.

10. **Marking at the reverse of Mark Sheet of candidate given free admission:**

- The Colleges giving free admission under this scheme shall give one endorsement at the reverse of relevant mark sheet of the student so that the student does not seek free admission in multiple colleges.
- The Colleges and Universities will devise Rubber Seal and use the seal at the reverse of mark sheets of the beneficiary students.

The Colleges and Universities will send the requirement for reimbursement of fund in prescribed proforma together with name of students availing the benefit under the scheme within 45 days of admissions so that the Director can move Govt. for release of fund to institutes.

Sd/-

Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department.

Memo No. AHE.639/2018/11-A

Dated Dispur, the 29th May, 2019

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Education, Assam for for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Minister.
3. P.S. to the Addl. Chief Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department for kind appraisal of Addl. Chief Secretary.
4. P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Finance Department for kind appraisal of Commissioner & Secretary.
5. The Director of Higher Education, Assam for necessary action : He will communicate the order to all the Principals through posting it in his website.
6. The Director of Information & Public Relations Assam for wide publicity.
7. Guard file

[Handwritten Signature] 29/5/19

Jt. Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department.

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Principal
Khagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
DISPUR: GUWAHATI-6

Dated, Dispur the 10th June, 2020

NO. AHE.639/2018/16

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Considering the situation arising out of COVID 19, the Government of Assam is pleased to waive all fees relating to admission and all other categories including examinations, festivals, publication, excursions, fees for laboratories, students union fees, college weeks, magazine fees, games & sports fees, cost of prospectus, registration fees etc. for the academic session 2020-21 irrespective of the income or the economic status of their parents.

The benefit of fee waiver will cover State Universities, Govt. Colleges, Provincialised Colleges under Directorate of Higher Education, Assam and all institutions under Directorate of Technical Education, Assam including Engineering Colleges and Polytechnic Institutes.

However, fee waiver will not include Self-financing Courses of the Colleges/Institutes and hostel admission fees. Further, hostel admission fee should not be increased during the current year. Also hostel mess dues should not be part of the fee waiver scheme.

The entire fees which will be waived, will be reimbursed by the Govt. within 30 (thirty) days from the date of receipt of the claims from the respective Colleges/Institutes. The Universities and Colleges shall project claims in terms of the uniform fees structures as notified vide No. AHE.347/2-18/12 dtd. 01.06.2019.

The Director of Higher Education, Assam and the Director of Technical Education will not wait for the demand to be received from all institutes. Even if demand is received from a single institute, the proposal will be processed for re-imburement.

The above scheme will be applicable to the students domicile from Assam only.

Sd/- Preetom Saikia, IAS
Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam,
Higher Education Department.

Dated, Dispur the 10th June, 2020

Memo No. AHE.639/2018/16-A

Copy to:-

1. The Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Health & F&W Department. He is requested to issue similar instructions for the Colleges/Institutions under his jurisdiction.
 2. The Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Agriculture Department. He is requested to issue similar instructions for the Colleges/Institutions under his jurisdiction.
- ... Education etc Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Minister.

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Nagaon (Assam)



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6-9-2021

**GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
ASSAM SECRETARIAT (C) GUWAHATI-06**

Dated the Dispur, 6th September, 2021

No.AHE.354/2021/8

OFFICE MEMORANDUM

Sub:- Scheme fee waiver of admission fees tuition fees etc. for students taking Admission In H.S. / Degree and M.A./ M.Sc./M. Com Course.

In continuation of FEE WAIVER scheme under Pragyani Bharti for free admission in H.S. / Degree and M.A./ M.Sc./M. Com Course under Higher Education Department, the scheme will continue for the year 2021-22 for those whose parental income is below Rs. 2 lakh.

1. **Aim:** The aim of the scheme is access to the poor students of the State and to help them achieve the benefits of Higher Education.
2. **Scope and Applicability:** The Schemes will be applicable to the students seeking admission into 1st year of H.S./B.A./B.Sc./ B.Com and M.A./M.Sc/M.Com course. Students taking admission in any self-financing course are not eligible under this scheme. In case of H.S. and B.A./B.Sc./B.Com course, those students whose fees were waived earlier will also be eligible to avail the scheme for the second year and third year admission. For M.A./M.Sc./M. Com the benefit of the scheme is applicable for Final year for those whose fees were waived earlier.
3. **Institutes incorporated under the scheme:**
 - i. All Provincialized and Govt. Colleges.
 - ii. Gauhati University, Guwahati. / Dibrugarh University, Dibrugarh. / Bodoland University, Kokrajhar. / Cotton University, Guwahati. / Kumar Bhaskar Varma Sanskrit & Ancient studies University, Nalbari. / Women's University, Jorhat. / Bhattadev University, Bajali. / Rabindranath Tagore University, Hojai / Madhabdev University, Lakhimpur. / Majuli University of Culture, Majuli. / Sati Sadhini Rajiyik Viswavidyalaya.

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Principal
Nagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

This scheme will not cover Private Colleges, Private Universities and Central

- ii. A declaration from the students that neither of the parents (father or mother) of the students is an employee of State Central Govt. Department or its undertaking. Such form shall be devised by the concerned Registers/ Principal. If such a declaration is found to be false, the admission shall be cancelled and fee shall be realized from such students.

6. **Power of Admission Committees:** The Admission Committees of the concerned Colleges and Universities shall have the power to enquire into the income of the family in case of doubt in regard to students and if the committee is of the view that the income of the parents exceed Rs. 2.00 lakh, the committee may recommended cancellation of admission notwithstanding documents submitted by the student. Such enquiry may commence suo moto by the institute or on a complaint received against any student availing benefit under this scheme. The Category of Institutes coming under the purview of the Scheme, shall constitute such committees comprising of Senior Teachers. The Principal/Registrar of the institution shall observe due diligence and will not allow any undeserving candidates. The Director of Higher Education will make random check of income certificate and disciplinary action may be taken against the student/ official or principal.

7. Fee to be Waiver under the Scheme:

Year	Category of Admission	Nature of Fees to be Waived
1 st Year/ New Admission	Higher Secondary, B.A./B.Sc./B.Com./ and M.A./M.Com./M.Sc. Session 2021-22	All Fees that a College or University realizes from students in Normal Course rate not to exceed than the fee realized last year i.e. 2020-21 session
2 nd year and 3 rd admission	For those admitted in B.A./B.Sc./B.Com with no fee during the session 2019- 20 and 2020-21.	Colleges will realize only Magazine fees, Games & Sports fees and College Week Fees. All other fees will be exempted. This benefit will accrue to those students who were admitted under this scheme during 2018-19, 2020-21 and 2021-22 session.
Final year admission	M.A./M.Sc./M.Com for those admitted with no fee during the session 2020-21	

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Nagaon (Assam)

9. **Responsibility of College and Universities:** All Colleges and University will be required to upload the names of students admitted availing fee waiver benefit, in the respective website.

10. **Marking at the reverse of Mark sheet of candidate given free admission:**

- The Colleges giving free admission under this scheme will give one endorsement at the reverse of relevant mark sheet of the student so that the student does not seek free admission in multiple Colleges.
- The Colleges and Universities will devise Rubber seal and use the seal at the reverse of mark sheets of the beneficiary students.

