File No.:PMD-10/1/2023-US-(PM-DAKSH)

Date : 13.12.2023

Frequently Asked Questions and Answers on PM-DAKSH Scheme (December, 2023)

1. **What is the full form of the PM-DAKSH ?**

- The full form of PM-DAKSH is Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi. It is a Central sector scheme.

2. **Who introduced the PM-DAKSH scheme?**

- The PM-DAKSH scheme has been introduced by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in 2020-21.

3. **What is the main objective of the PM-DAKSH scheme?**

- The main objective of this scheme is economic empowerment of socially, educationally and economically backward classes.

4. **Which target groups are covered under the PM-DAKSH scheme?**

- The scheme covers OBCs, EBCs, DNTs, SCs, and Safai Karamcharis including waster pickers.

5. **Are individuals from all States/UTs of India eligible for the scheme?**

- Yes, the scheme is applicable to individuals from all States/UTs of India fulfilling the criteria norms.

6. **What is the age limit for individuals to apply for the scheme?**

- Age group to which the scheme is applicable is 18-45 years.

7. **How can one check if he/she is eligible for the PM-DAKSH scheme?**

- Eligibility criteria can be checked on the scheme's official website i.e. www.pmdaksh.dosje.gov.in

8. **What types of trainings are provided under the PM-DAKSH scheme?**

- 4 different types of trainings are offered across various sectors ie. EDP , Upskilling, Short & long term courses.

9. **What is the training cost of all the trainings?**

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

- Training cost of different programmes are given below-

Course	Cost
Upskilling	Rs8000/-(for 2021-22& 2022-23)for NSFDC & NBCFDC, Rs8500/-(for 2023-24 to 2025-26)for NSFDC & NBCFDC Rs3000/- for NSKFDC
Short term courses	Rs 22000/-(for 2021-22& 2022-23) Rs23,500/-(for 2023-24 to 2025-26)
EDP	Rs 7000/-(for 2021-22 & 2022-23) Rs 7500/-(for 2023-24 to 2025-26)
Long term courses	Rs 45000/-(for 2021-22 & 2022-23) Rs 47,500/- (for 2023-23 to 2025-26)

10. **What is the target group of long term courses?**

- Youths, women & artisans etc. belonging to SC,OBC,EBC,DNT categories who are 10th class pass or more are the target group of long term.

11. **Can beneficiaries choose the type of training they want to undergo?**

- Yes, they can choose training program.

12. **What are the durations of different types of trainings?**

- Duration of training varies based on the chosen course-

Program	Duration
Upskilling	35 to 60 hours/ 5 to 35 days
Short term courses	300hrs to 3 months
EDP	90hrs(15days)
Long term courses	650 hrs or 7 months

13. **Is the training provided through online or offline modes?**

- Training can be provided through both online as well as offline modes.

14. **Do the training programs provide certifications upon completion?**

- Certifications are provided upon successful completion of training through the MSDE recognised Awarding Bodies.

15. **Are the training programs free of cost for the beneficiaries?**

- Yes,the training programs are free of cost.

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India

16. **What measures are taken to ensure the quality of training programs?**

- Quality is maintained through regular assessments, monitoring and curriculum updates.

17. How can individuals apply for the PM-DAKSH scheme?

- Applications can be submitted online only on the indicated portal of PM-DAKSH Scheme.

18.PM- DAKSH is implemented by which agencies?

- It is implemented through 3 PSUs i.e.
  (i) NSFDC(National Scheduled Castes Finance & Development Corporation)
  (ii) NBCFDC(National Backward Classes Finance & Development Corporation) and
  (iii) NSKFDC(National Safai Karamcharis Finance & Development Corporation)
  under overall supervision and guidance of MoSJE.

19.What are the expenses paid to trainees during training in Upskilling?

- Rs 2500/- to SC/OBC/DNT/EBC & Rs 500/- to safai karamcharis including waste pickers are paid for the complete duration of course.

20.What is the stipend paid to non-residential trainee in short term courses?

- Rs 1500/- per month for SC & Sanitation workers including waste pickers and their dependents , Rs 1000/- per month to OBC/DNT/EBC for complete duration of course is paid to the non-residential trainee by the Corporation through DBT.

21. **What is target group of EDP?**

- SC/OBC/EBC/DNT youth who have already undergone skill training under PMKVY are the target groups for EDP training.

