

# POST MATRIC SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME FOR SCHEDULED CASTE (SC) STUDENTS 2019-20

## SUMMARY REPORT



**Government of India**

Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment  
Department of Social Justice & Empowerment

*Submitted by*

**Ecopie Services LLP**  
Hyderabad, Telangana State

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## **OVERVIEW OF THE SCHEME**

The Ministry of Minority Affairs was created in the year 2006 for a focused approach on issues relating to the minorities. It is responsible for planning, implementation and evaluation of development programmes for the benefit of minority communities, Muslims, Sikhs, Christians, Buddhists and Zoroastrians (Parsis) have been notified as minority communities under Section 2(c) of the National Commission for Minorities Act 1992.

The Prime Minister's 15 Point Programmes for Welfare of Minorities was announced in June 2006. It provides that a Post-Matric Scholarship Scheme for meritorious students from minority communities would be implemented.

The Post Matric Scholarship Scheme for SC Students (PMS-SC) is a centrally sponsored scheme in operation since year 1944 to provide financial assistance to SC Students to pursue post matric education. The Post-Matric Scholarship for the students belonging to minority communities was launched in November 2007 as a centrally sponsored scheme with 100% central funding. This scheme for minority communities provides the scholarship to students from class XI to PhD (XI, XII, technical/ vocational, Under Graduate, Post Graduate, M.Phil. & Ph.D.) Studying in Government recognized private schools/ colleges/ universities/ institutes in India including technical vocational courses in Industrial Training Institutes/ Industrial Training Centers and the courses not covered under merit-cum-means based scholarship scheme for minority communities. This scholarship is not available for LLB, MBA, MCA, BE and MBBS.

These scholarships are available for studies in India only and are awarded by the Government of the State/UT to which the applicant actually belongs i.e., permanently settled or domiciled.

### **Objective**

This scheme is to provide/ supplement financial assistance to the Scheduled Castes students' studying at post matriculation or post-secondary stage to enable them complete their education.

## **Salient features of the scheme**

- It is flagship scheme and core of the core schemes of the Government of India.
- It is one of the oldest welfare schemes of the country.
- The scheme is open-ended as regards beneficiaries, institutions, courses and reimbursement of fees
- From a humble beginning in 1944-45 with an expenditure of Rs 0.48 lakhs to support 144 beneficiaries, the scheme has considerably improved its ambit. The scheme touched 1 lakh beneficiaries in 1967 – 68, 10 lakh beneficiaries in 1990-91 and approximately 50 lakh beneficiaries in 2013-14. Approximately 60 lakh SC students are currently availing the benefits under the scheme.
- The committed liability of all the states put together during current FCC (2017-18) to 2019-20 is 8977.91 crore annually and Central share is an average of Rs 1092 crore annually.
- Due to various interventions of the scheme, there has been considerable improvement in GER of SC students in higher education from 16 in 2012-13 to 21.8 in 2017-18. However this GER of 21.8 is considerably lower than the GER for all students of the country at 25.8.

## **Funding pattern under the scheme**

Funds are provided to the State/UT Government to meet their entire demand that is over and above their committed liability', where 'Committed Liability' of the State/UT is defined as 'the highest demand for any of the years of the previous Plan/ Finance Commission Cycle'. For NE States, the Central Government bears the entire requirement of the States.

## **Eligibility of scholarship**

- a) The student should be an Indian National belonging to SC community and studying in post matric classes.
- b) Parents/ Guardians income should not exceed Rs 2.5 Lakh per annum.
- c) The student should be studying in one of the 10 categories of institutions specified in para III(II) of the revised scheme circulated vide communication no.11017/4/2015-SCD-V (III) dated 3.05.2018.

- d) Students pursuing their studies through correspondence courses are also eligible. The term correspondence includes distant and continuing education for courses in Central/ State Universities only.

### **Amount of scholarship**

- The amount of scholarship includes the following for complete duration of the course:
- Maintenance allowance amounting to Rs.380/- to 1200/- per month for hostellers and Rs.230/- to Rs.550/- per month for day scholars.
- Reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees,
- Study tour charges upto Rs.1600
- Theses typing/printing charges for Research Scholars upto Rs.1600
- Book allowance amounting to Rs.1200 for students pursuing correspondence courses
- Book bank facility for specified courses ranging from Rs.2400 to Rs.7500
- Additional allowance for students with disabilities for the complete duration of the course.

### **Revision of the scheme in May 2018:**

#### **The scheme was revised in May 2018. The salient features are following:**

- Change in definition of committed Liability' from 'Actual expenditure in terminal year of previous Plan Period to 'Highest demand for any of the financial years of the previous Plan Period/ Financial Commission Cycle (FCC)'.
- Online end to end processing, verification of eligibility credentials to ensure greater transparency and to control duplication, wrong claims by institutions
- Mandatory payment of maintenance allowance and non-refundable fee to bank accounts of student beneficiaries only.
- Maintenance allowance is payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April/ from the month of admission for a period of 10 months duration of the course.

The scheme is implemented through State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations. Under the scheme, 30% of scholarships are earmarked for girl students which can be utilized by boy students if adequate numbers of eligible girl students are

not available. The basis of distribution of scholarship among the States/ Union territories is population of minorities in the States/ Union Territories.

