



**PM YOUNG ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP
AWARD SCHEME FOR VIBRANT INDIA FOR
OBCs AND OTHERS (PM –YASASVI)**

(2021-2022 to 2025-26)

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE &
EMPOWERMENT**

**Department of Social Justice &
Empowerment**

1. BACKGROUND:

The vision of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is to build an inclusive society wherein members of the target groups can lead productive, safe and dignified lives with adequate support for their growth and development. It aims to support and empower its target groups through programmes of educational, economic and social development, and rehabilitation, wherever necessary. In order to achieve its vision, the Ministry implements various Central Sector and Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CS/CSS) for vulnerable groups comprising of Other Backward Class (OBCs), Economically Backward Class (EBC) and De-notified, Nomadic and Semi-Nomadic Tribes (DNT/S-NT). A Backward Classes Division has been constituted by the Ministry which is responsible for the policy, planning and implementation of programmes relating to the social and economic empowerment of OBCs/EBCs/DNTs.

Ministry has identified the key indicators for socio-economic development of OBC/EBC/DNT community by proposing an umbrella scheme for educational empowerment by giving all scholarship schemes a uniform pattern and platform to make it more competitive with other lucrative schemes to widen the network. Some sections of the OBCs are still backward in socio-economic terms. As per NSSO(2009-10) 66th Round, the estimated population of OBCs is 41.7 per cent as opposed to 16.6 per cent of SC population, as per 2011 National Census. Moreover, as per the then Planning Commission's report 2011-12 out of total population of OBCs, 21.9% are below poverty line. However the overall numbers are expected to have been multiplied by now.

The existing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) Students and Post-Matric Scholarship for Other Backward Classes (OBCs) schemes were formulated in the year 1998-99. Further the scheme for educational empowerment of EBC/DNT was launched in the year 2014-15. All these scholarship schemes have been operational since their inception. The schemes aim towards educational empowerment of the socio-economically backward classes, thereby facilitating the completion of education of the most vulnerable sections of the target population. However, the absence of a national census for the identification of OBC/EBC/DNT community has adversely impacted the outreach of the schemes, preventing a large number of potential beneficiaries from availing the scheme benefits.

2. SCHEME COMPONENTS: Keeping in view the present implementation status, an umbrella scheme namely “**PM YOUNG ACHIEVERS SCHOLARSHIP AWARD SCHEME FOR VIBRANT INDIA FOR OBCs AND OTHERS (PM –YASASVI)**” for OBC, EBC and DNT students has been formulated having following five sub-schemes:

- (i) Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT Students
- (ii) Post-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT Students

- (iii) Top Class School Education for OBC, EBC and DNT Students
- (iv) Top Class College Education for OBC, EBC and DNT Students
- (v) Construction of Hostel for OBC Boys and Girls

(A) CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEME OF PRE-MATRIC SCHOLARSHIPS TO OBC, EBC AND DNT STUDENTS

1. OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Pre-Matric Scholarship for OBC, EBC and DNT students (who are not covered under SC, ST or OBC) is welfare and motivation to the children of these categories by providing financial assistance at pre matriculation or secondary stage.

2. SCOPE

- 2.1. Scholarship under the Scheme will be available for studies in India only and will be awarded by the Government of the State/Union Territory to which the applicant belongs i.e. where he is domiciled.
- 2.2. The scholarship will be provided for students studying in Government Schools only.

3. CONDITIONS OF ELIGIBILITY

- 3.1. The scholarships are open to Nationals of India only.
- 3.2. Scholarship award will be sanctioned in the case of students whose parents/guardians income from all sources does not exceed Rs.2,50,000/- per annum.
- 3.3. The students should be studying in class IX and X on a full-time basis in Government Schools only.
- 3.4. They should belong to either of OBC, EBC and DNT (who are not covered under SC, ST or OBC) categories through valid certificate.
- 3.5. A scholarship holder under this scheme will not hold any other educational scholarship for the purpose of studying in class IX and X. If awarded any other educational scholarship for studying in classes IX and X, the students can avail of either of the two scholarships as per his/her choice and should inform the awarding authority to the Head of the Institution about the option made.

3.6 The condition stipulated in this Ministry's notification no. 428 dated 16.02.2017 relating to provisions contained in Section 7 of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act 2016 are to be followed with further stipulation that if, for any reason, the authentication of Aadhaar fails in respect of any applicant, such an individual should be permitted to establish his/her identity by any other means so that genuine persons are not deprived of their benefits.