22. **What is the stipend paid to non-residential trainee in long term courses?**

- Rs 1500/- per month for SC, Rs 1000/- per month to OBC/DNT/EBC is paid to the trainee by Corporations through DBT.

23. **What is the eligibility for different categories?**

- The eligibility conditions for different categories are :
  i. Age 18-45 years
  ii. OBC with income below 3 lacs

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

iii. EBC with income below 1 lacs

iv. No income limit for Sc/DNT/ safai karamchari

v. should possess an aadhar card & bank account linked with aadhar.

24. **What is the normal period of empanelment under the scheme?**

- The normal period of empanelment of private institutes is 3 years subject to fulfilment of other conditions elaborated in scheme guidelines.

25. **What are the criteria for selecting training institute?**

- i. The training institute must have a valid letter of Registraion(LoR) issued through SMART portal of NSDC.
  ii. Past performance including placement record.

26.What are the requirements for conducting training through training partners?

- i. It is to be registered with Sector Skill Councils (SSCs)/MSDE via smart portal and have a valid LoR
  ii. must have specified physical and academic infrastructure including classroom training, projector, screen , white board cctv, biometric system
  iii. must be having tie up with industries for proper placement

27.Is Stipend provided directly to beneficiaries or to training centers?

- Stipend is provided directly to beneficiaries' Aadhar seeded bank account through DBT.

28.Is there any mobile portal for implementation of this program?

- Yes, there is a PM DAKSH portal & PM Daksh mobile app giving the list of TIs , Job roles & locations in which training would be imparted.

29.How is the information regarding payment made to institutes, trainees is maintained?

- PM DAKSH portal has been provisioned for the information regarding payment made to TIs through PFMS, payment made to trainees through DBT which is accessible to officials of MoSJE.

30.Can beneficiaries choose their area of interest & institute for training?

- Eligible candidates while registering for training with Aadhar, can specify their area of interest & also select institution where one would like to take

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India

training.

31. **How is the selection of candidates done for skill training?**

- The desired candidates have to give online psychometric test using portal. After passing of the psychometric test, the documents of candidates are verified by Selection Committee and final selection is done.

32.How is the payment made to TIs?

- Payment is made to TIs after commencement of training programmes by NSFDC,NBCFDC& NSKFDC through an online process without any paper work.

33.In how many instalment payment is made to TIs in Short term & Long term training?

- These payments are made in three instalments, the first instalment of 30% on commencement, 40% on successful certification & 30% on placement verification.

34.In how many instalment payment is made to TIs in EDP & upskilling programmes?

- In EDP & upskilling, payment is paid in two instalments of 50% each on commencement & certification.

35.Is there any attendance criteria for trainee to get stipend?

- Yes, they need to maintain at least 80% attendance to be eligible for the stipend.

36. In how many instalments the payment of residential cost of training is paid to the institute?

- From 2023-24, the residential cost of training shall be paid in 2 instalments @50% each at the time of commencement of training (alongwith release of first instalment) and at the time of conclusion of training (alongwith release of second instalment).

37.How does the government monitor the progress of the PM-DAKSH scheme?

- Progress is monitored through regular assessments, instant information on Whatsapp groups, monitoring through photographs and videos uploaded by the institutes and assessment of beneficiaries outcomes.

38.What is done to unspent money provided to corporations?

- As per 230(8) of GFR,2017 all interest or other payment is remitted to consolidated fund of India.

39.Can private institute take part in training?

- Yes, they are finalized on the recommendation of committee.

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

40.What are De-Notified tribes?

- De-Notified Tribes are the tribes in India that were listed originally under the Criminal Tribes act of 1871.

41.What is NSQF?

- The National Skills Qualifications Framework (NSQF) is **a** competency-based framework that organizes all qualifications according to a series of levels of knowledge, skills and aptitude.

42.What is NOS?

- A National Occupational Standard (NOS) is **a** document that describes the knowledge, skills and understanding an individual needs to be competent at a job.

43.Can a person undergo training more than once through PM daksh?

- No, A person is eligible to undergo training under skill development training programme only once.

44. Which Ministry issues NSQF, NOS?

- It is issued by ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship(MSDE).