### **Conditions**

- (I) The scholarship is open to nationals of India.
- (II) These scholarships will be given for the study of all recognized post matric scholarship or Post-secondary courses pursued in Recognized institutions with the following Exceptions: Scholarship are not awarded for training courses like Aircraft maintenance Engineers Courses and private Pilot license Courses. Courses at training-ship Dufferin (now Rajendra), courses of training at the military college, Dehradun, courses at pre-Examination Training at Centres of all India and state levels
- (III) Only those candidates who belong to Scheduled Castes so Specified in relation to the State / Union Territory to which the applicant actually belong 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. i. Sc. After I.A. or B.Com. after B.A or M.A. in another subject will not be eligible.
- (V) Students who, after having completed their educational career in one professional line, e.g L.L. B, after B.T./B.Ed. will not be eligible. From the Academic year 1980-81, studies in two professional courses are allowed.
- (VI) Students studying in Class XI of the Higher Secondary School courses of the XII Class of the Multipurpose High School will not be eligible for it being a continuous school course. However, in cases where 10 th Class Examination of such courses is treated as equivalent to Matriculation and students will be treated as post-matric students and will be eligible for the awarded of scholarships.
- (VII) Students pursuing post Graduate courses in medicine will be eligible if they are allowed to practice during the period of their course.
- (VIII) Students who after failing or passing the under graduates/post-graduate examinations in Arts/Science/Commerce join any recognized professional or

Technical certificate /diploma/degree courses will be awarded scholarship if otherwise eligible. No subsequent failure will be conducted except courses in Group-1

- (IX) Students who pursue their studies correspondence courses are also eligible. The term correspondence includes distant and continuing education.
- (X) 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 scholarship 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 /Stiped. If awarded any other scholars/stipend, the students can exercise his/her options for them of the two scholarship /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 additional to the scholarship amount paid under this scheme.
- (XIII) Scholarship holders who are receiving coaching in any of the pre-examination training centres 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.

Note 1: it is mentioned under the item III (Condition of eligible) of this scheme that the scholarship will be given for the study of all recognized post-matriculation or post-secondary courses pursued in recognized institutions, the list of courses grouped (I to VI) is only illustrative and not exhaustive. The state Governments/Union territory Administrative are, thus themselves competent to decide the appropriate grouping of courses at their level as advised vid this Ministry letter No.1101713/88-Sch.cell, dated 3.8.1989.

## Income ceiling

Scholarship is paid to the students whose parents/guardians' income from all sources does not exceed Rs.2,50,000/- (Rupees two lakh fifty thousand only) per annum w.e.f. academic session 2013-14.

## Value of Scholarships

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

- (I) Maintenance allowances
- (II) Reimbursement of compulsory non-refundable fees,
- (III) Study tour charges,
- (IV) Thesis typing/printing charges for research scholars,
- (V) Book bank facility for specified courses, and
- (VI) Additional allowance for students with disabilities, for the complete duration of the course.

### The details are as follows:

- (i) Maintenance allowances

Courses covered under the groups and the scholarship amount

Groups		Rate of Maintenance allowance (in Rupees per month)	
		Hostellers	Days Scholars
Group	Courses	Hostellers	Days Scholars
Group - 1	1. Degree and Post Graduate level courses 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. 2. Commercial pilot License (including helicopter pilot and multiengine rating) course. 3. Post Graduate diploma courses in various branches of Management & medicine. 4. C.A./I.C.W.A./C.S./I.C.F.A. etc. 5. M. Phil., Ph.D. and Post-Doctoral Programmes (D.litt., D.Sc. etc.) Group I, Group II and Group III Courses (5) L.L.M	1200	550



Group – II	1. Professional Courses leading to degree, diploma, certificate in areas like Pharmacy (B. Pharma), Nursing (B. Nursing), LLB, BFC, 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 Senior Secondary (10+2). 2. Post Graduate courses not covered under Group – I e.g. MA/M Sc./M. Com /M Ed./M. Pharma etc.	820	530
Group-III	All the other leading to a graduate degree not covered under Group I&II e.g. BA/B Sc/B. Com	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 years diploma courses in Polytechnics, etc.	380	230

### **Note 1: Commercial pilot License Course (CPL)**

CPL course would include commercial Helicopter License (CHPL) and multiengine rating training on A-320 and similar aircrafts even after the candidates has got scholarship for multi-engine rating training with the CPL Course. CPL Course is covered under Group -I the number of awards for CPL will be 50 per annum. Consequent upon receiving applications from concerned students, concerned state Governments/UT Admns. Should scrutinize them for determining their eligibility under the scheme and thereafter recommend the number of eligible applications for CPL training (with their names) each financial year to the Ministry of Social justice & Empowerment (their applications need not be sent to the Ministry). Upon receipt of such information, Ministry of Social justice & Empowerment will give clearance to the country as a whole. Selected candidates are provided a maintenance allowance at the rates applicable to Group I courses i.e Rs.1200 per month for hustlers and Rs.550 per Month for day scholars. In addition, all compulsory fees, including flight charges are to be provided as fee.

**Note 2:** Normally the term Hostel is applicable to a common residential building and a common mess for the students run under the supervisor of the educational institution authorities. In case the college authorities are unable to provide accommodation in the college Hostel, an approved place of residency can also be treated as hostel for the purpose of the scheme. The place will be approved by the head of the institutions 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 students 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 the institution.