The Colleges and Universities will send the requirement for reimbursement of fund in prescribed pro forma together with name of students availing the benefit under the scheme within 45 days of admissions so that the Director can move Govt. for release of fund to institutes.

Sd/-

Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam.
Higher Education Department.

Memo No354/2021/8-A

Dated the Dispur, 6th September, 2021

Copy forwarded for information and necessary action to:

1. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Chief Minister.
2. The P.S. to the Hon'ble Minister, Education, Assam for kind appraisal of Hon'ble Minister.
3. P.S. to the Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Higher Education Department for kind appraisal of Addl. Chief Secretary.
4. P.S. to the Commissioner & Secretary to the Govt. of Assam, Finance Department for kind appraisal of Commissioner & Secretary.
5. The Director of Higher Education, Assam for necessary action: He will communicate the order to all the Principals through posting it in his website.
6. The Director of Information & Public Relations Assam for wise publicity.
7. Guard file.

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6/9/21

Deputy Secretary to the Govt. of Assam.
Higher Education Department.

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Principal
Khagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

DHE Guidelines for Freeship

GOVERNMENT OF ASSAM
HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
DISPUR, GUWAHATI-8

ORDERS BY THE GOVERNOR

Dated Dispur the 13th September, 2021

NOTIFICATION

No.AHE.354/2021/11 : In continuation of this Department's OM issued vide No.AHE.354/2021/8 dtd.06/09/2021 and No.AHE.354/2021/9 dtd.10/09/2021, the Governor of Assam is pleased to notify that -

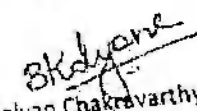
1. As an alternative to the Income Certificate issued by the Circle Officer as stated in the OM, the Head of the Institution from where a student has passed out may also issue an Income Certificate for the purpose of the Fee Waiver Scheme and the same shall be accepted by the Institution admitting the student.


OR

2. The Head of an Institution where a student is seeking admission may admit a student under Fee Waiver Scheme if he/she is satisfied that the annual income of the parents of the student is below Rs.2.00 lakh per annum, by recording their satisfaction and issuing an Income Certificate in favour of the student for this purpose.

OR

3. The student or his/her parents may submit a Notary Affidavit in respect of his/her Annual Income for availing the Fee Waiver Scheme which shall be accepted by the Institution.
4. The Income Certificate so submitted by the candidate will have to be verified by Competent Authority within one year and action as per law will be taken against anyone where submission of false Certificate is established.
5. The College Authority may give admission to the students without examining the original marksheet. However, the admitted students must produce their original marksheet on or before 15th October/2021, otherwise, the admission will be cancelled.


(Dr. B Kalyan Chakravarty, IAS)
Principal Secretary to the Govt. of Assam
Higher Education Department


Principal
Chaganijam College
Nagaon (Assam)

Khagarijan College Poor Fund Policy Document



KHAGARIJAN COLLEGE POOR FUND

Chotahaibar, Nagaon, Assam, 782003

(Policy Document)

GUIDELINES FOR PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIP/ FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE UNDER POOR FUND, KHAGARIJAN COLLEGE

- **Objectives:**

The khagarijan College **Poor Fund** is constituted mainly to help the Economically Weaker Sections/Low Income family to meet the cost of the admission, examination form fill-up while pursuing degree in the institution.

- **Scope of the Poor Fund:**

The Scholarship is awarded the students who are pursuing their higher education in the Institution after completion of Higher Secondary Courses. The fund will cover the students of B.A. 1st, 2nd and 3rd Years on conditions. The fund will cover all categories of students.

- **Allocation of Fund:**

The Poor Fund Scholarship is disbursed by the Poor Fund Committee formed by the management and reconstituted from time to time by the authority. After receipt of the application or approach from the student, the Committee seats in the meeting and depending on the Fund position of the college, they take decision about the disbursement of scholarship.

- **Eligibility Criteria for selection of beneficiary:**

- Students whose family income is less than one lakhs will be selected.
- Student must be pursuing his/her higher studies in the institution.
- For II & III year students there should no back in previous examination
- Students have to apply to the Hol of the institution.

- **Announcement of the Scheme:**

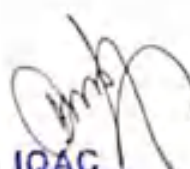
- Announcements are made for Scholarship as soon as the Government Schoiarship Portais are open.
- For the smooth conduction of the Scholarship System in different schemes, the college has a Faculty member as NODAL TEACHER along with the technical assistance.
- The college abide by the rules and regulations framed by the Central and State Government for issuance of schoiarship.

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Nagaon : Assam



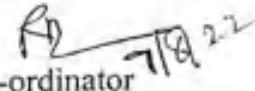
**POOR FUND COMMITTEE
KHAGARIJAN COLLEGE
(For the session 2020-21)**

1. Dr. Ramesh Nath (Chairperson)
2. Rayhanul Ahmed (Co-ordinator)
3. Dr. Swapan Jyoti Nath (Member)
4. Dr. Rameswar Kurmi (Member)

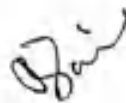

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Khagarijan College
Nagaon : Assam

NOTICE

It is hereby informed that a meeting of Poor fund committee will be held on 10/08/2020 at Principal's Chamber at 2:00 pm to discuss following agenda. So, all the members are requested to attend the same.


Co-ordinator
(Rayhanul Ahmed)

1. Discussion on notification.
2. Discussion on Strategies of disbursement.
3. Others.



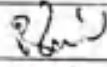


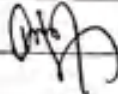


A meeting of the Peer Fund Committee is convened on 10/08/2020 in the Principal's chamber at 2 PM under the Presidency of Chairman of Peer Fund Dr. Ramesh Nath, to discuss the following agenda.

Agenda

1. Taking chair of President
2. Inaugural speech by Co-ordinator
3. Discussion of Scholarship
4. Discussion of Nominations
5. Discussion of Fund
6. Others

Signature of members:-

1. Dr. Ramesh Nath (Chairman) 
2. Rayhanul Ahmed (Co-ordinator) 
3. Dr. Seepan Jyoti Nath (Member) 
4. Dr. Rameswar Karmi (Member) 

The meeting of Peer Fund is started after taking the Chair of President. The co-ordinator of the committee Rayhanul Ahmed explained the aims and objectives of the meeting. Every members of the committee expressed their views on the above mentioned agenda.

After the long discussion on the the above agenda the following discuss decisions were resolved unanimously.

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R.No-01 It is resolved that the committee will notify a notice before 13th September on college notice board for information of students.

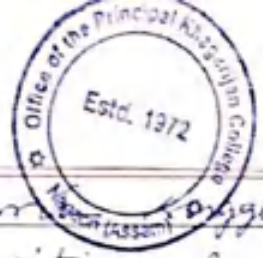
R.No-02 It is resolved that the amount of disbursement of a poor fund is fixed Rs-30,000/- for the session of 2020-21 session.

R.No-03 It is resolved that the last date of submission of application is fixed on 30th August 2020.

R.No-04 It is resolved the amount of financial assistance is fixed at Rs-2,000/- only and the number of incumbents will be 30.