45. Is it permissible to change the centre from one district to another district or from one state to another?

- No, the change of training center from one district to another or from one State to another is NOT permitted. Any such request from the training institutes may be interpreted as unwillingness of the institute concerned to undertake training in that District and this may lead to withdrawal of work order of the institute in that District.

46. **Is it permissible to change the job role sanctioned to TI with the approval of the department?**
    a. No, the change of job role is not allowed at the request of the training institute. Any such request from the training institutes may be interpreted as unwillingness of the institute concerned to undertake training in that District and this may lead to withdrawal of work order of the institute in that District.

46. **Is it permissible to change the location of TC within the same district? If yes, what is the procedure?**
    a. The change of location/address of TC within the district before the commencement / SCM is permissible through update button / feature in PM-Daksh portal provided that the institute concerned is

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

able to submit valid LOR for the changed location. However, the change of training centre after the commencement of the batch is allowed through the written permission from the Department based on the valid reason submitted by the training institute. Also LOR and accreditation certificate will be required in respect of the final training centre at the time of first and second instalment respectively.

47. **Is it permissible to change training centre details like SPOC name, mobile number, and centre address?**

    a. Yes, change of SPOC name / mobile number is allowed through the update button / feature in PM-Daksh portal. However, change is address is allowed as per the answer of preceding question.

48. **Is it permissible to open more than one TC in the same district due to unmanageable sanctioned training strength? If yes, what is the procedure?**

    a. Yes, Multiple training centres are allowed in one district for large training target which is not manageable at one training centre. TI can operationalize multiple TCs in the same district and job role as per the work order. However, in no case, the total training target shall exceed the sanctioned training target within the district / corporation. Separate LOR and accreditation certificates will be required for each training centre for the process of payment. The minimum centre capacity should 240 trainees of all the three corporations.

49. **What is the procedure for organizing the Selection Committee Meeting (SCM)?**

    a. The procedure has been indicated in the work order. The Selection of eligible candidates would be finalized by the Selection Committee having Members from the concerned Training Institute, Nodal Officer/District Officer of SCAs; Officer from District Social Welfare Department; Representative from Nationalized Bank; Representative of Government/Collector Office; Representative from concerned industry; Representative from the ministry / department / corporations etc. (At-least three members from above). At least one member must be from Government Organisation.

51. **What actions are to be taken by the TI after the conclusion of the SCM?**

    a. It is understood that after conduction of SCM, the institute concern should commence the training from the next working day. Institute are advised to inform the date of commencement of training to the department as well as corporation for the purpose of record. Wherever the institute wants to defer the commencement of the training to a future date, the institute is invariably required to communicate the department and the corporation concern the reason of such delay and the commencement date, from which it will be able to start the training. If at any juncture of time, it has been spotted the that the institute has not commenced the training from the next working day of the SCM or by the date as communicated by them as the case may, such observation shall be viewed seriously.

51. **Is it necessary to obtain a commencement letter from the**

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

corporation for each batch even after the work order, financial order, and conduction of SCM?

The answer to the preceding question will cover this question.

53. **What is the actual date of commencement of the TC?**

a. The actual commencement date of the Training Center is usually from the day following the Selection Committee Meeting (SCM) or as communicated by the institute concerned in writing as per the procedure elaborated in preceding questions.

54. **What is the procedure for commencement of the training?**

- The institute concerned shall ensure that the infrastructure prescribed by MSDE and indicated by it and approved by MSDE while issuing LoR is available in the institute. The faculties as per the LoR must also be available. The institute should also place a banner at the entrance of the premises and in each of the training room giving details of the Department, Corporation, Scheme, Center, Job-role and training strength. The institute shall ensure biometric attendance of the trainees every day and shall also take at least five geo-tagged and time-stamped photographs and a small video and upload the same on the PM-DAKSH Portal daily. If due to some technical reasons, the uploading of these photographs is not possible, the institute should invariably send these photographs to the Corporation concerned through email as a token of proof of attendance and satisfactory conduction of training.

55. **What is the permissible batch size for initializing training?**

- The permissible batch size shall depend upon the space and physical and academic infrastructure available at the center of the training. However, it is advisable that not more than 240 trainees may be trained at a single center and if the sanctioned strength for training at the center is more, the institute can open new training centers in the same District as per the procedure explained in preceding questions.