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

**Note 3:** Scholars who care entitled to free board and / or lodging will be paid maintenance charge at 1/3 at Hostellers rate

**(ii) Additional Allowances for SC students with Disabilities**

(A) Additional Allowances for SC Students with disabilities (Table 2.1.3)

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

(B) Provision of transport allowance up to Rs.160/- per month for disabled students, if such students do not reside in the hostel. Which is within the premises of educational institution. The disability as per the persons with Disability (Equal Opportunities, Protection of rights and full Participation) Act, 1995 is defined as blindness, low-vision, leprosy-curd, hearing impairment, locomotor disability, mental retardation and mental illness.

(C) Escort Allowances of Rs.160/- per month for severally 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 orthopedically 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 provision in (B) TO (D) are also applied to leprosy-cured students.

**Note 1:** The disabled students belonging to scheduled casts 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**

Scholar 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 deposits 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 seats, state Government should make the income verification compulsory.

### **(iv) Study Tours**

Study tour charges up to 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 study.

### **(V) These typing/printing Charges**

These typing/printing charges up to a maximum of Rs.1600 will be paid to research scholars on the recommendation of the head of the institution.

### **(Vi) Book Allowance for students pursuing correspondence/distance education courses**

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

### **(vii) Book Banks**

1. Book banks are to be set up in all the Medical, Engineering, Agriculture, Law and veterinary Degree College and institution imparting Chartered Accountancy, MBA and alike Management courses and polytechnics where Scheduled Caste students are in receipt of post matric scholarship. The set of text books will be purchased for 2 such SC 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.
2. The details of course covered for setting up of banks, ceiling of admissible expenditure per set of books and sharing criteria are given below: (Table 2.1.4)

<b>Sl. No</b>	<b>Courses</b>	<b>Sharing criteria</b>	<b>Ceiling per set (or actual cost whichever is less in rupees)</b>
1	Degree courses in Medical/Engineering	I set for 2 students	7,500
2	Degree courses in Veterinary	-Do-	5000
3	Degree course In Agriculture	-Do-	4,500
4	Polytechnics	-Do-	2,400

5	A. Post Graduate courses in Medical, Engineering, Agriculture and Veterinary courses and such other technical/alike courses as are approved by the University/institutes of higher learning. B. Law courses, L.L.B (3 years and 5 years) LL.M. (2 year) C. Chartered accountancy (intermediate and final) D. M.B.A. (years) and Similar courses E. Bio-Sciences	-Do-	5,000
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For storage of books and contingencies etc. the cost of steel almirah for storing books of each book bank including contingencies like transportation etc. the following expenses are admissible:

- (i) Rs. 2,000 or actual cost whichever is less.
- (ii) 5% of the grant may be earmarked for expenses on binding, stitching etc.

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

1. The book bank is to be set up in all the recognized college/institution where these courses are being offered as recognized courses.
2. Purchase of book Banks will be restricted to the prescribed text books for the entire courses.
3. The state Government may constitute expert groups consisting of members from selected colleges/educational institutions of different regions to decide the adequate number of text books in a set (not reference books) required for each course.
4. The life period of one set of books has been fixed at 3 years. Thereafter the books may be disposed of by colleges/educational institutions in the same manner as

the book in the library subjected to the guidelines, if any, of the state Government/UT administration in this regard

5. These books are to be supplied to SC Students in instalments, depends on the courses, semester structure etc.
6. The following rules are Govern the distribution of books to the students:
  - (i) Each SC students will be provided with an identity card for this purpose.
  - (ii) Each SC student will be required to submit requisition for borrowing books from the book bank in a form to be provided for this purpose
  - (iii) The Books would 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.
  - (iv) It is the responsibility of the student concerned to maintain the book supplied to them from the book bank, in good condition.
  - (v) Any cases of loss or damage to the books would attract penalty. In case of serious damage or loss of books, the students concerned will have to bear the cost of the book.

### **1.5. Selection of Candidates**

- I. All the eligible Scheduled Caste candidates are given Scholarship subject to the application of means test prescribed in the Scheme.
- II. Candidates belonging to one state but studying in other state are awarded scholarship by the state to which they belong and will submit their applications to the competent Authorities in the state. In the matter of examination from fees or other concession also they are treated as if they were studying in their own state.

### **1.6 Duration and renewal of awards**

- a) The award once made is 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 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.

- b) If a scheduled caste scholar pursuing Group-I courses fails in the examination for the first time, the awarded may be renewed. For second and subsequent failure in any class, the student shall bear his/her own expenses until he/she secures promotion to the next higher-class
- c) 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 appeared in the examination.
- d) If according to the Regulation 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 some time he/she will be entitled to scholarship for the class to which he/she is promoted if the students is otherwise eligible for Scholarship.

### **1.7 Payment**

- I. Maintenance allowance is payable from 1<sup>st</sup> April or from the month of admission, whichever is later, to the month in which the examinations are completed, at the end of the academic year (including maintenance allowance during holidays) provided that if the scholarship secures admission after the 20 the 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 up to 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 they belong, 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/horsemanship in the M.B.B.S course or for a particular training in another 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.

## **1.8 Mode of disbursement of scholarship**

In order to ensure timely payment of scholarship amount to the beneficiaries, the state Government/UT Administrations are requested to avoid cash payment of scholarship amount and are required to issue instructions to all concerned that payment of scholarship should be made to beneficiary through their accounts in post offices/banks with phased transition to smart cards.