R.No-05 It is resolved that the committee will follow the guidelines of the Khagazijan College Poor Fund at the time of the selection of beneficiaries.

At last the President of the meeting expressed his thanks to all the members for present at the meeting and expect of



expressed his views on the organization towards the activities of the committee and he declared the meeting came to an end.

Confirmed
Baid
2/5/20
Principal
Khagenijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

Post Matric Scholarship Guidelines for SC



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

CTC

Principal
Khagarijan College
Nagaon (Assam)

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./C.W.A./C.S./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 LLB, LLM

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

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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 schema as per the entitlements for that **particular year**.

g) "**Freship 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.

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- 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.

5. 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.
- 5.6 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

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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.

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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 10th or 12th 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

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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.

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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

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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

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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:

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- o 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.
- o 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 st April to 31 st July	15 th August	30 th August
From 1 st August to 30 th November	30 th December	26 th January
From 1 st December to 31 st January*	28 th February	15 th March
From 1 st February to 31 st 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. 18th 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

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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.


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14. Annual Action Plan

14.1 Every participating State/UT, on or before 28th 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 15th 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 on 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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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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Annexure-I

The following important parameters should be contained in the FREE SHIP CARD

Name of the Student

Student's ID on the portal

Fathers' Name-

Aadhaar Card Number-

Caste

Date of Birth

Annual Family income

Domicile State-

Address of the Student

Course (in which admission is sought)-

Duration of Course-

Class (presently studying)-

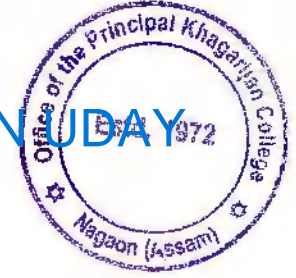
Class (Last class previously studied)-

Major provisions of the scheme

Student's undertaking to reimburse the amount to institution within 7 days after receipt of scholarship

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Post Matric Scholarship Guidelines for ISHAN UDAY



UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION

NEW DELHI

GUIDELINES FOR "ISHAN UDAY" SPECIAL SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR NORTH EASTERN REGION

1. BACKGROUND

The Ministry of HRD and the University Grants Commission has taken special interest with regard to promotion of higher education in the NE. For improving the GER, promoting higher education and for encouraging children belonging to economically weaker section of the NE region, the UGC has decided to launch "IshanUday" Special Scholarship Scheme for North Eastern Region from academic session 2014-15. Before launching the scheme the UGC undertook wide ranging consultations with State Governments and Central & State Universities of the NE region, the Ministry of HRD, the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region, the North Eastern Council, Shillong and other stakeholders.

2. OBJECTIVES

- 1) To provide equal opportunities for higher studies in NE Region.
- 2) To increase the Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in NE Region.
- 3) To focus more on professional education in NE Region.
- 4) Optimum utilization of NER Budgetary Allocation.

3. SCOPE

Ten thousand (10,000) fresh scholarships every year beginning from the academic year 2014-15 for general degree courses, technical and professional courses, including medical and para-medical courses as certified by the Registrar/ Principal/ Director of University/ College/ Institute.

- Students with domicile of NER, whose parental annual income does not exceed Rs.4.5 lakh per annum from all sources.

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- Passed XII or equivalent in the preceding year of study i.e. 2017 for applications called for during year 2017-18.
- Secured admission in first year of any degree course, either general degree course of technical/professional/ medical/ paramedical course (Integrated courses included) in any of the following University/ College/ Institute :-
 - Universities/Institutions/Colleges included under Section 2(f) and 12 (B) of UGC Act.
 - Deemed to be Universities included under Section 3 of the UGC Act, 1956 and eligible to receive grants-in-aid from UGC.
 - Universities/Institutions/Colleges funded by Central / State Government.
 - Institutes of National Importance.
 - Institutions recognized by other Statutory councils within as well as outside
 - The admission should have been made in University/ Institution/ College with AISHE code.

Note: 1) For students of integrated degree courses, scholarship will be tenable for the complete duration of the course.

2) For dual degree course, the scholarship will only be tenable for the tenure of first degree.

➤ For availing scholarship under this scheme, the income of the parents of the student should not exceed Rs.4.5 lakh per annum.

➤ Transgender candidates are eligible to apply under the scheme. The reservation shall be followed as per Government of India norms.

5. EXCLUSIONS

The following shall not be eligible under this scheme-

- 1) Students pursuing courses/programs through Open Universities.
- 2) Students already availing scholarship for pursuing the Undergraduate programme under any other scheme(s).
- 3) Students gaining admission through 'management quota'.
- 4) Students pursuing courses, such as Diploma Courses, not leading to award of a Degree.
- 5) Students whose parents' income exceeds Rs.4.5 lakh per annum pursuing courses, such as Diploma Courses, not leading to award of degree.

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6. SLOTS

- UGC will award 10,000 (ten thousand) fresh scholarships per year.
- Allocation of slots for each State shall be done based upon the population (latest census report) of the respective State. If the slots remain vacant in any particular State, the unfilled slots shall be distributed equitably among other States.
- There shall be three Percent horizontal reservation for differently-abled persons.

7. AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIP

Rs.5400/- per month for general degree course and Rs.7800/- per month for technical/medical/professional/paramedical courses.

8. PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING FOR THE SCHEME

- Applications will be invited once in a year on the National e-Scholarship Portal of the Government of India. Short notification will also be uploaded on the UGC website.
- At the time of applying, the course will be classified as general degree or professional by the concerned University/ Institution/College.
- Incomplete applications will be summarily rejected. Only verified online applications will be considered for award of scholarship.

9. SELECTION PROCEDURE

- 10,000 (ten thousand) fresh scholarships will be awarded every year.
- Distribution of slots amongst the states of NER will be done on the basis of population census(last).
- If slots in a particular state remain vacant due to non-availability of eligible candidates, the unfilled slots will be distributed equitably amongst other states.
- Reservation for Persons with Disability (PwD) will be made as per Government of India norms.

10. JOINING

The scholar would be awarded from the date of joining the course as certified by the University/ Institution/ College.

11. DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIP

- After selection, the awardees will be paid scholarship on DBT mode.
- The list of awardees will be pushed to Public Financial Management System (PFMS) by the NIC.

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- PFMS will generate payment files on the basis of the nomenclature of course being pursued by the awardee (general degree/ technical/ medical/ professional/ paramedical). Payments will be generated on annual basis.

12. RENEWALS

- Scholarship granted under the scheme will be kept renewed during the period of first degree course, subject to good conduct and maintenance of prescribed attendance.
- The scholarship will be renewed for the next year of study on receipt of an annual progress report to be granted by the administrative head of the University/ Institution/ College.(E.g. Registrar of a University/ Director of the Institution/ Principal of the College or any other officer designated by them).
- Students failing to get promoted to the next class/ level would forfeit the scholarship.
- Change in course of study will not be permitted. If the awardee changes the course of study, the scholarship will stand forfeited from the date of such a change.
- Scheme will be implemented and monitored by the UGC.
- The awardees of previous years will continue to follow the UGC pattern of assistance through the designated bank branches of Canara Bank.

