

No.110 14/ 28 2002.SCD-V
Government of India
Ministry of social Justice & Empowerment

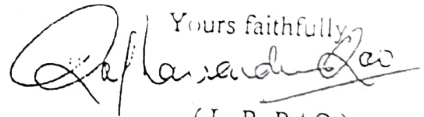
Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi
Dated: 30th Oct., 2003

All State Government and UT
Administrations

Subject: Centrally Sponsored scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship to the Children
of those engaged in unclean occupations – continuation of the
revised scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan Period (2002-07) –
Regarding

Sir,

I am directed to refer to this Ministry's letter of even number dated
11.09.2003 on the above subject and to send herewith a copy of the English
version of regulations governing the scheme during the Tenth Five Year Plan
Period (2002-07), as applicable with effect from 1.4.2003. The Hindi version
will be sent later on.

Yours faithfully


(L. R. RAO)
Under Secretary to the Govt. of India.
Tel.23389368

**REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE CENTRALLY
SPONSORED SCHEME OF PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS
TO THE CHILDREN OF THOSE ENGAGED IN UNCLEAN
OCCUPATIONS i.e. SCAVENGING, TANNING AND
FLAYING APPLICABLE WITH EFFECT FROM 1-4-2003.**

1. OBJECT:

The object of the scheme is to provide financial assistance to enable the children of scavengers of dry latrines, tanners, flayers and sweepers who have traditional link with scavenging to pursue pre-matric education.

2. CONDITIONS OF ELEGIBILITY:

- i) Scholarship will be admissible to the children of Indian Nationals who irrespective of their religion, are actively engaged in scavenging of dry latrines, and other unclean occupations i.e. tanning and flaying only, which are traditionally considered 'unclean'.
- ii) It is not possible to draw a line of demarcation between sweepers and scavengers since most of the sweepers are doing the job of scavenging. Hence, the benefit of this scheme will be available to the children of those sweepers only who have traditional links with scavenging.
- iii) In rural areas, children of all those who are actually engaged in scavenging of dry latrines, tanning and flaying will be covered.
- iv) Children who are born to parents who are not engaged in such occupations, but have been adopted by such person will be eligible for scholarship only after a lapse of three years from the date of such adoption provided that they have been living with the adopted parents since the date of such adoption. Such children will be eligible only if their parents furnish such certificates (such as of proof of their occupation, date of adoption etc.) as may be required by the concerned State Government/Union Territory administration
- v) A certificate should be obtained from the candidates each year to the effect that at least one parent is still engaged in an unclean occupation as defined in the object of the scheme and para 2(i) to (iv) above.
- vi) There is no restriction as to the number of children of the same parents who would be eligible for award of scholarship upto class VIII subject to the condition that if a

third or subsequent child is born after 1-4-1993, a total of only two children in the family would be eligible for award of the scholarship.

vii) In respect of Classes IX & X, only two children of the same parents would be eligible for the award of the scholarship.

viii) No income ceiling has been prescribed for award of scholarships under the scheme.

3. DURATION AND COURSE OF STUDIES:

The scholarships may be given to students enrolled in class I or any subsequent class upto matric stage in the case of day scholars, and in class III or any subsequent class upto matric stage in case of hostellers. The scholarship will terminate at the end of class X. The duration of scholarship in an academic year is ten months.

4. INSTITUTION OF STUDY:

The scholarship will be tenable only in such institutions and for such course upto matriculation stage, which have been duly recognised by the concerned State Government and Union Territory Administrations.

5. DEFINITION OF HOSTEL:

Normally, the term 'Hostel' means a common residential building having a common mess for students. However, a residence run by R.K. Mission or/and such other reputable organisation approved by the Government of India/State Govt. may also be deemed as a hostel.

6. COVERAGE, VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP AND AD-HOC GRANT

I HOSTELERS:

The students as hostellers will be covered from class III to X. The rates of scholarships are as under:-

Class III to VIII	Rs. 300/- per month for 10 months
Class IX to X	Rs. 375/- per month for 10 months

II DAY SCHOLARS

The students as day scholars will be covered from Class I to Class X. The rates of scholarships are as under :-

Class I to V	Rs. 40/- per month for 10 months
Class VI to VIII	Rs. 60/- per month for 10 months
Class IX to X	Rs. 75/- per month for 10 months

8. SELECTION :

The concerned State Government and Union Territory Administration will lay down the detailed procedure for selection of students.