56. **What are the permissible training hours per day?**

- Keeping in view the capacity of the trainees, trainers and other factors, the training hours per day may range from 4 hours to 8 hours daily in respect of both residential as well as non-residential trainees. The institute concerned should inform the Corporations and Department in writing at the time of commencement of training about the number of training hours and the timing thereof for conduction of training at the center.

57. **What is the procedure of marking attendance and monitoring thereof by the department/corporation?**

a. The attendance shall be monitored by the Aadhar based biometric system. However, till such time such mechanism is put in place by the department /corporations, biometric attendance system shall be utilized for monitoring the attendance. The institute concern shall provide a link thereof to the concern corporation, if they so desire. In addition, the institute concern shall upload 5 geotagged / time stamped photographs/ short video of conduction of training every day on the PM-DAKSH Portal. If for technical reason, such uploading of photographs is not possible, the institute concern

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India

should invariably forward the photographs / video to the corporation concerned. These measures should be held sufficient to establish the attendance of the trainee and conduction of the training as per provision of scheme. Further the department / NSKFDC shall endeavour to expedite the process of implementation of Aadhar based attendance system.

58. **Is it necessary to live stream CCTV for monitoring of the training?**

    a. Live streaming of CCTV camera data and similar such modality of monitoring training are neither prescribed in the scheme of MSDE like PMKVY nor provisioned in the scheme guidelines of PM-Daksh. Further, in the work order, the institute was given a choice either to upload five geo-tagged time-stamped photographs or provide link to live stream CCTV data. Thus, it is not necessary to live stream CCTV for monitoring of training.

59. **What are the requisite qualification criteria for trainers and requirement of ToT certificate?**

    a. Qualification criteria for trainers are outlined in the model curriculum of the respective job role. The relevant educational qualifications, industry experience, and training experience are specified in all the job roles by NSDC / MSDE. At the time of application for LoR on SMART Portal, the institute is required to give details of the faculty including their academic and professional qualifications, work experience and Aadhar details. These details are verified through desk appraisal by MSDE/NSDC at the time of issue of LoR and physically verified by the officials of these organisations at the time of issuance of Letter of Accreditation (LoA). Therefore, the qualifications of the faculty would be as per prescribed in the model curriculum of the respective job role.

60. **What is the procedure/requirement to ensure the physical or academic infrastructure of the training centre?**

- The sufficiency of availability of physical and academic infrastructure is ascertained by MSDE/NSDC at the time of consideration of applications for issuance of LoR through desk appraisal. Further, this is verified physically by the MSDE/NSDC by visiting the institute at the time of issuance of LoA. The personnel deputed by MSDE/NSDC are professionally qualified to make a judicious assessment about availability or otherwise of physical infrastructure. They are the prescribed authority by the Government of India for making such assessments. However, the visiting team of the Corporations and Department may make observations, wherever, in its opinion the infrastructure is not sufficient or functional.

61. **How is the sufficiency of the infrastructure at any TC checked?**

- The process of assessing sufficiency of infrastructure of any TC has been explained in reply to the preceding question.

62. **What is the minimum percentage of attendance requisite for the disbursement of the second instalment to the TI?**

- From the year 2023-24, the second instalment shall be released on pro-rata basis to the TIs in respect of all those trainees who have 70% or more

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India

attendance.

63. **What are the sample annexure formats for different instalment stages?**

- The sample annexure formats for different instalment stages are attached at annexure to these FAQs.

64. **How is the invoice for 1st / 2nd / 3rd instalment to be submitted?**

- The invoice and the documents to be sent therewith has been indicated in the work order. Such invoice should be sent to the Corporation concerned through email as well as through physical signed copy. A copy of the invoice with its enclosures should also invariably be uploaded on the Google Form, if the link thereof has been shared by the Department.

65. **What is the reasonable period under which TI can expect the payment under the provision of the scheme?**

- The para (vi)(ix) of the scheme guidelines provide for release of first instalment of 30% by the Corporation to the TIs on the date of commencement of the training programme for STT and LTT. The scheme guidelines also provide for manual free online processing of proposals. However, since the PM-DAKSH Portal has not been upgraded to that level for processing and releasing payment through it, it is expected that the Corporations should release the payment of first, second or third instalment, as the case may be, within seven days of receipt of proposal from the institute. In no case, such period may extend beyond 15 days.