13. PROCEDURE FOR DISBURSEMENT

Scholarship (as certified by the institutions identified under this scheme) will be paid to the selected students by the UGC through DBT (Direct Benefit Transfer) Mode and will be transferred to the Bank account of the beneficiaries. This procedure will be completed through the PFMS.

14. DOCUMENTS

The following documents will be uploaded at the time of applying under the scheme on the NeSP.

1. Domicile certificate to be issued by the competent authority.
2. Proof of annual income to be issued by the competent authority.
3. For renewals, the annual progress report and continuation of studies will be required to be uploaded/ verified by the concerned University/ Institution/ College.

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Post Matric Scholarship Guidelines for ST

No.20014/5/2002-Education,
Government of India
Ministry of Tribal Affairs
Education Division



Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 23rd May, 2013

To
The Principal Secretary/Secretaries,
Tribal Development Department,
All States/UTs
(Except Haryana, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry)

Subject: Upward revision of the annual parental income ceiling under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students w.e.f. academic session 2013-14.

Sir,

Kindly refer to my D.O. letter No.20014/33/2012-Education dated 9.4.2013 seeking proposal from your Department for Central Assistance under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students for the financial year 2013-14. In this context, I am directed to refer to the above mentioned subject and to say that as per the above scheme, the income ceiling would be revised once in every two years linking it with the 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.

2. Accordingly, it has been decided, with the approval of the Competent Authority, to increase the annual parental income ceiling under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for Scheduled Tribe students from Rs.2.00 lakh to Rs.2.50 lakh per annum w.e.f the academic session 2013-14 (to be effective from 1.4.2013).

3. You are requested to send your proposals for Central Assistance keeping in view the above income ceiling. The proposals, complete in all respects in the proforma prescribed under the scheme and already sent to you vide the D.O. letter mentioned in Para 1 above may please be sent along with the following documents:-

- The utilization certificate of the previous year's released grants.
- Details of the Committed Liability on the State Government/UT Administrations (a proforma attached for ready reference).
- Physical progress achieved during the last financial year.
- Details of preparedness of the States to roll out DBT across the country.

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4. I am also directed to invite your attention to the deliberations that took place during the course of consultation with State's Principal Secretaries/ Secretaries/Commissioner-in-Charge/Directors of Tribal Development/Welfare Departments held in New Delhi on May 16-17, 2013 in which compliance of the following key tasks in connection with DBT roll out was discussed:-

> **Digitization of data base**

States/UTs must digitize the beneficiary database and convert data in excel sheets to standardized formats developed by the NIC (details available on <http://dbtapp.gov.in>). The digitization of databases should begin in all districts irrespective of the rollout of DBT and States are to report in the meeting complete action on digitization.

> **Obtaining of Digital Signature Certificates of designated officers at District and State level**

Obtaining of Digital Signature Certificates (D.S.C.s) for designated offices at district and State level is necessary for verification and authorization of beneficiary list and a necessary condition for the excel sheet to be an authorized data base on which payment decisions will rest. States/UTs were required to urgently designate officials at District and State levels and the designated officials were to apply for Digital Signature Certificate to respective NIC State Unit and contact local NIC officials for training in <http://dbtapp.gov.in>. Compliance of these instructions was to be completed by 30th April, 2013. States may be updated in the meeting.

> **Opening of bank accounts of the beneficiaries**

States/UTs may ensure that all ST beneficiaries of the scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for STs have bank accounts. They may urgently pursue with lead banks for speedy opening of bank accounts in respect of beneficiaries which do not yet have accounts in banks with Core Banking System so as to enable payment of scholarship amount into the bank a/c of the beneficiaries.

> **Enrolment of beneficiaries for generation of Aadhaar numbers and seeding of bank accounts with Aadhaar numbers.**

The States may in cooperation with UIDAI organize special Aadhaar Enrolment Camps in war-footing for the ST beneficiaries in each district at appropriate location(s) to ensure that all have Aadhaar numbers at the earliest. The existing status may be reported in the meeting. After Aadhaar enrolment of beneficiaries, the States are required to pursue with the lead banks for expediting the Aadhaar seeding of their bank accounts so that payment of scholarships into bank accounts of the beneficiaries can be made through the Aadhaar Payment Bridge (APB).

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➤ **Re-engineering of Fund Flow**

The DBT system seeks to ensure that the flow of funds to the beneficiaries under the various schemes is made more efficient by removing such redundant layers which do not contribute value to decision making. There are redundant layers of procedure and sometimes only aggregate data leading to delay and inefficiency. Process re-engineering of the scheme and its architecture is therefore necessary at State level as well as at levels below. This must be in both decision making as well as funds flow. In order to ensure that the State share of the scholarship amount is paid into the bank account of the beneficiary speedily by passing through the minimum number of layers possible, the manner of deciding which levels in government will be part of selection/ authorization process and which levels participate in the fund flow route of the Post Matric Scholarships for STs in each State is to be urgently re-engineered and the Ministry informed of the completion of the exercise.

➤ **Training**


NIC to coordinate training of state/ district level functionaries. State and district teams of trainers to get ready through training by NIC in the next two weeks. Progress on arranging this tie up be reported.

➤ **Monitoring Rollout and reporting of progress in I & II Phase.**

A robust monitoring system for monitoring the rollout should be put in place by the State/UTs and intimated to this Ministry. The States may formulate an Action Plan with timelines for completing the above mentioned preparatory work so as to ensure successful rollout of DBT in the Phase II districts w.e.f. 17.3.2013. Weekly progress report in prescribed format must be provided to the nodal officer DBT in the Ministry by every Thursday.

5. It is requested that your compliance report in respect of the above mentioned key issues may also please be sent immediately to Ms. Shyla Titus, Deputy Secretary (DBT) in this Ministry under intimation to the undersigned.

Yours faithfully,


(Roopak Chaudhuri)

Deputy Secretary to the Government of India
☎: 011-23070508

Copy to File No.20014/33/2012-Education.

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Proforma

Proforma of the Committed Liability of the State Governments/UT Administrations for every year of the 12th Five Year Plan period under the Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship for ST students

The Committed Liability of the State Governments/UT Administrations for every year of the 12th Five Year Plan is calculated as the total actual expenditure (State Share + Central Share) incurred for the year 2011-12 minus additional actual expenditure for the years 2010-11 & 2011-12 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010.

The details may please be furnished as follows:-

[Rs. in lakh]

Total Expenditure incurred (State Share + Central Share) during 2011-12	Rs.
Minus: Additional actual expenditure for the years 2010-11 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010	Rs.
Minus: Additional actual expenditure for the years 2011-12 paid in during 2011-12, if any, on account of the revision of the Scheme w.e.f. 01-07-2010	Rs.
Thus, Committed Liability of the State Government for every year of the 12 th Five Year Plan	Rs.

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Post Matric Scholarship Guidelines
for ST

**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.**

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**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 12th 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 schoiarships 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 S.J & 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

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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 resultanty 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.

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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 & 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 & 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

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Group II	(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
Group III	All other courses leading to a graduate degree not covered under Group i & II e.g. BA/B Sc/B Com etc.	570	300
Group IV	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


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CPL course. Selected candidates shall be provided a maintenance allowance at rates applicable to Group 'I' courses i.e. **Rs.1200/- per month** for hostellers 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 'II' 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 1/3rd 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>
Group I, II	240
Group III	200
Group IV	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

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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 extremity 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.