9. AUTHORITY RESPONSIBLE FOR PROVIDING HOSTEL ACCOMODATION:

The concerned State Government and Union Territory Administration will be responsible to provide hostel accommodation to the hostellers. The scheme covers provision for renting of building for such hostellers near the school if hostel facilities are not available in the school itself - rent reasonability to be certified by competent authority of the State Government. Provisions is also there for appointment of full time paid hostel warden where the number of students are large, otherwise one of school teachers is to be appointed as hostel warden on an honorarium as extra remuneration for performing the work of the hostel warden.

10. OTHER CONDITIONS FOR AWARD :

- i) The students may not be allowed to take up employment or render help to parents in their work during the course of studies.
- ii) The award will be discontinued if a student fails to secure annual promotion except in case of unavoidable reasons to be certified by the competent authority of the scheme.
- iii) Coaching facilities, especially to weak students may be provided.
- iv) If a student violates school discipline or any other term and condition of the scholarship, scholarship may be suspended or even cancelled, subject to the satisfaction of the competent school authority. 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.
- v) Migration of students from one institution to another would not normally be allowed during the course of the academic year except under exceptional circumstances and in the interest of student's academic career.
- vi) The scholar obtaining benefits under this scheme is not allowed to avail of the benefits under any other pre-matric scholarship scheme.
- vii) The students should be regular in attendance for which the yardstick is to be decided by the competent authority of the school.

III AD-HOC GRANT

The day scholars and hostellers are eligible for an adhoc grant of Rs. 550 and Rs. 600/- per student per annum respectively.

IV. ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS FOR STUDENTS AMONGST TARGET GROUPS WITH DISABILITIES

- (a) Reader Allowance of Rs. 100 per month for blind students in classes IX and X.
- (b) Transport allowance of Rs. 50 per month for the disabled students not residing in the hostel located within the premises of educational institution.
- (c) Special pay of Rs. 100 per month to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped student residing in a hostel managed by the educational institution or by the State Government/Union Territory Administration who may need the assistance of a helper.
- (d) Escort allowance of Rs.50 per month for severely handicapped day scholars students with lower extremity disability.
- (e) Allowance of Rs.100 per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students in classes IX and X.

The provisions at (b) to (d) above also apply to leprosy cured students.

Note 1: The students amongst target groups with disabilities covered under this scheme can also get such additional benefits from other schemes, which are not covered in the above provision.

Note 2: The disability as per the Persons with the Disabilities (Equal Opportunities), Protection of Rights and Full Participation Act, 1995 is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-cured, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation and mental illness which has to be certified by competent medical authority of the State Government/Union Territory Administration.

V. The scholarship amount will be payable from the date of joining to the date of leaving the school, excluding the period of vacation, which will be about 10 months in a year except in the cases where the students enters or leaves early in the midst of academic year.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY:

The scheme will be implemented and administered by the concerned State Governments/Union Territory Administrations in accordance with its regulations in force.

11. RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIP:

The scholarship, once awarded, may be renewed during next academic year by the concerned State Government/Union Territory Administration unless the competent authority of the school recommends to the State Government/ Union Territory Administration, to discontinue the award with reference to relevant clause of these regulations governing the scheme.

12. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEME:

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

13. MODE OF APPLYING:

The concerned Department of the State Government/Union Territory Administration will supply the application forms, which should be received back by that Department alongwith prescribed certificate, by the last date.

14. PATTERN OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE :

The scheme will be funded on co-sharing basis; i.e. 50% of the total expenditure will be borne by the Government of India as Central Assistance (over and above the committed liability) and 50% by the concerned State Government. The Union Territories will however, be provided 100% Central Assistance (over and above the committed liability).

15. CHANGES IN THE SCHEME:

These regulations governing the scheme may be changed by the Government of India at any time as and when considered necessary.



Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Department of Social Justice and Empowerment
Department of Disability Affairs

Govt. of India

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 - [Subjects Allocated](#)
 - [Organisational Set-up](#)
 - [Organisation Chart](#)
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- [Meet The Ministers](#)
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 - [Minister of State](#)
- [Associated Organisations](#)
 - [Commissions](#)
 - [Other Statutory Bodies](#)
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 - [Corporations](#)
 - [Foundations](#)
- [Annual Reports](#)

You are here: [Home](#) [Schemes and Programs](#) [Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students](#) **Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students**

[Print](#)

[Large Print](#)

SCHEDULED CASTES UPGRADATION

- [About the Division](#)
- [List of Scheduled Castes](#)
- [SC Concentration Villages](#)
- [Schemes / Programmes](#)
- [Organisations under Division](#)
- [Policies / Acts / Rules / Codes / Circulars](#)
- [Download Forms](#)
- [FAQs](#)
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Central Sector Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students

I. Scope

The SC/ST students, because of their educational deficiencies, are unable to take advantage of the various avenues, which have become available through reservation of seats. Consequently, the quota reserved for them in technical and professional courses like Engineering and Medical, remain under utilized. Some students, who are able to get admission in these courses with relaxed eligibility conditions, often find it difficult to either complete the course or take more than the specified time for completion of the instructional programme. Their inadequate educational preparation also prevents their employment in occupations where entry is on the basis of competitive examinations.

