CENTRAL SECTOR SCHEME OF "SCHOLARSHIP FOR PM CARES CHILDREN"

(2022-23 to 2025-26)

OBJECTIVE

The objective of the scheme is to provide scholarship assistance to support children who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 pandemic to complete their education from Class 1 onwards till they complete education till class 12.

2. SCOPE AND COVERAGE

All the children studying from Class 1 to Class 12 and who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 would be eligible for the scheme irrespective of their caste, religion, gender, location, etc. and whose applications have been verified and approved by the District Nodal Authorities on the PM CARES for Children Portal.

3. MODALITIES

The scheme would be implemented in the following manner:

- (i) The scheme would be applicable only for children under PM CARES. The number of beneficiaries will be based on the verified and approved applications by the District Nodal Authorities on the PMCARES for Children portal.
- (ii) Once in a year Aadhar authentication of children would be mandatory for receiving the scholarship under DBT Mode.
- (iii) The children will have an option to migrate into some other schemes of any Ministry/ Department, subject to eligibility, which is more beneficial to them. But this exercise may be carried out once up to class 12.

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4. IMPLEMENTING AGENCY

This is a central sector component under Centrally Sponsored scheme, and would be implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment with the assistance of the State Governments.

5. METHODOLOGY OF ASSISTANCE/ RELEASE OF SCHOLARSHIPS

- The release of funds will be directly into the bank account of beneficiaries through DBT mode.
- ii. Payment shall be made in single installment, to be released at the beginning of every academic year.
- The implementation of the scheme would be in accordance with the provisions of GFR 2017.

6. SCHOLARSHIP ENTITLEMENT:

Total scholarship allowance will be Rs.20,000/- per child per annum to be released at the beginning of every academic year and will comprise of:

- (a) Monthly allowance of Rs. 1,000/-.
- (b) Annual academic allowance of Rs. 8,000/- to cover the cost of the books and uniform, shoes and other educational equipment.

7. OTHER CONDITIONS

(i) The students must have a Bank Account while applying for scholarship. The scholarship amount will be provided directly into the bank account through DBT mode which shall be linked with their Aadhar Numbers.

8. MONITORING AND EVALUTION OF THE SCHEME

- (i) The progress of every child under the Scheme would be monitored by the Ministry of Women and Child Welfare which is the nodal agency for the Scheme. The academic progress of the students would be reviewed periodically by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment with the assistance from States/UTs. These may include and/or Constitution of Monitoring bodies or cells, Development of Scheme MIS, Establishment of protocol for regular performance reviews
- (ii) The evaluation of the Scheme, if required, will be carried out by the Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (Statistic Division) through a third

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party evaluation. Expenditure towards this shall be met from the administrative expenses (up to 3%) which already provisioned in the scheme.

(iii) Statutory Audit/Social Audit of the scheme shall be carried out as per routine procedure by the concerned agencies

8. PROCEDURE FOR MODIFICATION OF THE GUIDELINES:

The guidelines of the scheme, procedure and selection of candidates and other terms and conditions along with the extent of support are provided, may be modified from time to time, according to the needs, with the approval of the Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment and other competent authority.

12/5/2022