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(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

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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 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 maintenance allowance 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 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.

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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 outfits. 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 Tahsildar.
 - (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.*

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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

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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

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Note: The said sets of books will also include Braille Books, Talking Books, Cassettes for the visually Handicapped students.

The essential books purchased, limiting the amount to the ceilings indicated above are to be supplied to the ST students in instalments, depending on the course, semester structure etc.

The life span of one set of books has been fixed at 3 years so as to ensure that Book Banks beneficiaries have access to the latest books/editions. At the end of 3 years these books may be kept in the library of the concerned institution for loan to other ST students until such time as the books remain relevant and serviceable. Thereafter the books may be disposed off by the institution in the same manner as the books in the library subject to the guidelines, if any, of the State Government/UT Administration in this regard. Purchase of text books for these Book Banks is restricted to the prescribed text books for the entire course referred to above.

XV. PREFERENCE TO GIRL STUDENT AND HANDICAPPED STUDENTS

While selecting students for 'Book Bank' Scheme the State/UT should set a target to be implemented, wherever possible, that at least 30% of the beneficiaries are girl ST students and at least 3% disabled ST students.

XVI. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Central assistance for the setting up of 'Book Banks' will be given for the purchase of prescribed text books for Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary and Polytechnic courses and Post-Graduate courses in Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Veterinary courses and such other technical/alike courses as are approved by the Universities/institutions of higher learning, Law Courses, Chartered Accountancy (Inter-mediate and final), MBA and Bio-Sciences limited to the amount as indicated above or actual cost of a set, whichever is less.

For storage of books and contingencies etc., the cost of steel almirah for storing books of each 'Book Banks' including contingencies like transportation etc. the following expenses are admissible.

- (i) Rs. 2000/- or actual cost whichever is less.

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- (ii) 5% of the grant may be earmarked for expenses on binding, stitching etc.

XVII. PLACEMENT OF FUNDS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE SCHEME

The total expenditure on the scheme of 'Book Banks' will be shared between the Central and the State Government on matching grant basis (50:50) (100% central assistance to the UT Administration). State Govt. may consider making the Heads of the Institutions responsible for the running of the Scheme and place funds at their disposal.

XVIII. SUBMISSION OF DATA

The State Governments UT Administrations will inform the Government of India about the amount allotted college-wise specifying the number of sets to be purchased for that college and the number of beneficiaries.

XIX. UTILIZATION OF FUNDS

Financial assistance given under the Scheme shall not be utilized for any other purpose. If the college concerned fails to utilize the grant for the purpose for which it is given, the amount shall be refunded to the Central Government. The State Government/UT Administration should furnish statement of Expenditure and Utilization Certificates.

XX. DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS TO STUDENTS

The following rules shall govern the distribution of books to the students:

- (i) Each ST student will be provided with an identity card for this purpose.
- (ii) Each ST student will be required to submit the requisition for borrowing books from the Book Bank in a form to be provided for this purpose.
- (iii) Books will be suitably distributed among the ST students keeping in view the norm that one set is meant for 2 students for the entire course, except in respect of Post-Graduate courses and other courses as stated in para XIV (I) & XIV (II) above.

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- (iv) The books should be returned to the Book Bank at the end of each term. The Principal of the College/Institution will make every effort to ensure that those students who complete their course or those who drop out in the middle, return the books belonging to the Book Bank.
- (v) It is the responsibility of the student concerned to maintain the books supplied to them from the Book Bank, in good condition.
- (vi) Any case of loss or damage to the books would attract penalty. In case of serious damage or loss of books, the student concerned will have to bear the cost of the book.

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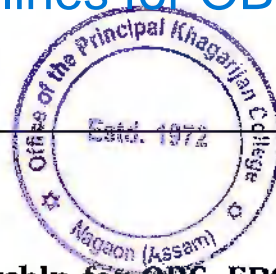
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REFERENCES :

Sl. No.	Para number of Regulations	No. and date of letter of Ministry of SJ&E.
1	III(v)	No.11917/37/79/SC&BCD-III dated 20-6-1980
2	III(x)	No.11017/23/-80-SC&BCD-III dated 21-6-1980
3	III(xi),III(xii)	No.11017/4/97-SCD-V dated 10-7-1998
4	IV Note 1	No.11017/2/94-Sch.Cell dated 29-12-1995
5	IV Note 2	No.11017/1/92-Sch.Cell dated 14-2-1996
6	IV Note 3	No.11017/10/94-Sch.Cell dated 22-7-1994
7	IV Note 4	No.11017/8/97-Sch.Cell dated 3-4-1998
8	V Group 'A' (I)	No.11017/1/93-Sch.Cell dated 7-4-1995
9	V(I) Note 1	1. No.11017/2/91-Sch.Cell dated 24-7-1992 & 2. No.11017/9/91-Sch.Cell dated 1-2-1994
10	V(I) Note 2	No.11017/2/92-Sch.Cell dated 8-4-1994
11	V(I) Note 3	No.11017/11/93-Sch.Cell dated 31-3-1995
12	XI	No.11017/4/97-SCD-V dated 10-7-1998
Ministry of Tribal Affairs' Circular		
13	V (i),(ii),(iv)(v). (vi) IV, XIII	No. 20014/10/2000-TDA (Vol. III) dated 19-2-2004.
14	V (iii)	No. 20014/10/2000-TDA (Vol. IV) dated 29-5-2006
15	V (i) Note 1.	No. 20014/4/2006-Education dated 9-8-2006
16	IV	No. 20014/5/2002-Scheme/Education dated 3-7-2007
17	V (iii)	No. 20014/10/2000-Education (Vol. IV) dated 5-7-2007
18	V (iii)	No.19012/85/2006-Education dated 28-9-2007
19	V (iii)	No.19012/85/2006-Education dated 27-11-2007
20	XII	No. 20014/1/2007-Education dated 19-12-2007
21	V (iii)	No.19012/85/2006-Education dated 04-03-2008

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(B) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT Students for studying in India

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to the OBC, EBC and DNT students studying at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them to complete their education.

2. SCOPE

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

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 LL B, L.L.M (vi) Commercial Pilot License Courses from GoI institutes (including helicopter pilot and multiengine) (maximum 20 slots per annum)

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 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. BA / 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) **"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.

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

- iii. and Universities /Colleges recognized under section 2(f) of UGC Act; 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.

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 .

5. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

- i. The scholarships will be open to Indian nationals belonging to OBCs, EBCs and DNTs, as notified by the Central Govt./State Govt./ UT Admin.
- ii. These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognized institutions as specified in para 3 above.
- iii. Only those candidates who belong to OBCs/EBCs/DNTs so specified in relation to the State/UT 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 different subject e.g. B.Sc. after B.A or B.Com.after B.A. or M.A. in a subject after M.A in another snbject will not be eligible.
- v. Students who, after having completed their educational career in one professional line, e.g., LLB after B.T/B. Ed will not be eligible.
- vi. Students studying in XI Class of the Higher Secondary School courses or the XII class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible for it being a continuous school course. However, in cases, where tenth class examination of such courses is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students who after passing tenth class 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 only 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 recognized professional or Technical certificate/diploma/degree courses will be awarded scholarships if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be condoned except for courses in Group 'I' and no further change in the course will be allowed thereafter.

ix. 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.

x. Only two boys of the same parents/guardian will be entitled to receive scholarships. This restriction will, however, not apply to girls. Accordingly, scholarship availed by girls of same parents/guardian will not adversely affect admissibility of availing scholarship upto two boys of same parents/guardian.

xi. A scholarship holder under this Scheme will not hold any other scholarship/ stipend. If awarded any other scholarship/ stipend, the students 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 any other scholarships/ 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 books, equipment or for meeting the expenses on board and lodging, in addition to the scholarship amount paid under the Scheme.

xii. Scholarship holders who are receiving coaching in any of the pre-examination training centers with financial assistance from the Central Government/ State Government will not be eligible for stipend under the coaching schemes for the duration of the coaching programme.

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

xiv. Employed students whose income combined with the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum shall be eligible for post -matric scholarship.

xv. Unemployed students whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs. 2.50 lakh per annum will be entitled for the scholarship under the scheme.

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Note 1: Income Certificate is required to be taken once only; i.e. at the time of admission of courses, which are continuing for more than one year.

Note 2: 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:

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:

- a) 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;
- b) That the fees for courses are duly approved by the Fee Fixation/Fee Rationalization Committee set up by the competent authority.

6. ROLE OF THE STATE GOVERNMENTS

6.1 All the OBC/EBC/DNT 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 OBC/EBC/DNT households with three or more deprivations as per SECC-2011 (ii) students from OBC/EBC/DNT 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.

6.2 States/UTs may adopt methodology suitable to the local conditions for identification of such students e.g. OBC/EBC/DNT majority districts /blocks/villages may be taken first for identification of poorest students or students leaving class 10th or 12th 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 enroll and avail scholarships. Such students will be helped for identification of courses also as per their skills.

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6.3 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.

6.4 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.

6.5 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.

6.6. 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 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.

6.7 The State Governments shall strive to put in place a scholarship portal that has all features and share the data on a real-time basis with the Central portal.

6.8 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.

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

6.10 The State Govt./UTs are required to adhere Deptt. of Expenditure, (MoF), Gol's OM No. 1(13)/PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23rd March, 2021 regarding the procedure for release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and monitoring utilization of funds with a view to have more effective cash management and bring more transparency in the PEM. The procedure will be followed by all the State Governments and UTs regarding release and monitoring of funds under CSS.

7. COMPONENTS OF THE SCHOLARSHIP

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

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Category of courses	Yearly (in Rs)		
	Academic Allowance	Tuition Fee	Total
Group 1: Degree and Post Graduate level professional courses	10000	10000	20000
Group 2: Other Professional Courses leading to Degree, Diploma, Certificate	8000	5000	13000
Group 3: Graduate and Post Graduate courses not covered under Group I & Group II	6000	2000	8000
Group 4: All post-matriculation (Post Class X level) non-degree courses	5000	0	5000

Note 1. 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 2. Tuition fees shall be paid to online/correspondence students.

7.2 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 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. PROCEDURE FOR APPLYING 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, along with documents needs to be uploaded as notified by the prescribed authority, 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 Freeship 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. SELECTION OF CANDIDATES



All the eligible OBC/EBC/DNT candidates will be given scholarships subject to the condition of eligibility prescribed in the Scheme, Candidates belonging to one State, but studying in another State, will be awarded scholarship 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 fee or other concessions also, they will be treated as studying in their own State.

11. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF AWARDS

11.1 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.

11.2 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.

11.3 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 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.

11.4 If a scholar is pursuing Group 1 course fails in the examination for the first time, the award may be renewed. For second and subsequent failures in any class the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher class.

12. PAYMENT MECHANISM

12.1 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.

12.2 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.

12.3 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.

12.4 30% of the funds allocated earmarked for girl students and 5% for students with disabilities.

12.5 Depending on availability of funds, first preference in disbursement of scholarships would be given to students of Government Institutions and then to students of Government aided institutions and thereafter disbursement will be made to the students of unaided private institutions.

12.6 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.

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

13. ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE SCHEME

13.1 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.

14. 'FUNDS-LIMITED' NATURE OF THE SCHEME

14.1 Due to budgetary constraint and 'funds limited' nature of the existing Scheme, it is not possible for the Central Government to meet the entire demand of the States/UTs. Therefore, a Notional Allocation (NA) under the Scheme shall be conveyed at the beginning of the financial year to States/UTs in proportion to total population as per census. The States/UTs are expected to send proposals within the notional allocation.

14.2 States/UTs will sub-allocate their NA, district-wise and group-wise, for all non-professional courses. Such sub-allocation would not be necessary for professional courses, as institutions of professional education tend to be concentrated in major cities/centres. However, the State Government is expected to lay down criteria for selection for award of scholarship under both types of courses, professional and non-professional, to the extent of available funds, based on merit-cum-means.

14.3 States will earmark at least 25% of the total outlay under the Scheme for Group 4 courses which include Class-XI and XII and all other post-matriculation level non-degree courses, diploma courses in polytechnics etc. Such earmarking would encourage more target

students to join entry-level courses of tertiary education which would enable them subsequently to take up courses leading to higher qualifications.

14.4 Central assistance given to a State/UT would have to be first utilized to cover renewal cases (i.e. students already awarded scholarships during the previous years against Central Assistance), and only the balance amount left may be utilized to cover new cases.

14.5 The proposal or Central Assistance should be accompanied with the details of physical and financial progress in the prescribed proforma.

14.6 As the total demand of the States/UTs cannot be covered under the Central Assistance, the States/UTs shall provide remaining scholarship grants to the eligible students from their own budget.

15. FUNDING PATTERN OF THE SCHEME

15.1 There will be a 60: 40 sharing ratio between the Centre and States. For North Eastern States and for the states of Uttarakhand and Himanchal Pradesh the sharing ratio will be 90:10. For UTs without legislatures, 100% funds shall be provided by Centre. The central assistance for the scheme will be apportioned to States on pro-rata basis, based on total population and other such criteria. Accordingly, a notional allocation (NA) under the Scheme shall be conveyed at the beginning of each financial year to States/UTs, with the request to send proposals within the NA. The broad procedure followed is as below:

- a) At the beginning of each financial year, notional allocation(NA) of funds of States/UTs is made by this Ministry, from the overall annual outlay of the Scheme, on the basis of population of each State/UT.
- b) States/UTs will incur expenditure under the Scheme at least to the sum total of "Central Assistance or NA and matching State share".
- c) However, they would be free to allocate funds from the State-Plan, over and above the sum total of "Central Assistance or NA and matching State share" for funding additional scholarship under the Scheme. Any such additional expenditure will have to be borne by the State Government/UT Administration itself, and will generally not be eligible for reimbursement from the Centre. However, such additional expenditure incurred by a State /UT may be considered for reimbursement by the Central Government, to the extent of availability of savings (mainly from States which are not able to fully avail of their notional allocation, for any reason), towards the end of a financial year.