II. Description of the Scheme and its Objectives

The Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST students provides for 100% Central Assistance to States/UTs for arranging remedial and special coaching for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students studying in class IX to XII. While remedial

WELFARE
DISABILITY
PERSONS WITH
DISABILITIES
SOCIAL DEFENCE
Senior Citizens
Victims of
Substance Abuse
PLANNING,
RESEARCH,
EVALUATION &
MONITORING
OFFICIAL LANGUAGE
MEDIA
GRANTS IN AID TO
NGOs
NGO PARTNERSHIP
SYSTEM

coaching aims at removing deficiencies in school subjects, special coaching is provided with a view to prepare students for competitive examinations for entry into professional courses like Engineering and Medical. The main objective of the scheme is to upgrade the merit of Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe students by providing them with facilities for all round development through education in residential schools. This is proposed to be done by

- Removing their educational deficiencies
- Facilitating their entry into professional courses by upgrading their merit so that they can compete.
- With other students for admission to higher education courses and for senior administrative and technical occupations.
- Generating self-confidence and self reliance in them.

III. Selection of Schools

Each state may use their own discretion in deciding numbers and location of schools in different districts/towns on the basis of their illiterate population of SCs/STs. The schools selected under the scheme should have the facilities necessary for all round development of the child, enough hostel facilities and should have shown good academic results in the past few years consistently. Good schools particularly in rural areas may be chosen. Kendriya Vidyalayas which have hostel facilities may also be chosen for placement of SC/ST students. Only those schools should be selected by the State Government where students belonging to SC/ST communities will feel at home. The selected schools should also be those that are interested and feel involved in improving the capabilities of the students belonging to SCs/STs to enable them to compete more effectively for admission to professional colleges/institutions or to overcome educational deficiencies. While the State Governments are free to choose any number of schools for implementation of the schemes, the total number of awards allotted to each state per annum should not be exceeded. The schools selected will be intimated to this Ministry by the State Governments.

IV. Coverage

To begin with, 1045 students will be covered under the scheme. The coaching should start at class IX level and continue till a student has completed class XII. This is proposed with a view to making sufficient time available for coaching as well as meaningful interaction between these children and others. Thus a period of four years would be available for intensive training and coaching to a student to make up for his/her educational deficiencies and to enable him/her to compete for entry into collegiate level courses, particularly, in professional disciplines and ultimately for senior and remunerative positions on their own merit. Although entry point under the Scheme would be Class IX, a student may be enrolled in class X/ XI if he/she has shown excellent performance in the previous examination and if he/she had missed entry at class IX level for any reason.

Thus each State Government will have number of awards fixed as given in Appendix. While one batch of student enter class IX, the earlier batch in class XII will be going out, thus keeping the total awards at the same level. For example, if a State has 5 awards, it will work out as under:

Class IX	- 5
Class X	- 5
Class XI	- 5
Class XII	- 5
Total	- 20

The State Governments may use their discretion to decide the allotments of seats among Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the basis of illiterate population of the SC/ST communities and keeping in view the overall parameters of the scheme. While the revised scheme takes effect from 1998-99 the State Governments should ensure that students already getting coaching under the scheme are not disturbed and continue to get their coaching.

V. Nature of Coaching

Coaching will be both remedial, with a view to removing deficiencies in school subjects, and special for preparing student for competitive examinations required for entry into professional courses like Engineering and Medicine. The emphasis of remedial coaching would be to remove educational deficiencies from which these students suffer and to promote study habits. It is found that educational deficiencies generally result from inadequate linguistic skills and lack of understanding of basic concepts in Mathematics and Science. It is, therefore, proposed to provide coaching in linguistic skills. Science and Mathematics, coaching for competitive examinations i.e. special coaching will be more specific and organized in relation to the competencies required by professional institutions for passing their entry examinations. Syllabi for special coaching will need to be prepared with the help of Experts. While remedial coaching will continue throughout the stay of students in the selected schools (class IX - XII), intensive coaching for competitive examinations will be provided to them on Sundays, holidays and during summer/winter vacations. Special coaching should be arranged at some centrally placed schools, where students of class XI and XII of the nearby schools participating in the programme can gather on specified days.