66. **After completion of the course, who is responsible for conducting the trainees' assessment for sufficient learning outcomes?**

- The assessment of learning outcomes of the trainees is affected through the MSDE/NSDC/NCVET approved assessment agencies. The Department may shortlist some of these agencies for undertaking the assessment work. The institute shall be free to higher services of any of these shortlisted assessment agencies for conduction of assessment work. Since these assessment agencies insist on advance payment for assessment work, the institute concerned shall make the payment to them and get the same reimbursed at the time of second instalment.

67. **What is the procedure for engaging assessment agencies and making payment for assessment work?**

- The procedure has been explained in reply to the preceding question.

68. **How are inspections of the institute for verifying the quality of the training affected by the department/corporation/PMU?**

- The scheme guidelines have provisioned routine inspections by the Department/Corporations/PMUs to assess satisfactory conduction of training and learning enhancement of the trainees. Generally, such inspections should be conducted by giving one day prior notice to the institute unless such inspections are surprise inspections based on verifiable inputs indicating poor quality of training or other similar allegations against the

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi

institute. The Officer conducting the surprise inspection should invariably carry an authorisation letter issued under the seal and signature of Director in the Department or CMD in the Corporations for conducting such surprize inspection. In general, during the duration of a training, not more than three and five such inspections for STT and LTT respectively, including general and surprise inspections both, may be conducted in respect of one center of the institute. Such inspection should be carried by sufficiently senior officers of the rank of Section Officer and above in the Department and of the rank of Manager and above in the Corporation. Contractual staff engaged in the Department and Corporations cannot participate in inspections of the institutes.

69. **How is branding of the training centre done?**

- The training center should upload a board/banner of six feet by 4 feet at the entrance of the center. Further, similar such boards/banners with suitable dimension should also be placed in each of the room of the training. The board/banner should contain the name of the Ministry, Corporation, Scheme, Name of the institute, address of the center, job role, sanctioned strength etc.

70. **Is GST applicable on the training cost/assessment cost on the skill development scheme of the DoSJE?**

    a. No, GST is not applicable on training program of ministry as per the point no. 75 of GST services booklet dated 03 July 2017. The clause is reiterated here as "Services provided to the Central Government, State Government, Union territory administration under any training programme for which total expenditure is borne by the Central Government, State Government, Union territory administration"

71. **Can a training institute run a mixed batch of SC/OBC/SK?**

- Yes, conduction of a training with batch consisting of trainees from different backgrounds is permitted provided the location, the job role and the batch size is within the prescribed orders.

72. **Can a person from third Gender obtain training under PM-DAKSH?**

- The registration form for PM-DAKSH for trainees on PM-DAKSH portal has been revised in 2023-24 to incorporate provision for inclusion of third gender persons to apply and obtain training under PM-DAKSH provided the person belongs to any of the specified category of SC, OBC, EBC, DNT and rag-pickers.

Annexure-I

Abbreviations used :

a. OBC - Other Backward Classes
b. EBC - Economically Backward Classes

c. DNT - De-Notified Tribes
d. SC - Scheduled Castes
e. EDP - Entrepreneurship Development Programme
f. NSFDC - National Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation
g. NBCFDC - National Backward Classes Finance and Development Corporation
h. NSKFDC - National Safai Karamcharis Finance and Development Corporation
i. MoSJE - Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
j. SMART - Skill Management Accreditation of Training Centres
k. MSDE - Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
l. NSDC - National Skill Development Corporation
m. DBT - Direct Benefit Transfer
n. PFMS - Public Finance Management System
o. TI - Training Institute
p. TP - Training Partner
q. TC - Training Centre
r. SPOC - Single Point of Contact
s. LoR - Letter of Recommendation
t. SCA - Special Central Assistance
u. SCM - Selection Committee Meeting
v. PMKVY - Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana
w. CCTV - Closed Circuit Television
x. ToT - Training of Trainers
y. LoA - Letter of Authorization
z. LoI - Letter of Intent
aa. CMD - Chief Managing Director
bb. PMU - Project Management Unit
cc. STT - Short Term Training
dd. LTT - Long Term Training
ee. GST - Goods and Services Tax

13/12/2023

संजय गुप्ता/SANJAY GUPTA
निदेशक/Director
सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्रालय
Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment
भारत सरकार/Government of India
नई दिल्ली/New Delhi