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15.2 The entire scholarship amount - both from the State and Central Government - including the academic allowance and disability allowance, if any, will be paid directly into the account of the students or parents ONLY through DBT preferably through an Aadhaar Based Payment System (Aadhaar Payment Bridge-AePS).

15.3 The State Govt./UTs are required to adhere Deptt. of Expenditure, (MoF), Gol's OM No. 1(13)/PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23.03.2021 regarding the procedure for release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and monitoring utilization of funds with a view to have more effective cash management and bring more transparency in the PEM. The procedure will be followed by all the State Governments and UTs regarding release and monitoring of funds under CSS.

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

15.5 The implementation of the scheme would be in accordance with the provisions of GFR 2017. Submission of UC should be as per prescribed forms as per GFR, 2017. Further, as per provisions of rule 230(8) of GFR, 2017, all interest or other earnings against Grants-in-aid or advances released to any grantee institution should be mandatorily remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India immediately after finalization of accounts.

15.6 **Administrative Charges:** The administrative cost for administration, monitoring and evaluation shall be limited to 1% of the annual scheme cost. The cost would be utilized for development of portal, conduct of social audits, publicity and awareness or any other activity for the efficient implementation of the scheme.

16. IT FRAMEWORK

16.1 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 online portal would be suitably modified for this purpose.

16.2 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:

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- 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 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.

17. ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

17.1 Every participating State/UT, on or before 28th February of the preceding year, will prepare a State level Annual Plan for the scheme. In case the State has any other initiative on similar lines to this scheme, 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.

17.2 The Department will constitute a 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 30th 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.

18. TIMELINES FOR RELEASE OF FUNDS: All the States/UTs/Centre would adhere to the following timelines for processing of the applications and release of scholarship amounts during a financial year:

- 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 installment as per the following schedule as far as possible:

Sl. No	Line of Action	Timeline
1	Finalization of Notional Allocation	By 1 st April of the F.Y.
2	Submission of proposal by the States/UTs within Notional Allocation	By 30 th April of the F.Y.
3	Opening of Portal for registration by students	1 st April
4	Closing of Portal for registration	30 th June
5	Verification by the institutions to be completed	31 st July
6	Verification by the State Govt	15 th August

7	Release of Central Assistance into the SNA, as per the data uploaded on to the central portal	31 st August
8	Payment of scholarships by the State Govt using DBT process (before)	30 th September

19. MONITORING AND EVALUATION

19.1 The monitoring of the financial and physical performance of the Scheme will be done through seeking detailed information from the agencies implementing the Scheme and for the physical aspect the agencies implementing will be required to furnish Quarterly Progress Reports regarding the number of beneficiaries receiving award under the Scheme, both class[wise and gender-wise. On the financial side, details of actual expenditure incurred during the last financial year and expenditure proposed for the present financial year will be submitted by the agencies concerned. The agencies implementing the scheme will also be insisted upon to submit the latest audited accounts.

19.2 The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment will get the scheme evaluated by entrusting a research study to reputed institutions/ agencies, on the performance of the Scheme in different parts of the country, under this Ministry's Scheme of Research and Training.

19.3 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.

19.4 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.

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

19.6 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.

19.7 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.

20. ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES

20.1 The administrative cost for administration, monitoring and evaluation shall be limited

to 1% of the annual outlay.

20.2 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, 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.

20.3 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.

21. MECHANISM FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES

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

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

21.3 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.

21.4 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.

22. OTHER CONDITIONS FOR THE AWARD

22.1 The scholarship is provided on the basis of 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 or 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 scholarships may either cancel the scholarship or stop or withhold further payment of scholarship for such period as it may think fit.

22.2 If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statement 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 under any schemes forever.

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

22.4 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.

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

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**SCHEME OF 'POST-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP' FOR STUDENTS BELONGING TO
THE MINORITY COMMUNITIES**

1. DACKGROUND

The Prime Minister's New 15 Point Programme for the Welfare of Minorities was announced in June, 2006. It provides that a post-matric schoiarship scheme for meritorious students from minority communities would be impiemented.

2. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the scheme is to award scholarships to meritorious students belonging to economically weaker sections of minority community so as to provide them better opportunities for higher education, increase their rate of attainment in higher education and enhance their employability.

3. SCOPE

The schoiarship is to be awarded for studies in india in a government or private higher secondary school/college/university, including such residential institutes of the Government and eligible private institutes selected and notified in a transparent manner by the State Government/Union Territory Administration concerned. It will also cover technical and vocational courses in industrial Training Institutes/ industrial Training Centres affiliated with the National Council for Vocational Training (NCVT) of classes Xi and XII level including Polytechnics and other courses (any course of less than one year duration is not covered under ths scheme; Certificate courses are also not covered).

4. ELIGIBILITY

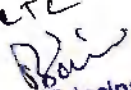
Scholarship will be awarded to the students who have secured not less than 50% marks or equivalent grade in the previous final examination and the annual income of whose parents/guardians from all sources does not exceed Rs.2.00 lakh.

11. DISTRIBUTION

Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists, Jain and Zoroastrians (Parsis) have been notified as minority communities under Section 2 (c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992. A total of five (05) lakh schoiarships are targeted to be distributed as 'Fresh' Scholarships, besides, Renewal scholarships. The distribution of scholarship among the States/Union Territories will be made on the basis of population of minorities in the States/Union Territories as per Census 2001 for 2017-18 and as per the population of minorities in the States/Union Territories of Census 2011 for 2018-19 and 2019-20 (as per Appendices- A & B).

6. EARMARKING

- i) 30% scholarship is earmarked for girls students of each minority community in a State/UT which is transferable to male students of that community in case of non-avaliability of female students in that community in the concerned State/UT. 30% is the floor and not the ceiling for eiigible girl students.
- ii) if the physical target of schoiarship for a particuiar minority community in a state/UT is not utilized, it wiii be distributed among the same minority

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community in other States/UTs strictly in accordance with merit and without disturbing the national ratio. Any unutilized community quota shall be distributed amongst other communities again in accordance with merit and without affecting the overall national quota.

- iii) A student residing in a particular State/UT will be entitled for scholarship under the quota of that State/UT only irrespective of his/her place of study.

7. SELECTION PROCEDURE

Fresh - As the number of scholarships for minorities available in a year is fixed and limited, it is necessary to lay down preference for selection. Inter-se selection weightage is to be given to poverty rather than marks (the applicant is required to submit an income certificate as per para-11(ii)). In case of same income, merit shall be generated from 'Date of Birth' criteria of applicant (senior is preferred).

Renewal - There is no merit list generation for renewal cases. Renewal applicant will get the scholarship if one has obtained 50% in his/her previous year's examinations (at the same institute and in same course) and his/her application is verified by all authorities (as designated by Ministry of Minority Affairs) and approved by State Governments/UTs.

8. DURATION

The scholarships shall be provided for the entire course of the academic year. Maintenance allowance will be given as fixed lump sum amount in an academic year (as per para-9 below) for 2017-18 to 2019-20.

9. RATES OF SCHOLARSHIP

Actual financial assistance will be provided for admission & course /tuition fee and maintenance allowance as given below subject to a maximum ceiling indicated against item concerned for 2017-20. The details of the scheme interventions for 2017-18 to 2019-20 are as under:

(Amount in Rs.)