## **1.9 Other conditions of the award**

- I. The scholarship dependent on the satisfactory progress and conduct of the scholar. If it is reported by the head of the institutions 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 misconducted 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 the study for which the scholarship was originally awarded or changes the institutions 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 studied for which the scholarship has been awarded is discontinued by him/her
- V. The provision of this scheme can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India



## **1.10 Announcement of the Scheme**

All the state Government/UT Administrations 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 their respective websites and other media outfits. All requests for applications form and other particulars should be addressed to the Government of states/union Territory Administration to which the scholar actually belong. The applicant should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications.

## **1.11 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/UT).
  - b) One copy of the passport size photograph with signatures of the student there on (for fresh scholarship)
  - c) One attested copy of certificate, diploma, degree etc. in respect of all examinations passed
  - d) A certificate (in original) of caste duly signed by an authorized 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 require to obtain income certificate from their employer and for any additional income from other sources, they would furnish declaration by way of on affidavit on non-judicial stamp paper.
  - f) A receipt in acknowledgement of the scholarship in the previous year on the from 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 is 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 the from time to time.

### **1.12 Funding pattern of the Scheme**

The scheme is implemented by the state government and union Territory Administrations, which received 100 % central assistance from Government of India for the total expenditure under the scheme, over and above their respective committed liability. The level of committed liability of respect state Governments/Union Territory Administrations for a year is equivalent to the level of actual expenditure incurred by the Scheme during the terminal year of the last Five-Year plan period and is required to make required provision in their own budget. The north Eastern states have however, been exempted from making their own budgetary provision towards Committee Liability from Ninth plan period (1997- 2002) onwards and the entire expenditure under the scheme in respect of them is 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 Govts/ U.T. Administrations at the end of the XII Five-year period (w.e.f. 1.4.2017), and not after the XI plan period. All the state Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementation the scheme is required to:

- 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 not utilized for any other purpose.
- DBT Monthly report as per proforma under DBT Bharat Portal.
- Designated Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) at the state and District levels to redress student's scholarship-related grievances.

### **1.13 Effective implementation/alteration of modalities**

- a) For the purposes of effective implementation of the scheme, implementing State may formulate guidelines for assessing eligibility of the beneficiaries and institutions and modalities for direct benefit transfer, which shall be in accordance with the objectives of the scheme provided that the States shall not be at liberty to

impose any guideline which enhances or has the effect of enhancing the liability of the Centre under the scheme.

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

#### **1.14 Inspection and monitoring of the scheme**

The States / Union Territories implementing the scheme shall monitor physical and financial performance of the scheme at the States/ Union Territories level. For this purpose, an IT enabled monitoring mechanism shall be in place. The States/ Union Territories will be required to furnish quarterly financial and physical progress reports to the Ministry. The States/ Union Territories shall maintain year wise details of the students receiving scholarship, indicating school/college/institute, location of school/ Union Territories shall place relevant physical and financial details in their website. All the States/ UT Governments will ensure that all private institutions are annually inspected by Group 'A' Officer.

#### **1.15 Evaluation**

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

#### **1.16 Administrative Charges**

The Centre will have a budgetary provision of administrative cost, which will be equivalent to 1% of funds released by the Centre to States in the terminal year of the previous plan period. The States/ UTs can seek administrative charges towards implementing. Monitoring etc. the scheme, up to 1% of the funds released and stipulated above to that particular State. Out of above Centre can also avail 10% budget for its own administrative and monitoring expenses.

#### **1.17 Transitory provision for existing beneficiaries**

Beneficiaries of scholarships under the pre-revised Post Matric Scholarship scheme for SCs will continue to be governed by terms and conditions as prevailed before amendment of the scheme till completion of the course for which he/she is availing scholarship. (However redefined committed liability to State Govts./ UT administrators will be applicable from the year 2017-18).

## **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. Analyse the fund flow mechanism from Centre to States and from States to beneficiaries and recommend procedures for timely and effective utilization of funds.
2. Constraints in the implementation of the scheme during 2017-18 to 2019-20 for various reasons including shortage of funds at State Govt./UT Administration delay if any, in release of fund to educational institutions / students by States. Shortage of trained manpower and supporting web based infrastructure in social welfare department of States etc.
3. Possible reasons for exponential growth of expenditure from 11<sup>th</sup> Plan Period under the scheme in States/UTs
4. To make an assessment of the extent up to which the scheme, in the revised form, has been successful in delivering the desired benefits of SC students.
5. To analysis efficacy and effectiveness of the scheme from perspective of successful completion of courses by beneficiaries of the scheme within time and gainful utilization of acquired professional and other expertise by way of employment or entrepreneurship.
6. Efficiency and effectiveness of the private professional educational institutes with respect to the fee charges for merit and management seats.
7. To assess the robustness of procedures for selection of students for various courses and fixation of fee.
8. Online Processing
  - a) Whether the State has migrated to online processing of disbursement of scholarships.
  - b) Whether every student is given a unique ID either Aadhar based or by other means in order to eliminate possibilities of duplication and false claims.
  - c) Analyze minimum and maximum time between successful application and release of scholarship and reasons for inordinate delays, if any.
  - d) Whether DBT is being done to all students' accounts in respect of both maintenance fees and tuition fees.
  - e) Provision for application of renewal scholarships online. Renewal percentage. Whether it is as per the guide lines of the scheme.
  - f) Whether all beneficiary private institutions, aided/ unaided are registering on the portal with full details of their accreditation courses conducted, seats allotted

for each course, fee structure etc. duly vetted by concerned regulatory authority of the States/ UTs.