3.7 Income Certificate is required to be taken once only, i.e. at the time of admission to courses.

4. COVERAGE VALUE OF SCHOLARSHIP

4.1 The students shall be given a consolidated academic allowance of Rs. 4000/- per annum.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY

5.1 The scheme will be implemented and administered in accordance with the procedures, state specific level conditions, laid down by the State Govts./UT Administration in this regard.

5.2 While all the OBC, EBC and DNT students with parents'/guardians' annual income of upto Rs 2.50 lakh per annum are eligible, the State Government will make special efforts to identify the poorest eligible households from various sources and enroll students under the scheme in a mission mode. Further, these students would be monitored on regular basis so that they continue with their studies. Such students shall include (i) students from households with three or more deprivations as per SECC-2011 (ii) students from households where one or both the parents are illiterate.

5.3 The States/UTs may adopt methodology suitable to the local conditions for identification of such students e.g. OBC/EBC/DNT majority districts/blocks/villages may be taken first for identification of the poorest students. In this regard, help of local bodies, Municipal Corporations etc. may be taken.

5.4 Awareness drive shall be undertaken by the State Governments/UTs about the scheme through the Gram Panchayats Notice Boards, school committees, and discussions in the parent-teacher association meetings and other public awareness measures, in order to extend its coverage and also minimize any misuse by unscrupulous elements.

5.5 State Government should ensure that the beneficiary, at the time of admission, applies for the scholarship also. In this regard, the State Government may open facilitation centers or nominate a nodal officer in the educational institutions so that the entry into the student database for renewals and fresh admissions can be done in a stipulated timeframe.

5.6 The State Governments shall strive to put in place a scholarship portal that has all features as prescribed and share the data on a real-time basis with the Central portal.

5.7 The State/Central Government shall have robust monitoring systems, including field inspections, social audits, data analytics etc. so that timely payments are made to eligible beneficiaries.

6. APPLICATION FOR SCHOLARSHIP AND VERIFICATION

6.1 The concerned State Governments and Union Territory Administrations will lay down the detailed procedure for selection of students, which shall not be in contravention to these guidelines.

6.2 Application-on-the-day-of-admission: The institutions/ schools shall ensure that all students admitted to their institution apply on the IT portal for the scholarship on the same day as the date of admission into the institution.

6.3 On the day of admission itself, the institution shall verify on the scholarship portal that the student has taken admission in the institution and is now a bonafide student of the institution.

6.4 In case of renewal students, the student shall be auto-renewed based on the attendance and confirmation from the institution of the student having been promoted to the next class and having joined back the School/ Institution.

7. DURATION AND RENEWAL OF SCHOLARSHIP

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

7.2 The award once made will be payable until the student passes Class X, subject to satisfactory academic performance and attendance of 75% in every academic year. The attendance will be verified through Aadhaar based attendance System.

7.3 If a scholar is unable to appear in the annual examination owing to illness, the award may be renewed subject to production of medical certificate from prescribed authority and acceptance of the same by institution.

7.4 Scholarship for studying in any class will be available for only one year. If a student has to repeat a class, she/he would not get scholarship for that class for a second (or subsequent) year.

8. ANNOUNCEMENT OF SCHEME

The scheme will be announced by the concerned State Government/ UT Administration well in time, by giving advertisements in the leading language newspapers, local dailies and through their respective websites/ Scholarship portals and other modes of media.

9. ANNUAL ACTION PLAN

9.1 Every participating State/UT, on or before 28th February of the preceding year, will prepare a State level Annual Plan for the Pre-Matric OBC and others. The Action Plan should give clearly the targets, eligibility, proposed coverage separately for poorest households, processes for identification, systems for monitoring etc.

9.2 The Department will constitute a Project Appraisal Committee (PAC) to appraise and approve the Annual Action Plans w.e.f 2022-23. These plans would be appraised at the Centre and the outlay for each State would be finalized before 30th April, of every year. The constitution of the committee will be informed through separate instructions.

10. TIMELINES FOR THE SCHEME: All the States/UTs/Centre would adhere to the following timelines for processing of the applications and release of scholarship amounts during a financial year:

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1	Finalization of Notional Allocation	By 1 st April of the F.Y.
2	Submission of proposal by the States/UTs withinNotionalAllocation	By 30 th April of the F.Y.
3	Opening of Portal for registration by students	1 st April
4	Closing of Portal for registration	30 th June
5	Verification by the institutions to be completed	31 st July
6	Verification by the State Govt	15 th August
7	Release of Central Assistance into the SNA, as per the data uploaded on to the central portal	31 st August
8	Payment of scholarships by the State Govt using DBT process (before)	30 th September

11. MODE OF APPLYING

All applications shall be submitted on the online portal along with the required certificates. There shall be no paper applications. All online applications shall be auto-verified by linking the databases of the income and caste certificates, so as to minimize the manual verification.