Item	Rate of Scholarship
Rate of Scholarship Admission + Tuition Fee	Admission and tuition fee Class XI & XII: Rs. 7,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
	Admission and course/tuition fee for technical and vocational courses of XI and XII level (Courses of one or more year of duration): Rs. 10,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
	Admission and tuition fee for UG & PG level: Rs. 3,000/- per annum subject to actuals (both Hosteller & Day Scholar)
Maintenance Allowance	For Class XI & XII including Tech. & Voc. Course*: Rs. 380/- per month for Hosteller & Rs. 230/- per month for Day Scholar

	For Courses other than Tech. & Prof. courses at UG & PG level*: Rs. 570/- per month for Hostelier & Rs. 300/- per month for Day Schoiar
	For M.Phil & Ph.D.*: Rs. 1,200/- per month for Hosteller & Rs. 550/- per month for Day Scholar

* For 10 months in an academic year.

10. IMPLEMENTING AGENCIES

The scheme is being implemented/funded by Ministry of Minority Affairs through the States/UT's Administration.

11. CONDITIONS FOR SCHOLARSHIP

- (i) Scholarship will be awarded to the students studying in Classes XI and XII including technical and vocational courses of this level including Polytechnics, ITIs, and other courses.
- (ii) An Income Certificate, issued from a Competent Authority in the State/UT Governments is required in respect of parent/guardian of the student.
- (iii) A Self-Certified Community Certificate is required from the student who has attained 18 years of age. For others the Community Certificate certified by parent/guardian of the student is required.
- (iv) The continuance of award (for Renewal applicants) will be subject to securing 50% marks in the previous year's examination (provided the students pursues the same course and same Institute/School).
- (v) Maintenance allowance will be provided to hostellers and day scholars.
- (vi) Scholarship will not be given to more than two students from a family (applicable for all Scholarship schemes meant for minorities under this Ministry taken together).
- (vii) Students should be regular in attendance for which the yardstick will be decided by the competent authority of the school.
- (viii) The school/institute will certify the claim of student of being an outstation student not residing in hostel of the school/institute concerned on the basis of permanent address and parents' address.
- (ix) Migration of students from one school/institute to another is not allowed for renewal applicants during the period of academic course.
- (x) If a student violates school discipline or any other terms and conditions of the scholarship, scholarship may be suspended or cancelled. The State Government/Union Territory Administration can also directly cancel the award if duly satisfied of the reasons of violation of these regulations governing the scheme.
- (xi) If a student is found to have obtained a scholarship by false statement, his/her scholarship will be cancelled forthwith and the amount of the scholarship paid will be recovered by the concerned State/UT Govt.
- (xii) The course/tuition fees and maintenance allowance will be credited to the student's account directly under Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) mode.
- (xiii) The student obtaining benefits under this scheme shall not be allowed to avail of benefits under any other scheme for this purpose.
- (xiv) **A student shall be eligible for only one scholarship out of all the available Scholarships of Central Government meant for SC/ST/OBC/ minority.**
- (xv) The amount of Administrative Expenses (@ 2%) for States/UTs in subsequent

year shall be released after receiving the utilization certificate for the previous years.

- (xvi) The scheme will be evaluated at regular intervals by the Ministry or any other agency designated by the Ministry and the cost of the evaluation will be borne by the Ministry of Minority Affairs under the provision of the scheme.
- (xvii) The State/Union Territory shall place all relevant details of financial and physical achievements on their website.
- (xviii) The regulations can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.
- (xix) it will be necessary for the eligible applicants to provide Aadhaar number while applying for the scholarship and in case, an individual does not possess Aadhaar one can provide the details of alternative identification documents, as stated in the Gazette Notification- S.O. No. 1284 (E) No. 1137, dated 21.04.2017 (as per Appendix-C).
- (xx) Students who have entered Aadhaar in their online application correctly and Aadhaar seeded with any of their bank account, in such cases the amount of scholarship will be credited to Aadhaar seeded bank account only (though student has mentioned any other non-seeded bank account in online application).

12. ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES

As the magnitude of data to be entered and processed would be enormous as the scheme gets implemented over the years, there would be a need to engage qualified skilled personnel right from the beginning to ensure that the data based computerized systems are operational. Qualified skilled personnel possessing requisite expertise to operate computer programme designed for this purpose, enter, process, analyse, monitor, retrieve and transfer data should be engaged on contract basis as per need. Data provided by the States/Union Territories will be maintained and managed by the Ministry with personnel of similar expertise to be engaged on contract basis.

A provision not exceeding 2% of the total budget will be made to meet the administrative and allied costs viz. expenditure of the States/Union Territories and the Ministry for office equipments including computers and accessories, furniture, printing of application forms, advertisements, engagement of personnel, etc. This provision will also be used for evaluation and monitoring of the scheme, through outside reputed institutions/agencies engaged by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India and the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations.

13. RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship, once awarded, may be renewed during the next academic year of the course on the production of certificate that the student has secured 50% marks in the previous year's examination (provided the students pursues the same course and same Institute/School).

14. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEME

The scheme will be announced by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration well in time, through advertisements in the leading language newspapers and local dailies and by using other suitable publicity media.

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15. MODE OF APPLYING

The scheme is implemented through the National Scholarship Portal (NSP). It is mandatory for all students to apply online on the website i.e. www.scholarships.gov.in.

16. PATTERN OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

The scheme is Central Sector Scheme and 100% funding is provided by the Ministry of Minority Affairs.

17. MONITORING & TRANSPARENCY

The State/Union Territory shall maintain year-wise details of the students receiving scholarship, indicating school/institute, location of school/institute, government or private, class, gender, new or renewal, permanent address and parents' address. The States/ Union Territories shall place relevant physical and financial details in their official website

18. EVALUATION

The monitoring of the financial and physical performance of the scheme will be evaluated by assigning evaluation/impact studies to reputed institutions/agencies by the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India.

19. INSTRUCTIONS RELATED TO BANK ACCOUNT DETAILS (to be filed by the students in online application form are as under):

- (i) Students must select their bank/branch name carefully from the drop down list.
- (ii) Thereafter the complete account no. must be entered correctly. Students are suggested to get their account number verified by their concerned Bank Branch including Bank account number and IFS Code.
- (iii) Disclaimer (*If bank details entered by students are found incorrect or not validated by the student's bank, the scholarship will be canceled/amount will not be transferred even though the application is approved for scholarship).
- (iv) Bank Account holders must check their 'Know your Customer' (KYC) status from bank and if required the KYC must be done for successful transaction of scholarship amount.
- (v) Bank Account must be operational/active till the scholarship is disbursed.
- (vi) Bank Account must be preferably in any scheduled Bank with core banking facility and proper IFS Code.
- (vii) Bank Account must be in the name of the student/applicant only.

20. MODIFICATION (if any, during 2017-18 to 2019-20)

Minor modifications, if any, in the scheme having no financial implications may be made by the Competent Authority in the Ministry of Minority Affairs without seeking recourse to SFC/EFC/Cabinet. However, Ministry of Finance, Department of Expenditure would be consulted.

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