

No. 11014/28/2007-SCD-V
Government of India
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
(SCD-V)

Shastri Bhawan, New Delhi,
Dated ^{2nd} 1st January, 2009

To

Secretaries in charge of SC Welfare, All States/UTs

Subject: Revision in the centrally-sponsored scheme of Pre- Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in unclean occupations.

Sir,

The Government of India is implementing the scheme of Pre- Matric Scholarship to children of those engaged in unclean occupations since 1977-78. The scheme aims to provide financial assistance for pre-matric education to children of the following target groups, viz. (i) scavengers (ii) sweepers having traditional links with scavenging, (iii) tanners, and (iv) flayers. Under the scheme, central assistance is provided to State Governments on 50:50 basis (100% central assistance in the case of UTs), over and above their respective "committed liability". Last revision in the scheme was done in the year 2003, and the same was communicated to State Governments vide this Ministry's letter No. 1014/28/2002-SCD V dated 11.9.2003 and 30.10.2003.

2. Another modification in the scheme has been made, and it has been decided to revise (i) rates of monthly scholarship and annual adhoc grant, (ii) pattern of central assistance, and (iii) eligibility criteria of the scheme, in order to widen the coverage and to make it more attractive to the target group.

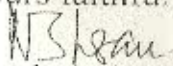
3. The revisions, which will be effective from 1.4.2008, are summarized in the table below :

Component of the Scheme	Existing			Revised (w.e.f.1.4.2008)		
	Class	Day Scholars	Hostellers	Class	Day Scholars	Hostellers
1. Monthly Scholarship (Rs. Per month)	I-II	40	-	I-II	110	-
	VI-VIII	60	-	III-X	110	700
	III-VIII	-	300			
	IX-X	75	375			
2. Annual Adhoc Grant (Rs. Per annum)	Day Scholars - Rs. 550 Hostellers - Rs. 600			Day Scholars - Rs. 750 Hostellers - Rs. 1000		
3. Pattern of Central Assistance	50% of State expenditure (100% in case of UTs) over and above their committed liability			100% of State/UT expenditure over and above their committed liability		
4. Eligibility/Coverage	children of : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scavengers • sweepers having traditional link with scavenging. • tanners, and • flayers. (ii) No restriction on the no. of children of the same parents upto Class VIII. However, if a third or subsequent child is born after 1.4.1993, a total of two children would be eligible. In respect of class IX and X, only two children of the same parents are eligible.			children of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • scavengers engaged in manual cleaning/ carrying of human excreta, or cleaning of manholes and open drains • sweepers having traditional link with scavenging. • tanners, • flayers, and • beneficiaries covered under the Self Employment Scheme for Rehabilitation of Manual Scavengers (SRMS), born before the rehabilitation of their parent/guardian under SRMS. (ii) No restriction on the number of children of same parents who would be eligible. <u>However, no child born after rehabilitation of his parent under SRMS would be eligible.</u>		

4. Other provisions of the scheme remain unchanged.

5. The proposal under the pre-revised scheme for the year 2008-09 has already been received from many State Governments/UT Administrations. Based on this, the Ministry will work out the amount of central assistance due, as per the revised provisions, and release the same to your State Government shortly, after adjusting

for the central assistance already released, if any, during the current year. If the State Government desires to send a fresh proposal in the light of the revision in eligibility criterion, the same should be sent at the earliest, so as to reach the Ministry before end of January, 2009. In case the proposal under the scheme for the current year has not yet been sent, it should now be sent immediately in the light of above revisions, to enable the Ministry release the central assistance at the earliest.

Yours faithfully,

(Nilambuj Sharan)
Director

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