- g) Is online verification process of eligibility credentials such as caste certificates, income certificates, mark-sheets etc. is applied.
- h) Status of enrolments of SC students (male and female) and their percentage. If an institution has enrolment of more than 60% of SC students then the reasons may be determined.
- i) Whether Academic Institutions/ States/ UTs are following specified time lines for receiving application from Students and forwarding to States and States submitting their demand to Centre.

#### **9. Payment / Mode of Disbursal of scholarship**

- a) The periodicity of release of maintenance allowance to intended beneficiaries monthly/ quarterly/ half yearly etc
- b) Whether, the maintenance allowance is sufficient to meet basic needs of the beneficiary to continue his/her study?
- c) Gauge the effectiveness of parental income limit
- d) Whether the scholarship has enabled the students to continue higher studies and how effective it is in restricting the dropout rates and improving gross enrolment ratio at higher education and facilitating employment

#### **10. Profile of Institutions**

- a) Type of institution – Whether Government/ aided/ private college recognized/ approved/ affiliated/ accredited by appropriate regulatory body established by State/ Centre.
- b) The spread of institution – Urban / Rural areas.
- c) Whether, the institutions have adequate infrastructure in terms of man power (teaching and non-teaching staff), offices, classrooms, civic amenities etc for providing quality education to students
- d) Whether, Book Bank Facility is setup in all the Medical Engineering, Law and Veterinary colleges and Institute imparting CA, MBA and a like management courses, polytechnics where scheduled caste students are in receipt of PMS scholarship.
- e) Effect on enrolment, of payment of tuition fees directly to students accounts

- f) Whether the number of students admitted and courses run by institute is within the number approved by concerned authority.
- g) Support provided to the students for applying for the scholarship- whether on line applications are accepted especially in rural areas.
- h) If access to computer and internet is required, whether they are provided by the educational institution to encourage and assist students in enrolling for the scholarship.
- i) The modalities of the admission process employed by States to make it merit based, whether through open competition or marks scored in previous examination or otherwise may be highlighted through quantitative data.
- j) Attendance marking: Mode of marking attendance on line or physical (physical record of attendance to be checked). Minimum 75% attendance is mandatory.

### **11. Funding Pattern**

- a) Analyse the year wise expenditure pattern vis a vis beneficiaries by States/ UTs under the scheme during the period 2014-15 to 2018-19 and related reasons for the same.
- b) Centre and State fund contribution pattern during the period of study, under the scheme.
- c) Constraints in implementation of the scheme by the State/ UT with the Committed Liability concept, if any, and need to adopt any other sharing pattern.

### **12. Fee Fixation**

- a) The fee ranges of Govt/ Govt aided/ private Institutions of some selected course.
- b) Whether fee capping is applicable is State for the selected courses. If, so m details may be provided.
- c) Whether the fee is fixed by Fee Fixation (Regulation) Committee/ Fee Rationalization Committee/ Independent Committee of the University/ Institution. The variation in the fee so fixed, vis-a-vis the fee fixed by Govt. Institutions and fee fixed for Govt. seats in self-financing institutions may be highlighted.

### **13. Inspection and Monitoring of the scheme**

- a) Whether the States/ Union Territories implementing the scheme has put up an IT enabled monitoring mechanism in place to monitor physical and financial performance of the scheme.
- b) Whether State is placing relevant physical and financial details on their official website/ scholarship portal, easily accessible to all.
- c) Whether, the States/ Union territories is furnishing timely the quarterly financial and physical progress reports to the Ministry in specified format.
- d) Whether the States/ Union Territories are maintaining year wise details of the students receiving scholarship, indicating district wise school/ college/ institute with complete address, government or private, class/ course, gender and new renewal scholarship.
- e) Amount paid towards fee, maintenance charges, additional allowance for disabled students, study tour, thesis typing, and book allowance for correspondence courses and book bank facility should be indicated.
- f) Whether the State/ UT Governments are ensuring that all institutions leading to under graduate courses and above are inspected by a State government officer not below the rank of a Gazetted officer at least one in a year. If malfeasance is reported/ suspected, is the State taking any action by way of black listing the institution/ reporting to the police etc.
- g) Monitoring mechanism – whether details are placed on National Scholarship portal or portal of State.

14. Any other improvements or additions to the scheme that can make it more effective and meet its objectives in the present scenario.

15. Key findings based on the data collected from the field on the objectives of the study

16. Shortcomings identified in the design of the existing scheme if any;

17. Recommendations / suggestions for necessary restricting to be carried in the scheme to achieve desired results and need for its continuation.

The study covered 7 States i.e., Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Tripura.

## STUDY AREA

SNO	Zone	States
1	Central	Uttar Pradesh
2	North	Punjab Rajasthan
3	North East	Tripura
4	West	Maharashtra
5	South	Andhra Pradesh Tamil Nadu

## SAMPLE SIZE

### State wise sample size (Reference period 2018-19)

SNo	Name of the State	Sample Size (Number of beneficiaries)		
		Govt. Institution	Private Institutions	Total
1	Uttar Pradesh	8000	8000	16,000
2	Punjab	3000	3000	6,000
3	Rajasthan	1000	1000	2,000
4	Maharashtra	4000	4000	8,000
5	Andhra Pradesh	2500	2500	5,000
6	Tamil Nadu	6000	6000	12,000
7	Tripura	500	500	1,000
Total		25,000	25,000	50,000