12. 'FUNDS-LIMITED' NATURE OF THE SCHEME

12.1 There will be a 60: 40 sharing ratio between the Centre and States. For North Eastern States and for the states of Uttarakhand and Himanchal Pradesh the sharing ratio will be 90:10. For UTs without legislatures, 100% funds shall be provided by Centre. The central assistance for the scheme will be apportioned to States on pro-rata basis, based on population and other such criteria. Accordingly, a notional allocation (NA) under the Scheme shall be conveyed at the beginning of each financial year to States/UTs, with the request to send proposals within the NA. The broad procedure followed is as below:

(i) At the beginning of each financial year, notional allocation(NA) of funds of States/UTs is made by this Ministry, from the overall annual outlay of the Scheme, on the basis of population of each State/UT:-

(ii) States/UTs will incur expenditure under the Scheme at least to the sum total of "Central Assistance or NA and matching State share".

(iii) However, they would be free to allocate funds from the State-Plan, over and above the sum total of "Central Assistance or Notional Allocation and matching State share" for funding additional scholarship under the Scheme. Any such additional expenditure will have to be borne by the State Government/UT Administration itself, and will generally not be eligible for reimbursement from the Centre. However, such additional expenditure incurred by a State /UT may be considered and additional central assistance may be provided subject to availability of saving in notional allocation, towards the end of a financial year.

12.2 The entire scholarship amount - both from the State and Central Government - including the academic allowance and disability allowance, if any, will be paid directly into the account of the students or parents ONLY through DBT preferably through an Aadhaar Based Payment System (Aadhaar Payment Bridge-AePS).

12.3 The State Govt./UTs are required to adhere Deptt. of Expenditure (MoF), GoI's OM No. 1(13)/PFMS/FCD/2020 dated 23.03 2021 regarding the procedure for release of funds under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and monitoring utilization of funds with a

view to have more effective cash management and bring more transparency in the PEM. The procedure will be followed by all the State Governments and UTs regarding release and monitoring of funds under CSS.

12.4 The Ministry of Social Justice vide notification number 428 dated Feb,16,2017 has notified Aadhaar as identity document under Section 7 of Aadhaar Act 2016 for all Scholarship Schemes w.e.f. 16th February 2017. The authentication through Aadhaar would be compulsory at the time of renewals, if not provided earlier at the time of admission.

12.5 The implementation of the scheme would be in accordance with the provisions of GFR 2017. Submission of UC should be as per prescribed forms as per GFR, 2017. Further, as per provisions of rule 230(8) of GFR, 2017, all interest or other earnings against Grants-in-aid or advances released to any grantee institution should be mandatorily remitted to the Consolidated Fund of India immediately after finalization of accounts.

12.6 **Administrative Charges:** The administrative cost for administration, monitoring and evaluation shall be limited to 1% of the annual scheme cost. The cost would be utilized for development of portal, conduct of social audits, publicity and awareness or any other activity for the efficient implementation of the scheme.

13. IT SYSTEMS AND DATABASE OF THE BENEFICIARIES

13.1. The scheme shall be run on an online platform with robust cyber security measures that would assure transparency, accountability, efficiency, and timely delivery of the assistance without any delays. The National Scholarship Portal (NSP) would be suitably modified for this purpose.

13.2. If any State is already running an online portal that fulfills all the laid down parameters, they can continue with it, but shall share the data on real-time basis to the National Scholarship Portal or any other portal as specified by the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment in due course through instructions for enabling constant monitoring. Therefore, all States/UTs implementing the scheme will migrate to online processing of disbursement of scholarships, where not already done. The scholarship portal should mandatorily have the following features:

a) At the time of admission, every student should provide an Aadhaar ID/Aadhaar EID and other alternative form of ID as per this Ministry's notification no. 428 dated 16.02.2017 which will enable elimination of duplication and false claims. The Aadhaar authentication is mandatory in case of renewals, if not provided at the time of admission. The Aadhaar number entered by the students should go through demo-auth on real-time basis before allowing entry into the registration portal.