Coaching will be done after school hours, teachers providing coaching to students will be paid remuneration. The Principals of the schools would also need to be involved in the programme and take responsibility for ensuring satisfactory implementation. Some honorarium will be provided to them. The State Governments/UTs should furnish a report on the performance of these students while seeking fresh grants.

VI. Selection of Teachers

For remedial coaching, faculty of the schools selected under the scheme would be given preference. Where it is not possible to find suitable teachers for a specific course of study, services of teachers from neighbouring schools will be requisitioned. It should be ensured that not less than 10 to 12 hours a week are devoted by a teacher to the coaching of the students.

For special coaching, apart from school teachers wherever possible and available, faculty of professional, institutions would be invited. For this purpose, professional

institutions which may be located near the school where coaching is provided, will be preferred, so as to economise on expenditure on traveling.

VII. Preference to Girls Students and Handicapped Students

While selecting the students, the State Governments/UTs should have a target to include at least 30% girl SC/ST students, wherever possible. Target should also be fixed to include at least 3% disabled SC/ST students wherever possible. Besides the amount of scholarship, students with disabilities would also be eligible for the following assistance:

- a. Reader Allowance of Rs.100 per month for blind students in classes IX to XII.
- b. Transport allowance of Rs.50 per month for the disabled students if such a student does not reside in the hostel, which is within the premises of educational institution. The disability as per the said Act is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-cured, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation and mental illness.
- c. Special pay of Rs.100 per month be admissible to any employee of the hostel willing to extend help to a severely orthopaedically handicapped students residing in a hostel managed by the educational or by the State Government/Union Territory Admn. who may need the assistance of a helper.
- d. Escort allowance of Rs.50 per month for severely handicapped day scholar students with lower extremity disability.
- e. Allowance of Rs.100 per month towards extra coaching to mentally retarded and mentally ill students in classes IX to XII.

The provisions proposed in (a) to (e) above, also apply to such leprosy-cured students.

VIII. Financial Implications

The Scheme provides for 100% central assistance to the States and Union Territories for implementation of the Scheme.

A package grant of Rs.15,000 per student per year will be given with the following break-up:

(i) Rs.8000 per student per year as under:

- Boarding & lodging charges @ Rs.500 Per month for 10 months Rs.5,000
- Pocket money @ Rs.100 for 10 months Rs.1,000
- Books and Stationery Rs.2,000

(ii) Rs.7,000 per year per student for honorarium to Principal, Experts and other incidental charges

Besides the above, students with disabilities will be eligible for additional grants as provided for in the scheme.

In case a State does not send any proposal, funds earmarked for that State are likely to be lapsed. In order to obviate this, the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) will have discretion to use a cushion of at least 10% of budget allocation for diverting the funds from one State to another to meet the unforeseen increased demand, out of which internal resources of the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment) by way of re-appropriation within the Ministry of Welfare (now Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment)

Click here to see Annexure-I (1) - 1, Annexure-II (1) - 1 and Annexure-III (1) - 1

Appendix

State-wise Statement showing Allocation of Awards for SC/ST Scholars under the Scheme of Upgradation of Merit of SC/ST Students

Sr. No.	Union Territories	No. of Awards allotted (in each class)
1	Andhra Pradesh	74
2	Arunachal Pradesh	5
3	Assam	23
4	Bihar	73
5	Chhattisgarh	28
6	Gujarat	35
7	Haryana	16
8	Himachal Pradesh	7
9	Jammu & Kashmir	5
10	Jharkhand	35
11	Karnataka	47
12	Kerala	10
13	Madhya Pradesh	98
14	Maharashtra	56
15	Manipur	5
16	Meghalaya	5
17	Mizoram	5
18	Nagaland	5
19	Orissa	61
20	Punjab	28
21	Rajasthan	67

22	Sikkim	5
23	Tamil Nadu	53
24	Tripura	5
25	Uttar Pradesh	155
26	Uttranchal	7
27	West Bengal	92
28	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	5
29	Delhi	5
30	Pondicherry	5
31	Goa	5
32	Lakshdweep	5
33	Andman & Nicobar Island	5
34	Chandigarh	5
35	Daman & Diu	5
	Total	1045

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