## MAJOR FINDINGS

### Implementation of the scheme by the states

- The post matric scholarship is implemented in states based on guidelines issued from time to time. All states except Tripura have their own PMS portals which regulate the application by students, verification by institutions, sanction by district welfare office and disbursement by the state SC department. In Tripura applications are submitted by students through national scholarship portal and state conducts verifications and accords sanction offline.
- Committed Liability - Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan felt that the sharing pattern is in right direction. Punjab State has raised concern over this sharing pattern. The Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh felt that the Centre share has to be increased at least by 10% and Maharashtra State felt that the revised committed liability is not feasible in the states with high SC population. In view of this they are proposing the similar sharing like Tribal Department i.e., 75% Central and 25% State shares.
- The scholarship is disbursed through direct benefit transfer to the bank account of students online.
- In case the student does not receive the sanctioned amount in a particular academic session, the same is released by the state in subsequent year and credited to the bank account of the students by the states.
- During the study it was found that the major issue in the scholarship scheme is delay in getting the scholarship amount. Students won't get the amount during the admission. So institutes allow the student admissions and after the scholarship amount is released to the students, they pay back the amount to the institutions. This has become regular practice in all states.
- The post matric scholarship is sanctioned and released to all eligible applicants in states after verification of eligibility conditions and requisite documents. However states follow certain priorities in disbursement In Tripura, first priority is given to government Institutions. In all other States it is on first come first served basis provided with proper documents and meet the eligibility criteria.
- The Fee fixation/ regulation committee fixes the fee structures in the state. In Andhra Pradesh, it is AP Higher Education Regulatory and Monitoring Commission. In Rajasthan, Punjab and Tripura, it is Fee Regulatory Committee.

Whereas in Tamil Nadu it is Fee Fixation Committee. In Uttar Pradesh, it is Admission & Fee Regulatory Committee and in Maharashtra, it is Fee Regulatory Authority.

- Every State is sending the financial and physical progress reports to the Ministry in specified formats except Andhra Pradesh. During study they said that they are not sending quarterly but sending as and when required. All other states said that they are submitting report quarterly. They further said that there might be little bit delays sometime because of the delay in getting information or delay in internal approvals.
- As per the revised guidelines of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, the states has to upload the physical and financial performance in their websites. The Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Punjab has uploaded. But other states ie., Tripura, Maharashtra and Rajasthan etc have not uploaded complete details in their websites.
- The details of students receiving scholarship, district wise institutions, type of institutions, curses, gender, new/renewal scholarships are maintained by the State Governments in the portal and reports. Still there is a need to mention the institutions with fee structures on public portal for the benefit of students.

### **Particulars of the beneficiary students**

- Among the beneficiaries of seven states, about 56.3% are male and 43.7% are female under PMS-SC. About 25 members i.e., 0.02% of the total beneficiaries are transgender in Rajasthan State.
- It is observed that 65.8% come under the age group of up to 20 years, while 27.3% beneficiaries belong to the age group of 21 to 25 years and 6.9% beneficiaries are in the age group of above 25 years. State wise analysis observed that majority of the beneficiary students are up to 20 years of age and high number of them are found in Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh.
- 55% parents of surveyed beneficiaries are farmers, 31.5% are casual labour, 7.7% are employed and 4.3% are doing small business. Majority of the parents or guardians of the beneficiary students in Andhra Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu are farmers, majority of the parents or guardians in Uttar Pradesh and Tripura are casual labourers.

- It was observed that majority (65.2%) of the parents or guardians income from all sources is below Rs.50,000/-per annum , while 29.5% parents or guardians annual income is in between Rs.50,000/- and Rs.1 lakh and 5.3% parents or guardians annual income is above 1lakh to 2.5 lakhs. State wise analysis of data on parents or guardians income shows that majority of the parents or guardians' income is below Rs.50, 000 per annum in Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
- 25.38% beneficiary students received amount between Rs.20,000 to Rs.50,000, while 24.38% students received amount between Rs.10,000 to Rs.20,000. 18.61% students received amount Rs.5,000 to Rs.10,000 and 14.46% students received Rs.3000 to Rs.5,000. Whereas 4.98% students received less than Rs.3,000 and 12.18% students received amount above Rs.50,000. The less amounts are received by students because they are still in their 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> years and also due to bank account problems or due to delay in payments.
- Overall renewal percentage is 62.54% in all the states. Renewal application is provided in every state portals. Especially in Andhra Pradesh, district wise renewal status is also provided in the portal.
- 81.03% institutes have adequate facilities and 18.97% of the institutes are not adequate. This is mainly due to not having enough civic amenities. However, they have enough manpower and required number of classrooms, labs and other office rooms etc.
- 67.76% institutes have adequate facilities and 32.24% of the institutes are not adequate. This is mainly due to not having enough classrooms and staff to some extent.
- Most of the institutions i.e., 84.79% are in urban areas of the states and 15.21% are in rural areas. Students travel to the urban areas and study during their higher education.
- 51.5% of the maintenance allowance is released yearly, 30.9% is released half-yearly, 13.5% is released quarterly, and in few cases i.e., 4.2% of students get after one year. There are various reason for this like bank issues, delay in releases and issues in scholarship application during verification. Students of Punjab State haven't received any scholarship in the year 2018-19.