- b) The States shall undertake fool-proof verification of the eligibility, caste status, Aadhaar identification and bank account details on the online portal.
- c) There shall be no upload of any documents or any certificates into the system. All data should be auto-verified by linking databases through digilocker or any such mechanism, such as database of income certificates, domicile and caste certificates issued by State/District Administration, using Aadhaar number as the link.
- d) All verification process of the students should be done using the above authenticated databases automatically using the digital process with little or no manual intervention. There should be no system of verification by the institutions or even the district level officers. Till such time such a system is put in place, the manual verification shall be completed within 30 days from the date of application, with a provision for 'presumed approval' if the same is not completed within 30 days.
- e) A suitable system will be put in place for taking Aadhaar based attendance system which is non-intrusive and automatic. Till such a system is finalized by the Central Govt., the institution shall upload the attendance of the scholarship holder every month in the Attendance module that would be developed in the IT system.
- f) There shall be no system of calling for the bank account details of the students and authenticating it. All payments should preferably go through Aadhaar Based Payment System (APB – Aadhaar Payment Bridge) after checking the Aadhaar number with the NPCI mapper.
- g) The renewals should be automatic based on promotion to the next class and having the required attendance, subject to confirmation of the student having joined back the same course. There should not be any requirement for the student to apply for renewals.
- h) Apart from this, the States shall maintain a complete database of the beneficiaries under various other scholarship schemes to ensure de-duplication of the beneficiaries.

13.3 All the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations implementing the scheme will maintain the data of all the beneficiaries along with the amount of scholarship on their online portal.

13.4 The servers of the State Governments shall be synchronized with the central server on a real-time basis so that at any point of time, the central server shall reflect the data of the whole country.

14. MONITORING AND EVALUATION:

14.1 The monitoring of the financial and physical performance of the scheme will be done through seeking detailed information from the Agencies implementing the Scheme. On the physical aspects the Agencies implementing the scheme will be required to furnish quarterly progress report regarding the number of beneficiaries receiving award under the scheme, both class-wise and gender-wise. On the financial year and expenditure proposed for the present financial year will be submitted by the Agencies concerned.

14.2 The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment may get the scheme evaluated by entrusting a research study to reputed institutions/ agencies, on the performance of the Scheme in different parts of the country, under this Ministry's centrally sponsored Scheme of Research and Training.

14.3 There shall be thorough evaluation of the outcomes of the scheme in regular intervals to ascertain the effectiveness of scheme implementation and for tracking the progress of the students. This may include conduct of social audits once a year, annual third-party evaluation, and half-yearly self-audited reports from each institution.

14.4 The social audits are to be conducted by the Social Audit Units of the State Governments formed by the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India duly meeting the cost from the administrative cost of the scheme.

14.5 The State Government shall also set up a robust monitoring mechanism for monitoring the academic progress of the students enrolled to the scheme.

15. MECHANISM FOR REDRESSAL OF GRIEVANCES

15.1. There shall be an online grievance redressal mechanism linking all the authorities responsible for implementation on the scholarship portal.

15.2. The student shall be able to lodge a grievance either through the portal or by a mobile app.

15.3. Every institution shall have a Grievance Redressal Officer (GRO) who is responsible for entertaining the grievances and resolving them by following up with the appropriate authority.

15.4. The non-resolution of the grievance at the institution level in a given time frame shall automatically be escalated to the district and later to the State level for resolution.

16. OTHER CONDITIONS FOR AWARD:

16.1 If a student violates school discipline or any other terms and conditions of the scholarship, scholarship may be suspended or even cancelled, subject to the satisfaction of the competent school authority. The State Government/ Union Territory Administrations can also directly cancel the award if duly satisfied of the reasons of violation of these regulations governing the scheme.

16.2 Migration of students from one institution to another would not normally be allowed during the course of academic year except under exceptional circumstances and in the interest

of student's academic career.

16.3. The scholar obtaining benefits under this scheme shall not be allowed to avail of benefits under any other pre-matric scholarship scheme.

16.4 Only two boys of the same parents/guardian will be entitled to receive scholarships. This restriction will, however, not apply to girls. Accordingly, scholarship availed by girls of same parents/guardian will not adversely affect admissibility of availing scholarship upto two boys of same parents/guardian.

16.5 Regular attendance record not less than 75% in the previous year should be pre-requisite for availing scholarship.

16.6 At least 5% students with disabilities should be covered for grant of the scholarships. 30% of the beneficiaries should be reserved for girl students.

16.7 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.

16.8 The provisions of this scheme can be changed at any time at the discretion of the Government of India.