- On analysis of the courses being pursued by surveyed beneficiary students reveals that 22.11% students are studying in Group-1 courses, while 18.63% in Group-II, 23.94% in Group-III and 24.30% in group-IV courses.
- The study found that 11.8% of beneficiaries completed the course and 88.2% beneficiaries are still undergoing the course for which the post matric scholarship was provided. High percentage of beneficiaries completed their courses in Rajasthan State and then Andhra Pradesh when compared to other states.
- It was observed that 89.5% of beneficiaries have received the scholarship for 9 to 12 months, while 10.5% beneficiaries have received scholarship for 13 to 24 months.
- 35.80% of the beneficiaries study in the Government and Government Aid Institutions and 64.20% of the beneficiaries study in Private Institutions at the time of receiving the post matric scholarship. High percentage of private institutions is found in Rajasthan i.e., 75.2%. This indicates the role of private institutions is more for availing this scheme. Therefore there is a need to strict monitoring and awareness on the scheme functionalities and requirement.
- 95.4% of the beneficiaries viewed that the scholarship amount given under the scheme is adequate, while 4.6% of the beneficiaries viewed that the scholarship amount under the scheme is inadequate.
- More than three-fourth(85.9%) surveyed beneficiary students viewed that the income ceiling of Rs.2.5 lakhs per annum to receive the scholarship is justified, while about one-fifth (14.1%) students viewed the income ceiling of Rs.2.5 lakhs is unjustified.
- 67.5% beneficiaries are benefited from the post matric scholarship to large extent and about 18.3% beneficiaries are benefited to some extent. Whereas for about 14.2% students did not find the scholarship sufficient to pursue the higher studies. In Punjab the 80.4 % beneficiaries did not benefit because they didn't get the scholarship amount, 2.4% benefited to large extent and 17.2% benefited to some extent because initially institutes allowed them to continue their studies thinking that later scholarship amount will be reimbursed. That is how few students benefited.

- It is observed that 1.4% of the beneficiaries are employed, 8% are unemployed and 2.4% are self-employed. Whereas 88.1% of them are students and still utilizing the benefits of the scheme.
- 32% of the beneficiaries felt that the post matric scholarship is excellent scheme, while 46% of the beneficiaries said that the scheme is good. About 18.7% of beneficiaries felt the scheme is average because the scheme is not covering their requirements completely. In Punjab 30.5% of the beneficiaries ranked the scheme average and 14.2% beneficiaries felt the scheme is not useful because the scholarship amount is not released since 2017. Though students are applying for the scheme every year they are not getting the amount. Moreover institutions are unable to bear the financial burden.

### **Awareness and submission of application**

- All the State Government/UT Administrations announces the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in the leading newspapers of the state and through their respective websites. It is observed that 38.1% beneficiary students came to know about the scheme from the newspaper, while 34% have come to know from the Institutions, 19.8% have come to know about the scheme from the internet, 5.2% have come to know from the friends and 3% have come to know from the District welfare Office.
- 71.8% beneficiaries found it easy to submit the application form online and 28.2% of the students found it difficult while uploading the application. The difficulty faced by the students in submitting the application form is due to low network availability and low speed of the portal.
- It is observed 93.5% stated that they get good support from both Institution and District Welfare Officers, while 6.5% stated that they won't get support or information. Especially in Punjab most of them feel that though they submit the applications online, the scholarship is not released because neither the institute nor the district welfare officers are following up with the higher authorities. In the other states it is because of the grievance redressal.

## **GAPS IN ACHIEVEMENT OF OUTCOMES**

The following gaps are found in the implementation of the scheme:

- a) There is no timelines prescribed in the guidelines nor any order issued by the Ministry for preparation and submission of annual action plan for assessing the number of eligible beneficiaries under PMS schemes and the strategy for their timely coverage. There is no year wise database which could be used to arrive at estimate for succeeding years. Due to this there is a wide variation in estimated number of beneficiaries in comparison with actual number of beneficiaries.
- b) The scheme guidelines stipulate that all State Governments/UT Administrations will announce in May-June each year the details of the scheme and invite applications by issuing an advertisement in leading newspapers of the State through their respective websites and other media outfits. The applicants should submit the completed application to the prescribed authority before the last date prescribed for receipt of applications. The application is verified, processed and sanctioned by the prescribed authority after which the scholarship is granted to the student from the State Treasury. With revised guidelines the following is the schedule:
  - Announcement of the scheme – May-June
  - Application submission – 30<sup>th</sup> November
  - Sending the demand for Central Assistance – 31<sup>st</sup> December

The implementation of the above schedule is to be monitored. Dates are not prescribed for the subsequent processes like time by which students submit their application, when institution has to forward the applications to the District Social Welfare Officer, when District Welfare Officer has to approve the applications and send for the sanction of the payment of scholarships to the students. This entire process need to be monitored by the Ministry.

- c) Most of the private Institutions are not uploading complete fee structure in their websites or there is no one platform where all the fee structures are found so far. And institution wise fee fixation is to be provided in the portal for easy access to the students.

## **KEY BOTTLENECKS & CHALLENGES**

### **The following are the challenges faced in the scheme:**

1. The online portal is maintained by NIC in the states of Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra. Andhra Pradesh state has separate portal for the schemes i.e., Jnanbhumi.ap.gov.in. Tripura is the only state that is using National Scholarship Portal. There is no uniformity in the portal system.
2. Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan felt that the sharing pattern is in right direction. Punjab State has raised concern over this sharing pattern. The Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh felt that the Centre share has to be increased at least by 10% and Maharashtra State felt that the revised committed liability is not feasible in the states with high SC population. Moreover, in the current situation of COVID it is difficult to meet the target beneficiaries with the available funds of the State Government. They are proposing the similar sharing like Tribal Department i.e., 75% Central and 25% State shares.
3. Though Tripura uses National Portal, they still process the applications at the state level separately for the disbursement of the scholarships.
4. Students don't have knowledge on the online applications and so depend on the institutions and district level social welfare office to apply for the scholarship.
5. It was observed that in the states of Punjab and Tamil Nadu there are issues in beneficiaries' eligibility, application procedures and scholarship disbursement.
6. The scholarship amount was not released to Punjab after the year 2016-17. Students and Institutions are facing problems due to non-disbursal of scholarship amount.
7. The funds released by the Central Government is not sufficient in view of the growing demand. This is resulting in the accumulation of arrears.
8. The available funds are not fully utilized by Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu States.
9. Monitoring of the Institutions and Grievance redressal mechanism is not fully implemented by the states.

## Issues & Challenges

- Every state has their own PMS Portal and they regulate the applications of the students, sanctioned by District Welfare Officers and disbursed through SC Welfare Department. Where in Tripura the students submit application online in National Scholarship Portal and State conducts verifications and accords the sanction offline. There is no one centralized system for the implementation of the scheme.
- Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan felt that the sharing pattern is in right direction. Punjab State has raised concern over this sharing pattern. The Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh felt that the Centre share has to be increased at least by 10% and Maharashtra State felt that the revised committed liability is not feasible in the states with high SC population. Moreover, in the current situation of COVID it is difficult to meet the target beneficiaries with the available funds of the State Government. They are proposing the similar sharing like Tribal Department i.e., 75% Central and 25% State shares.
- There is no timely release of funds which is effecting the utilization of the scheme benefits by the students.
- The Punjab State haven't received any funds from 2017, whereas students are applying for the scholarship every year. The Centre and State are not on the same page over sharing the liability.
- There are pending arrears which are to be paid by the states to the students because of delayed insufficient funds by the Centre.



## **VISION FOR FUTURE**

In the evaluation study of “Post Matric Scheme for SC students” various aspects of the implementation and impact of the scholarship provided under the scheme are assessed. This study indicates that the scheme has been successful to a great extent. The support under this scholarship scheme has made substantial impact on the beneficiary students in providing financial assistance for their higher study and completion of respective course. But still there is a need to increase the performance by concentrating on the low performing states. The revised guidelines are to be effectively implemented with stringent monitoring and evaluation of the scheme.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SCHEME WITH REASONS**

- 1) Wide publicity on the scheme has to be done in all states before the beginning of the academic year for better utilization of the scheme by the students.
- 2) The usage of National Scholarship Portal is to be effectively done after ample awareness on its usage to the state offices, district offices, institutions and beneficiaries. This portal has to be implemented by resolving the existing issues faced while using the state portals.
- 3) The District Welfare Officers should ensure that the benefits of the Post Matric Scholarship Scheme to the beneficiaries are provided during the academic year because the poorest of the poor students are generally unable to access the benefit as they cannot organize the payment of tuition fees at the time of admission as the scholarship is released to them after 6 to 9 months of admission.
- 4) There is a need to revise the amount of scholarship on the basis of the type of courses taken up by the beneficiaries and the location of the institution in view of the increase in fee structures.
- 5) The introduction of portals has created enough transparency in the sanction of Post Matric Scholarships, aadhar number enrolments in the bank accounts of the beneficiary students, and release of scholarship through DBT to the accounts of the

beneficiary students. This system is to be strengthened and increase the transparency with the following:

- States may conduct special audit of institutions with regard to the eligibility conditions, payment of tuition fees and maintenance allowance every year. The audit may also cover the utilization of grant given for the purpose of book bank, fees for library, sports, medical examination etc.
- Special inspection may also be conducted by the States to verify actual boarding status of beneficiary students in the hostels of the academic institutions in the respect of those who avail maintenance allowance under the scheme.

6) The institutes are to be made responsible by collecting information regarding admission of the beneficiary students, admission pass out and drop out details including the fees received in respect of beneficiary students within one month of disbursement of the scholarship to the State Government. The State shall fix a date of submission for the above details.

7) In case of any issue, students often face the problems in follow up with the district level officials, who have no authority to solve the issue as the money is transferred centrally from the State Office. State Government should provide grievance redressal at State and also the district level so that the issues are resolved soon. Revised guidelines also indicates that every state should have State and District level Designated Grievance Redressal Officers (GROs) to redress students' scholarship – related grievances.

8) As most of the students are from very poor background, they do not make regular transactions in their bank account and therefore the bank account becomes periodically inactive. In some cases the money transferred online is returned and no limitation is sent to students in this regard. The students have to run from pillar to post to get their scholarship. It is proposed that advisory may be issued by the Government of India to banks to evolve a mechanism where such accounts are not made dormant due to lack of periodic transactions.

- 9) The institutes should allow students to take admission with the approval letter of the scholarship which can be automatically generated once the state approves. And the payments can be done by the students once the amounts are release to the students. But state should also ensure that the amounts are release with the academic year period.
- 10) As the knowledge of students in English language and computer is generally very poor, workshops should be conducted at least once in a year at school and college level. The detailed procedure of application online and offline should be explained in detail by the institution authorities and doubts of students should be addressed.
- 11) All Institutions (Government/ Aided/Private) has to upload the complete fee structures in their websites for easy availability to the students. Moreover, Fee fixation details are to be provided in the websites of the higher education and social welfare so that students know their eligibilities for availing various facilities in the institutions.